

Your Union

Union of Nontenure-Track Faculty
at Michigan State University
Local 1855 AFT, AFL-CIO

Back to School Edition

Mark your calendar with these upcoming events!



Welcome to more than 50 new faculty members who join our ranks this semester. UNTf represents 540 fixed-term teaching faculty at Michigan State. One of ten labor unions on MSU's campus, UNTf advocates for nontenure-track faculty and negotiates a contract that includes wages, extended contracts, benefits and working conditions.

To find out more, visit our website at www.untf.org.

Professional Development Travel Fund: Spring 2015

UNTf recognizes that many fixed-term faculty continue to pursue research and pedagogy opportunities even when on teaching-only contracts. We also know that many departments offer limited or no funding to fixed-term faculty. While we encourage departments to offer all faculty members the same access to professional development funds, we have created a small award for our members to help allay some of these costs.

UNTf members have the chance to apply for travel grants of \$200 for use in professional development. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be full members and must return an application to office@untf.org by **January 31, 2015**. Full guidelines are available on our website, including new procedures for determining how to award grants in the case that we have more applications than funds available.

Training for Designation B Applicants

We will once again host a workshop for those who plan to apply for Designation B during Spring 2015. For our new members, Designation B is the process by which fixed-term faculty who have taught for 10 semesters at MSU can apply for a three-year rolling contract.

Note that the location of the workshop has been changed. All members are welcome to join us – RSVPs are appreciated so we can make sure to have enough handouts for everyone.

Where: A309 Wells Hall

When: 5:30pm on Tuesday, January 13, 2015

What: Join UNTF staff and successful applicants to learn more about the application process, what to include in your portfolio, and how to compose the required personal essay.

We hope to see you there!

Spring 2015 General Membership Meetings

UNTF will have **two** membership meetings this semester. At the first meeting, **this Thursday, January 14, at 3:30pm**, all full members are welcome to join the UNTF Executive Board in the UNTF office (2990 E. Lake Lansing Rd., Suite 201-E upstairs). Members will be presented with proposed amendments to the UNTF Constitution, and will vote on whether to take them to the full membership. Our constitution has not been updated since UNTF's founding.

The second membership meeting will be **Wednesday, February 4 at 5:30pm at Beggars Banquet** (Abbot Road in East Lansing). At this meeting, members will receive updates on current UNTF issues and will vote on any constitutional changes approved at the January meeting.

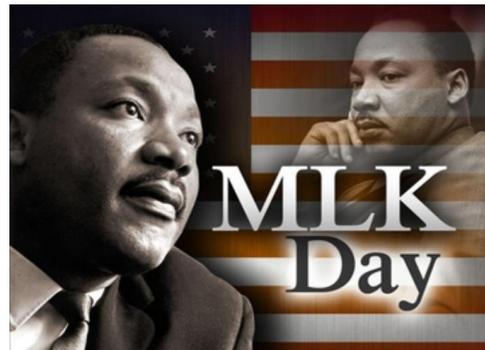
All full members are welcome at both meetings.

Join UNTF in the Martin Luther King Day Commemorative March on Campus

On Martin Luther King Day, **Monday, January 19, 2015**, join the UNTF as MSU faculty, staff, students, and the local community celebrate this important national holiday.

Meet at the MSU Union on 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing, in the second floor ballroom at 3:00 PM. Look for your union sisters and brothers with the UNTF banner. Alpha Phi Alpha, Dr. King's fraternity, will kick off the rally. After a little speech, people will go to the first floor with the president of the university, administrators and the keynote speaker of the Greater Lansing MLK celebration. The short march route will go around West Circle Drive and end at Beaumont Tower. At Beaumont Tower there will be an inspirational speech in the words of Dr. King.

After the march, everyone is invited to have some hot chocolate and cookies at the MSU Museum around 3:45 PM and to see all the museum has to offer.



“History is a great teacher. Now everyone knows that the labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them.”

Check www.untf.org for a downloadable poster to display on your office door.