



NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What ever happened to shared governance, so popular with the administration when we were trying to get our NCA accreditation?

For years we have participated in hiring at all levels of the college. Previous administrations have wanted us to participate in such hires both as a matter of courtesy and as a practical matter--to help ensure that the best candidate was chosen. Many of our members have been here for a long time and bring a great deal of perspective, historical and organizational, to such decisions. Certainly an institution that claims to have institutionalized shared governance must include its faculty and staff in the hiring process.

Yet the administration has excluded Local 212 from recent hiring committees for the Director of Employee Relations, Assistant General Council and the Associate V.P. of Human Resources and Labor Relations. One result: the General Council position has been offered to an attorney who formerly worked for the union busting law firm, Krukowski and Costello.

I addressed the issue of our exclusion at the March FPO meeting. All 3 committee members expressed their concern about the administration's conscious exclusion of its represented employees in the hiring process. Subsequently, our leadership

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FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED

met with Dr. Cole and other administrators and we reached the following agreement.

- 1) Local 212 representatives will participate on all hiring committees;
- 2) Hiring Committee members will be provided with the resumes of all applicants who meet the position's minimum qualifications;
- 3) The administration agreed that it will not unilaterally change past practices and that any proposals to change past practices will be negotiated with the leadership of local 212 or in the appropriate core committee.

This is progress although the entire sordid episode was necessitated only because of administration's unfortunate decision to exclude us. I want to personally thank the members of FPO, Chairman Earl and Directors Webber and Hughes, for their commitment to shared governance that led to the fair and successful resolution of this dispute.

Instead of wasting everyone's time undermining shared governance the administration should be

fighting anti-MATC legislation in Madison.

For many years the MATC District Board, administration and Local 212 worked together in the legislative arena. Despite a number of

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LOCAL 212 ENDORSES THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES IN THE APRIL 6TH ELECTION:

**TOM BARRETT
FOR
MAYOR, CITY OF MILWAUKEE**

**DAVID RIEMER
FOR
COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

ALDERMAN – CITY OF MILWAUKEE

MICHAEL D'AMATO – DISTRICT 3

BOB BAUMAN – DISTRICT 4

T. ANTHONY ZIELINSKI – DIST. 14

MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GERRY BRODERICK – DISTRICT 3

MARINA DIMITRIJEVIC – DIST. 4

JIM MCGUIGAN – DISTRICT 6

JOHN F. WEISHAN, JR. – DIST. 16

DAN DEVINE – DISTRICT 17

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initiatives that threaten the college's ability to serve our students and this community, there is currently no collaboration. While 212 has been active in advocating for the college, the administration has had little presence in these deliberations. This failure to aggressively advocate for the college could lead to the enactment of legislation that hurts our ability to provide state of the art vocational and technical education to this community and our students.

The Wisconsin Advantage Bill (SB 384 & 451 and AB 796 & 811) had the potential to help the WTCS fund job training. Its authors, primarily Gateway President, Sam Borden, included language that would have created a semi-private training organization to conduct this training rather than the tech colleges. Such an organization would lie outside the authority of the district board and our collective bargaining agreements.

A similarly organized non-profit corporation, the Great Lakes Composite Center, failed after it surfaced that it wasted its hundreds of thousands of public dollars on fancy offices, furniture and even Broadway plays. WTCS President, Richard Carpenter, and I worked together closely to eliminate the objectionable language in the legislation. Milwaukee Senators Carpenter, Plale and Moore and assemblymen Colon and Zepnick helped. The MATC administration did not participate in this lobbying effort. It passed, but we expect the Governor will veto it.

The Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) was established with MATC's assistance. But it has failed to partner with the WTCS and is now positioning itself to compete with the WTCS in providing training and technical assistance. These are dollars (\$1.5million) that should be invested in the WTCS, not an organization that duplicates WTCS services and increases administrative costs. Where is the leadership?

Recently, the Chancellor of the UW two-year colleges attempted to secure Board of Regents support for his proposal, "A Brain Gain Strategy for Wisconsin." This is an effort to invade the WTCS associate degree and adult education market. Perhaps the UW has its eyes on the new \$250 million community college federal earmark. MATC needs to make sure that this proposal to duplicate services and undercut our colleges does not advance.

The response by the administration was Dr. Cole's suggestion that MATC may have to change its name to community college. Interestingly, the Gateway board under Dr. Borden's leadership had the same discussion. Changing our name is not an adequate response. This community needs a

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vocational-technical college that provides our students with the skills they need for family supporting employment. The UW proposal has to be defeated politically and that requires a concerted and coordinated effort.

It is certain that there will be a tax freeze proposal, perhaps a constitutional amendment, introduced in the legislature later this year. Any such proposal would have a profoundly negative impact on MATC whose main source of income is the local property tax. It is imperative that the administration be active and engaged in fighting to protect MATC against these initiatives.

So where is the administration?

MICHAEL ROSEN, PRESIDENT

BUSH EQUALS NO JOBS

The presidential election is heating up. Wisconsin will be a key state. Any illusions about President Bush should be shattered by now. He is the first president since Herbert Hoover in the Great Depression to not create a single job. Since the recession began 35 months ago in March 2001, 2.9 million jobs have been lost. Wisconsin has lost over 100,000 jobs.

If we had created jobs at the rate President Bush predicted when his 2003 tax cut for the wealthy, ironically called the "jobs and Growth Plan", passed, 5.5 million jobs would have been created, 306,000 a month. Last month we fell 285,000 short as we've created only 21,000 jobs all of which were government jobs.

The unemployment rate would be much higher than it is if 2.8 million working age people had not stopped looking for jobs altogether!

On the educational front, President Bush, has proposed eliminating \$1.2 billion in Carl Perkins funding, one of the few federal programs that supports adult vocational education.

Finally, President Bush says he supports free trade. While US drug companies are free to charge whatever price they want, we aren't free to buy Canadian drugs that are half the US price. Is it any wonder that healthcare costs are soaring under this administration that cares more about the profits of the drug companies than it does the health of its citizens!

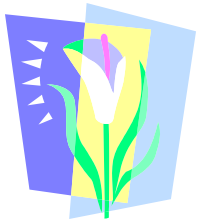
TONY STANISLAWSKI, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

**EXPORTING OF AMERICA**

There are now over 40,000 US firms doing business in China. Who are some of these companies? See our 212 web site ...

<http://www.Local212.org>

DAVID STINNETT



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
LOCAL 212 SPRING SOCIAL
SOLIDARITY GET-TOGETHER
Thursday, May 13, 2004
Historic Turner Restaurant
Watch your mailbox and email
for more information.

UNIONS CHALLENGE BUSH ON OUTSOURCING

The AFL-CIO and the 14 unions filed an unprecedented petition March 16 charging China's systematic violation of workers' rights is an unfair trade practice that cost 727,000 U.S. jobs. According to the petition, workers in China are being forced to work for wages 47 to 86 percent below what they should be, often as bonded workers, with few workplace safety and health protections and no right to join a union. The petition calls on the Bush administration to impose sanctions or tariffs against Chinese imports until China begins to enforce workers' rights. The White House has 45 days to decide whether to accept or reject the petition. If it accepts the petition, the administration has 60 days to hold a hearing and a year to issue its decision. If it rejects the petition, it must find that China either does not repress workers' rights or that the repression does not adversely affect the U.S. economy. This is the first time a petition has been filed under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 to charge a country with violating workers' rights. Businesses often use the section to protect corporate profits.

ADVISOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

One of the biggest complaints I hear from students is about the lack of response from faculty and advisors to phone messages. I found that a lot of messages were left on my phone late in the day, on days I was out of the office, or late on Fridays and they did not get answered until I returned to the office.

As a way to improve my personal response time to my students, I have set my greetings up to direct them to send me an e-mail rather than leave voice messages. I also announce this in class and note it in my syllabus. Since I teach several Online Classes each semester, I check e-mail several times each day including weekends. I find this enables me to respond faster and it allows my students to provide more information than a typical voicemail. I can often get the information and provide an immediate answer rather than having to call, collect more information, and then call back.

A suggested message: "Hi this is....You've reached my personal phone mailbox. You can either leave a message at the tone or for a faster response e-mail me at.....I will be checking e-mail daily including weekends during the semester."

PAUL REDIG, INSTRUCTOR

N.Y. RESEARCH WORKERS SELECT AFT

Braving one of the worst March snow storms in history, the majority of 289 workers at the Research Foundation at LaGuardia Community College in Long Island City, N.Y., voted to join the Professional Staff Congress of New York State United Teachers, an AFT affiliate, on March 16.

"MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES" **APRIL 25, 2004- WASHINGTON DC.**

I will be there!! Over 1000 organizations are Co-Sponsors for the March! The ACLU has become a core Organizer. The NAACP and the Sierra Club are new Co-Sponsoring organizations. This March is historic on many levels. This is the first time that the Civil Rights Community has joined the Women's Movement to march for "choice, justice, access, and health" which are the concerns for individual's dignity. In the future people are going to want to say they were a part of the March For Women's Lives. People are making great sacrifices of time and comfort to get to this March. They all know that this is history in the making. Everyone who can be - MUST be here! Help them be part of this great event by doing all you can to reach out to your networks, members and friends and sign them up for the March!!!

JANET NORTROM

DR. HELEN CALDICOTT, **NUCLEAR-FREE FUTURE**

Dr. Helen Caldicott, MD, spoke February 16, 2004 at the Waukesha County Technical College as Part of the Great Decisions 2004 Series. Dr. Caldicott is world-famous for her work for nuclear disarmament and as the Founding President of Physicians for Social Responsibility, and founder of Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament, WAND. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Dr. Linus Pauling in 1985. She spoke very passionately as an advocate for peace and nuclear disarmament and alerted us to the great on-going concerns we should have for weapons of mass destructive that continues to be made. Plutonium cannot not be taken lightly.

She quoted often from her latest Book, "The New Nuclear Danger: George W. Bush's Military-Industrial Complex." She can be accessed through her founding organization, NPRI, Nuclear Policy Research Institute. It was established to educate the American public about the greatest single threat to the world's public health, namely the profound medical and environmental consequences of perpetuating nuclear weapons, power and waste.

www.nuclearpolicy.org

JANET NORTROM,
PARTICIPANT IN GREAT DECISIONS 2004

**IT'S TIME TO RESERVE SPACE TO
EXPLORE AMERICA'S SOUTHWEST
MAY 29 TO JUNE 12 2004**

MATC's most popular **Natural Science Field Studies** course ("America's Southwest") is being offered for the first time in two years **from May 29 to June 12, 2004**. Many participants have already registered, so the remaining spaces are limited. Students, faculty and staff should submit their deposits of \$100 before the **April 1 deadline** to hold their places.

This extraordinary 15-day field course is ideal for students who would like to earn four science credits while participating in an unforgettable learning adventure in some of America's most spectacular national parks and monuments (including Bryce, Zion, Grand Canyon and Arches).



Arches National Park opens windows to the wonders of Nature!

Natural Science Field Studies 1 ("America's Southwest," NATSCI-282, 4 credits) satisfies the requirement of a lab science in MATC's Associate degree programs. It can also be taken for undergraduate or graduate credit through Mount Mary College and can be transferred to other two-year and four-year colleges. Financial aid is available.

Please advise MATC students and all potential participants of this unique opportunity. See posted flyers and check the course website at <http://oncampus.matc.edu/fieldtrips/southwest> for more information, or contact Bob Helwig at 297-7428 (helwigj@matc.edu), Wayne Schlipp at 297-7440 (schlippw@gwise1.matc.edu), or George Stone at 297-7430 (stoneg@matc.edu).

GEORGE STONE, INSTRUCTOR

FUEL CELLS WORKSHOP – APRIL 2

Please mark your calendars! MATC will host another all-day workshop on **emerging energy technologies** on its **Milwaukee campus Friday, April 2 - "Fuel Cells for Electric Power Generation."**

The workshop will be held **from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in room S120** with simultaneous transmission to MATC's other campuses and will feature multiple presenters.

Continuing Education Units (CEU's) can be earned by participating in these valuable learning experiences. **The workshops are free for students.** Non-student registrants will be charged a nominal fee of twenty dollars to cover lunch and administrative costs. **Please help us bring this wonderful opportunity to the attention of our students!**

To register and for more information, please contact **Rahim Setoodeh** at 414-297-7429 (setoodeh@matc.edu) or **George Stone** at 414-297-7430 (stoneg@matc.edu).

GEORGE STONE, INSTRUCTOR

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CONDOLENCES TO . . .

The family of **Dorothy Bodden Roe**, retired sociology teacher and Local 212 Grievance Steward and widow of Jerry Roe, cabinet-making instructor. A Memorial Service will be held for Dorothy on Saturday, April 3, from 2-3 pm at Krause Funeral Home, 7001 W. Brown Deer Road.

Al Melbard, Technical & Applied Sciences Instructor, on the passing of his father.

Fred DeLaRosa, Pre-College Instructor, whose mother passed away on March 18th.

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