

## MSCA Legislative Committee Report

5/1/23

Over the past year the MSCA Legislative Committee (LC) has worked on the following.

1. **Discussed the legislative structures of the MTA and MSCA.** Many members of the LC were new, and we didn't have a full sense of the various union organizational structures that work on legislation. We discussed the structures that currently exist on the local, MSCA statewide and MTA statewide levels. In doing so, throughout the semester, the LC thought about how we can build out our locals' and the statewide's capacity to both push for legislation and potentially help with contract actions.
2. **Organized to support the Fair Share Amendment.** The members of the LC helped to organize Fair Share Amendment, including holding events, tabling and working to get our university presidents to support the FSA.
3. **Worked on the statewide parameters campaign.** In December, as part of the Higher Ed for All and CHERISH Act campaigns, we helped various chapters work to get APA, AFSCME and MSCA members to sign a petition to Governor Healy in favor of fair wage parameters. Our wages when adjusted for inflation have declined around 11% over the past 10 years. In March, we again tabled for better parameters. We also worked with MSCA leadership and chapter presidents to ask the Council of Presidents to write a letter to Governor Healy asking for reasonable inflation adjusted parameters. As a result of these collective efforts, the proposed salary adjustment increased from 4-8%.
4. **Worked on Advocacy Day.** While Advocacy Day itself was snowed out, members of the legislative committee organized a large contingent of students, faculty, librarians and staff to go to the event. Along with these efforts, we held a postcard campaign to support passage of the CHERISH ACT.
5. **Advocated for the CHERISH ACT with local legislators.** Across the state, LC members and local chapters held large and small meetings with local legislators to push for the CHERISH Act and increased support for public higher education.
6. **Discussion of COLA Adjustments.** The LC extensively discussed the need to advocate for our pay to be linked to inflation so that our members do not lose spending power in those years when parameters are less than the rate of inflation.
7. **Create NBIs and an agenda for the 23-24 Academic Year.** LC committee members will contribute to the writing of four NBIs that cover COLA adjustments, Board of Trustee Reform, Affirming the MTA legislative agenda and establishing budget committees on each campus through the formal contract process.