Welcome Back Chapter Presidents

We hope your semester is starting with many successes!

This next month will be the start of our Spring 2016 Membership Engagement/Organizing Campaign. We NEED You! Your involvement in this activity is essential to the survival of our union. The Supreme Court of the United States heard the Friedrichs vs. CTA arguments on January 11, and we need to act now. It is imperative that we extend our hands to our fair share faculty and create the solidarity that is needed to keep the MSCF strong, not only for us, but for higher education in the state of Minnesota.

This spring we will focus on conversations with Temporary Part Time and Adjunct faculty that are not members. This will lay the foundation for the ultimate goal of gaining their membership.

Since the majority of our fair share faculty are located in the Metro area, we have decided to implement the Metro Pilot campaign. This will be a massive push to convert fair share members to membership on the 12 metro campuses. St. Cloud and Rochester are strongly encouraged to participate as well, and while this pilot will focus on the metro campuses, all campuses are welcome to participate.

By February 5th, chapter presidents at the focus campuses or on campuses that wish to participate need to identify 3 to 4 New Member Organizers to participate in this inaugural membership engagement/organizing campaign. We are asking that you target faculty that you believe would be and want to be more active in MSCF activities. We are asking that you do this through face to face conversations with individuals rather than putting out an open call to all faculty. We ask that you inform them of the importance of this work and how vital this is to the future of MSCF. They also must understand that there will be a considerable amount of work and commitment for all those participating. And finally, we are asking that they attend membership engagement training on February 20, 2016. The American Federation of Teachers will be doing the training specifically for us at the MSCF/Education Minnesota office in St. Paul.

The New Member Organizers could be faculty that have sat on AASC or Shared Governance, they could be new faculty that are eager to be active, they could be TPT faculty that have a strong commitment to the union and understand the benefits of union membership, they could be TPT faculty that teach at multiple colleges or have taught at multiple colleges, etc… MSCF will assist you if needed in pulling together these New Member Organizers for this campaign.

In order to complete the logistics of the training and the organizing campaign, all the chapter presidents are expected to provide names of these 3 to 4 individuals who will be attending the training by Friday, February 5. Please contact John (John.Ward@edmn.org) or Jennie (Jennie.Howard@edmn.org) at the MSCF office with these names or if you need help identifying the New Member Organizers. An MSCF officer or field staff can visit your campus to assist you if needed.

With your help, we can achieve our goals of 600 new member conversations, a 50 percent conversion rate of 300 new active MSCF members, and a strengthened and invigorated MSCF better positioned to advocate for our members, our students, our institutions, and higher education in Minnesota.

For the MSCF

Kent Quamme

MSCF Treasurer

and

The Executive Committee