

# MSCF Minute



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## A Few Update Items

by Kevin Lindstrom, MSCF president

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### Paid Parental Leave

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recently agreed to between MSCF and MnState will provide faculty with up to six consecutive weeks of paid parental leave following the birth or adoption of a child. Faculty members are eligible for this benefit if they meet eligibility for Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave. The following are considered qualifying events for the leave: a faculty member or their spouse/partner give birth to the faculty member's child; a child is placed in the faculty member's home for adoption; or a child is placed in the faculty member's home to adjudicate parentage in cases of surrogacy when the faculty member is the intended parent.

This benefit is retroactive to July 1, 2016. Completion of

the leave must occur within six months of the qualifying event, or within twelve months at the college president's discretion.

Please contact your college HR department to initiate use of the leave or with questions.

### Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Dinner/Silent Auction

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Nellie Stone Johnson Dinner will be held March 23, 2017. More information on this outstanding program can be found [here](#).

As we've done in the past, we're asking each MSCF chapter to contribute a basket for the silent auction. You may choose to partner with others at your institution to create a college or community-themed basket. Baskets can be delivered to the MSCF office, or we will come and pick them up from you at

your request.

MSCF will have a table or two at the dinner. If you would like to join us, please let us know. If you attend, you'll want to bring along some extra money to bid on the Riverland basket, which is certain to include a can of Spam.

### NEA Emerging Organizers Academy

The following is reprinted from the NEA Higher Education Advocate:

*We Want You! Apply for the NEA Emerging Organizers Academy*

*PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS THE NEA EMERGING LEADERS ACADEMY, the new, retooled NEA Higher Ed Emerging Organizers Academy (EOA), is looking for applicants for its next cohort of faculty and staff*

*members. The EOA is an intensive leadership development program that focuses on organizing skills and resources. Members meet three times over the course of roughly nine months, including in a campus-based field experience. Previous attendees have called it a life-changing experience. The deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, visit [nea.org/he](http://nea.org/he).*

Several of our members have participated in this program in past years. All have found it to be a very valuable professional development experience. If you have an interest in organizing or future union leadership, participation in this program is something you should consider. If you are interested, please talk to a MSCF officer so we can get you the necessary application materials.

## Women's March Minnesota

If any MSCF members are planning to participate or want to attend the [Women's March Minnesota](#) on January 21 and would like to organize efforts, a group will be meeting at the Education Minnesota building (41 Sherburne Ave, St. Paul) at 9:30 am (coffee and refreshments provided). It is about a 10 minute walk to the starting point of the march with the end point just across the street.

This is a national effort with marches taking place all across the country! Here is a chance to be part of a movement around important issues that affect us all in some way. Plus you can take advantage of this opportunity to reduce the hassle of parking and enjoy some refreshments while making important connections with others in the organization that have shared concerns.

We would appreciate if you would RSVP via email [darci.stanford@edmn.org](mailto:darci.stanford@edmn.org) so we can plan accordingly for refreshments.