

Executive Director's Report
January 21, 2023
Bill Quirk

Activities Since November 6 Council Meeting

Staff Meetings and Check-ins

Staff meet together twice per month for two hours. Beginning this month, one of these meetings will be a joint meeting with the executive board and the other will be a professional development meeting focused on topics selected by the staff. In addition to the biweekly meetings, I meet with each staff member once per month for a two hour check in call.

UFRE Bargaining

We held one bargaining session in November. All UC-AFT initial proposals except compensation have been passed to UFRE. The UFRE contract has been extended through February. Our mutual goal is to complete negotiations before the end of February.

SD Field Rep Hiring Process

We reposted the job announcement in November and now have four candidates who appear to be qualified. We hope to conduct interviews in February and have the new staff person start work before the end of March. Jep Purucker continues to provide staff support to the SD Chapter and is serving on the hiring committee.

UAW Strike

The UAW strike required a significant amount of time throughout November and December. Working with the board, our attorney, staff and many leaders, we produced comprehensive guidance for members on rights and responsibilities during the strike. This guidance was posted to our website and updated nearly daily as the strike and related issues evolved. We issued formal communications to UCOP to protect members and to serve as public statements of our union's position. Finally, we conducted member forums where members could ask questions and seek additional guidance.

Lab School Negotiations

In November, we participated in an informal hearing with PERB to attempt to resolve unfair practice charges alleged in a Complaint issued by PERB in September. The university maintained their position and refused to even discuss options to resolve the unfair practices. In December, our Lab School bargaining team and Executive Committee began discussing the potential for a strike. Our attorney provided guidance to support a legal ULP strike despite the no strikes clause in the Unit 18 contract. Lab School members authorized a strike on January 5. Strike dates have been set for January 25-26. We scheduled five bargaining dates in January. The university has not changed its position on the issues related to the unfair practice charges. A strike next week seems very likely.

Arbitration Panels and Appeals to Arbitration

We've conducted five arbitration panels over the last couple months, with several in the last few weeks. We've advanced two excellence review cases and one termination case to arbitration. Decisions by the panel on two other cases related to pre-six reappointment are pending additional information. Thanks to Stacy Steinberg and Margaret Philips for serving on these panels.