

I still cannot answer the all-important question: when will the pay increases hit our checks? The funding process has taken us through the Board of Higher Education and the Governor's office. It is now in the legislature. There is no indication of a problem with the funding request; it just takes some time to journey through the State House. The next step is assigning a bill number, then the bill's approval. The bill is then forwarded to the Governor's office for his approval or veto. If the Governor vetoes the bill it is returned to the legislature for an override vote. Again, there are no anticipated problems, just a matter of legislature priorities. We will keep you informed.

Professional Development Money

The deadline (December 31, 2005) is approaching for submission of requests for Article XIV professional development money. If you have not submitted your request, please do so soon. There have been some changes to the process. There is no requirement for submission of receipts and the stipends will now be taxable. Any equipment that is purchased using this money (without any other college funds) will belong to you. The Academic Affairs office is processing your request and forwarding the approval to Human Resources every two weeks. The stipend will appear on your paycheck as "MISC LEAVE." The first payments were this past week.

There is also some carryover money from FY05. Last year's carryover of approximately \$20,000 will be added to this year's unused portion (determined in January 2006) and distributed on a per capita basis in February/March 2006. There is no additional paperwork required for this second round; it will be distributed to those members who have request funding for this year – so if you don't submit your request by December 31, 2005 you will lose out on both rounds of funding.

Reminder: The end of the year is approaching, be sure to keep your last pay stub. This pay advice will contain the amounts paid for union dues and health insurance premiums. Both items may be tax deductible.

Nominations Open for Search Committee – Instructional Design and Distance Learning

Three unit members are needed to serve on a search committee for State Associate, Instructional Design and Distance Learning. This successful candidate will provide support to faculty who are developing course materials for web-based delivery as well as for those integrating technology in the classroom. This position reports to the Dean of Library, Instructional and Learning Support.

If you are interested in serving on this committee please submit your name to the Chapter Office at extension 6920 as soon as possible.

Committee on Promotions

There is still a vacancy on the Committee on Promotions. This position is for one year. The committee is made up of seven members. The current members are: James Cullen (GLS), Paul Green (SOC), David Jacobson (ACC/FIN), Marie Jensen (NUR), Barbara Nicholson (SWK), and Robert Wang (CHE).

The following describes the eligibility requirements:

- Nominees must be tenured and hold the rank of Associate Professor, Professor, Associate Librarian, or Senior Librarian.
- You cannot be a chair or a candidate for promotion during the term.

- No more than one member from a department can serve.
- Nominees cannot be on a departmental peer evaluation committee evaluating candidates for promotion.

If you are interested on serving on this very important committee, please respond via e-mail to mary.buckley@salemstate.edu or by calling the MSCA/Salem Chapter Office at extension 6920. Many thanks.

Committee Appointments

The following members were recommended by the Salem Chapter Executive Committee to serve on the committees indicated.

Academic Policies: Area D
Sanjay Jain (ACC/FIN)

Academic Speakers & Honorary Degrees
Chris Boucher (MAT)

Athletic Council
Donna Hills (NUR)

Institutional Research & Review
Krishna Mallick (PHL)

Opening Day
Janice Mango (EDU)

Holiday Party

The holiday season is quickly approaching and the Chapter is currently planning its annual holiday party. Please join your colleagues on the last Monday of classes, December 12th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the MLK room, Ellison Center.

Contracts Available

Day and evening contracts are available in the union office, South Campus room HB-121, during normal business hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

E-mail Addresses/Change of Address

New unit members: please call Mary Buckley, Chapter Secretary at extension 6920 with your e-mail address so we can add you to our list. At various times the Chapter sends information to its members via the e-mail system.

Also, new members and members who have recently changed addresses, please inform Mary of your current address. Many members feel if they inform the college of a change of address or a change of phone number all databases are changed. This is not true – the union is separate from the college system and changes are made only when members inform our office.

DID YOU KNOW that if you are denied reappointment, tenure, or promotion by either your chair, the peer evaluation committee, or the vice president, he/she or it must provide a written statement “setting forth fully and completely the reasons” for the denial? (See Article VIII. I. of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.)

If you are denied some personnel action, please call the president of the local MSCA Chapter president, Paul McGee, at ext. 6366. We may be able to help.

Margaret Vaughan/Grievance Officer
MSCA Salem Chapter