

MSCF Minute



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History of MSCF and the Contract - ELC

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by David Christian, MSCF Board Member from Northland - East Grand Forks

I grew up in a union household. My father was a member of Carpenters and Joiners Local #7 for over 55 years (it has a different number now, but I don't remember what it is), and two of my sisters were in the Amalgamated Cotton and Garment Workers Union (look for that Union label). I was excited when I was finally teaching at a college that had a union I could join. After scrabbling for adjunct jobs semester after semester at both the University of North Dakota and the U of M - Crookston, I was ready. One of the proudest moments of my career was when I signed my first membership card to make it official.

This year, I am a part of the Emerging Leaders College (ELC). I wanted to join the cohort in order to learn more about MSCF as well as how to be a more effective leader

on my campus. I have been an officer in our chapter, as well as on the Board of Directors. My personal goal is to learn how to be more effective in all of my roles.

At our most recent meeting, the ELC had a chance to have a discussion with Larry "Ove" Oveson and Greg Mulcahy, past presidents of MSCF. They lead us through the history and development of our contract, how we merged two contracts into one as well as the challenges presented and solved during that process. Over the course of this discussion, we also looked at where we are currently, and where we are headed.

In our current political environment, a unified voice has become ever more important. There are a number of trials and challenges which we'll be



Click on the above video clip to view MSCF Dakota County Technical College's faculty member Harold Torrence talk about the value of MSCF.

facing in the very near future, and the stronger our voice the better we'll fare. Our contract, one of the best in the nation for community college and technical educators, is there for us regardless if we've been teaching 20 years or are just starting our career. We even protect our temporary instructors and adjuncts – something I was never afforded when I worked across the river in North Dakota.

The evening after I signed my membership card, I called Dad to tell him I joined the Union. He asked me a few questions, and in the end, he told me about his decision to join and the pride he felt in his decision. "I worked on a few non-union sites and never felt I was protected. It was good to know the Union had my back."

It's the same pride I feel in being a member and serving.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Angela Guderjohn, Central Lakes
Benjamin Haugeberg, Itasca
Claire Schumacher, Itasca
John Green, M State-Detroit Lakes
Grant Walton, M State-Wadena
Vladimir Toledo, Minneapolis
Paul Coate, Normandale
Jessica Hanson, Northland-Thief River Falls
Christopher Keeler, Pine
Akim Simon, Saint Cloud
Amy Spry, Saint Cloud

Nicole Schroeder, Saint Paul
Antwon Key, South Central-N. Mankato
Dean Hines, South Central-N. Mankato
Dean Odette, South Central-N. Mankato
Elizabeth Thompson, South Central-N. Mankato
Pamela Uhlenkamp, South Central-N. Mankato
Pawel Buda, South Central-N. Mankato
Scott Hennen, South Central-N. Mankato
Thomas Brown, Jr., South Central-N. Mankato
Wayne Schoper, South Central-N. Mankato

Fall Regional Meetings

MSCF will be hosting six regional meetings this October/November in order to bring you updates and discuss matters of interest to you. All members are welcome. Click [here](#) to register today!

ATEA Region 5 Conference

October 12-13, 2017
Hosted by M State-Moorhead
Click [here](#) to register today!