

LABOR DAY 2008

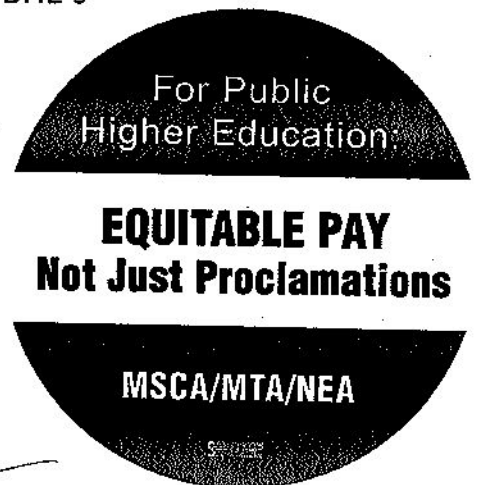
Thoughts about Bargaining from the MSCA Bargaining Committee

Chairman Clark, here's what's on our minds as we face Labor Day this year—not looking forward to a new academic year with a contract in place—but rather still waiting for a fair economic offer, as we have been for seven months.

- A contract that expired June 30, 2008
- Twelve bargaining sessions since starting negotiations in February
- A July 2007 to July 2008 cost of living increase of 6%
- Governor Patrick's comments at town hall meetings about strong state revenues, job growth and low unemployment in Massachusetts
- More failed faculty searches at the state colleges
- Assurances from Administration and Finance that you would receive "parameters" in January... then February... then March... then April... then May... then July... then August... then "before Labor Day"
- Returning students expecting our enthusiasm and renewal
- No legal right to strike, no right to binding interest arbitration; reluctance on the part of faculty and librarians to violate the law, reliance on the good faith of elected and appointed state leaders

We recognize that you have been exhorting Governor Patrick and Secretary Kirwan to pre-authorize an economic offer, but you began to make the BHE's case almost a year ago. It is now imperative that you bring a good-faith financial proposal to the MSCA bargaining table without further delay!

Charles J. O'Donnell
AK Morris
Don Schlosky
Daniel C. Martin
Cheryl Stouley
Greg Patrick



Massachusetts State College Association – representing faculty and librarians at the nine State Colleges