



# NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

September's balanced budget has evaporated, according to the administration, into May's \$4.2 million deficit.

The administration has tried to place responsibility for this development on the recently negotiated wage settlement of 2.85%.

Let's look at the facts. The President's Budget Committee proposed and the MATC board approved a 3% wage increase for this 2003-2004. Since the actual increase was a modest 2.85%, lower than the projected increase, how could it be responsible for the deficit?

The administration's reply is class and step increases. But given the seniority of our employees and the fact that the college saves approximately \$20,000 per employee when it hires lower salary employees to replace retirees, this is impossible.

The fact is that either the administration didn't follow the board's mandate of a 3% wage increase or they did and then used the money for some other purpose.

Other factors to consider are that: 1) the administration made the decision to leave \$1.3 million of property tax money on the table even though this would have cost the local taxpayer only \$1 more per \$100,000; 2) the administration made the costly (roughly \$500,000) decision to fill all full-time positions rather than negotiate an MOU that had been in force for at least seven years; 3) the administration's projected FTE growth of 5% was not, costing close to \$1.5 million; 4) and finally the state has slashed our funding by \$5 million since 1999, reducing its contribution to the general fund from over 30% to approximately 15%.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

**ALL THREE LOCAL 212  
BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACTS  
WERE RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY  
VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP,  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2004!**

## *Resolution Curriculum AAS Program*

*Adopted by Local 212, April 22, 2004*

*Whereas the WTCS Presidents and system have proposed that the AAS degree general education courses will be taught at a baccalaureate level in order to facilitate the transfer of these credits to the UW System...and*

*Whereas these proposals were developed without input from faculty, counselors, students, advisory committees, and employers... and*

*Whereas the vast majority of WTCS AAS degree graduates do not transfer to the UW System,*

*Be it resolved that Milwaukee Area Technical College faculty and counselors urge the WTCS to continue to serve the majority of AAS degree students who do not request transfer to the UW System with general education courses meeting the needs of programs and employers rather than UW system transfer requirements;*

*Be it further resolved, that Milwaukee Area Technical College faculty and counselors urge the WTCS to offer appropriate level of instruction for general education courses to meet the needs of non-transferring students in associate degree programs;*

*Be it further resolved that Milwaukee Area Technical College faculty and counselors support the offering of general education courses at an appropriate level of instruction for those students seeking to transfer those credits to other institutions;*

*Be it further resolved that the proposals concerning the configuration of the AAS degree and the level of general education courses be thoroughly re-evaluated, discussed, and modified with all stakeholders involved in the process.*

**FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE**

During the past two years Local 212 has acted responsibly. We renegotiated our healthcare package so that MATC's actual healthcare cost increases (9% this year) are less than half the area's average. We negotiated the lowest wage settlement in the college's history, below the Board's assumed wage increase.

If there is a deficit, the administration needs to come clean on why. Blaming the faculty and staff may be popular politics, but it contradicts the facts and undermines the college's ability to serve this community.

The politically inspired and fiscally irresponsible property tax freeze that was defeated last year is being resurrected again. All of us at MATC need to work together to defeat this threat to the college's ability to provide technical education and training to the area's workforce. Suggesting that faculty is the source of the college's economic problems is inaccurate and it feeds the tax freeze fanatics position whose real goal is to starve public entities such as MATC of resources. Without adequate funding MATC will be forced to cut back on programs and services which is the real goal of these rigid ideologues. They can't openly oppose the technical colleges because the community supports technical education. Instead they starve us to death!

MATC is the area's most important economic development organization and it is worthy of public support. Without that support there is no way we can educate the over 1000 students on the nursing waiting lists who are the solution to the state's shortage of nurses! Taxpayers and the state need to invest in MATC if this region is to grow and prosper. After all, for every dollar invested in MATC, we return almost \$9 to the local economy. As the economic recovery continues and the demand for skilled workers increases, business owners will increasingly turn to this college for a solution to their employment needs. It is our responsibility to be prepared to answer their call.

This has been a trying semester. I want to thank all of you for your commitment to this union, to MATC and to our students. The students, faculty and staff are the heart and soul of MATC. Despite all the turmoil I am proud to say that you have never forgotten this important truth. Have a great summer. We'll be in touch.

**MICHAEL ROSEN, PRESIDENT**

**RESULTS OF APRIL 28, 2004  
LOCAL 212 EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTION**

- President – **Michael Rosen**
- Executive Vice-President – **Charlie Dee**
- First Vice-President – Committees – **Steve Turner**
- Fourth Vice-President – Negotiations – **Linda Baehr**
- Fifth Vice-President – Professional Staff –  
**Edward Putnam**
- Sixth Vice-President – Part-Time Faculty –  
**Mary Kay Flynn**
- Seventh Vice-President – Part-Time Professional Staff  
– **Josianne Schnook**
- Grievance Representatives – At Large –  
**John Pludeman, Glenn Petrick**
- Grievance Representative, Liberal Arts and Sciences -  
**George Stone**
- Grievance Representative, Health Occupations –  
**Phyllis Holder**
- Grievance Representative, Full-Time Professional  
Staff – **Mary Neal**
- Grievance Representative, Part-Time Faculty –  
**Sally Lindner**
- Grievance Representative, Part-Time Professional  
Staff – **Jon Olson**
- Campus Representative – North Campus –  
**Kathleen "Ginger" Carney**
- Campus Representative – South – **Cliff Winkelman**
- Campus Representative – West – **James Augustine**
- Newsletter Editor – **Janet Nortrom**
- Affirmative Action – Standing Chair – **Rodney McLain**
- Legislative – Standing Chair – **Anthony Stanislawski**
- Student Life – Standing Committee Chair –  
**Robert Kurth**
- Health and Safety Committee Chairperson –  
**Susan Ruggles**
- Bargaining Committee – Full Time Faculty –  
**James Carpenter, Edelmiro Dominguez,  
Steven Holloway, John Reiss, David Stinnett,  
George Stone**
- Bargaining Committee – Part Time Faculty –  
**Vivian Beckley, Sally Lindner, Mary Anne Vitek,  
Steve Watrous**
- Bargaining Committee – Full Time Professional Staff –  
**Marietta Love, Jason Matthews, Mary Neal,  
Edward Putnam, Dorothy Riel**
- Bargaining Committee – Part Time Professional Staff  
– **Terrell Dulberger, Jon Olson, Lisa Pusheck**
- Bylaws Committee Chairperson – **Mike Milliren**
- Conflict Resolution Committee Chairperson –  
**Pat McFarland**
- Elections Committee Chairperson – **Robert Brzycki**
- Membership Committee Chairperson – **Dave Schall**
- Personnel Committee Chairperson – **Peter Musante**
- Public Relations Committee – Chairperson –  
**Pamela Malone**
- Social Solidarity Committee Chairperson –  
**Liza Larson**
- Sunshine Committee Chairperson –  
**Kathy Tomczyk Born**
- Milwaukee County Labor Council – **Richard Boldt,  
Susan Lunsford, Anthony Stanislawski**

### **NEW GEN ED ENERGY COURSE STARTS IN FALL**

With gasoline prices breaking records, oil prices at a 13-year high, and utility rates rising to pay for new power plants, can anyone doubt the impacts of energy on our daily lives? (Not to mention Iraq and climate change!) Clearly, energy literacy is important for everyone.

To meet this need, Rahim Setoodeh and George Stone have developed a new interdisciplinary course to start in the Fall semester: ***Energy in Nature, Technology and Society*** (NATSCI 162 and 262-001S, 2 credits). As its title suggests, this entry level course will answer the questions: What is energy? Where does it come from? How do we use it? How does it affect the environment, the economy and geopolitics? And what energy scenarios are likely for the future?

Please call this new elective science course to the attention of all potential students. Thanks! (For more information, please contact Rahim Setoodeh at 414-297-7429 ([setoodeh@matc.edu](mailto:setoodeh@matc.edu)) or George Stone at 414-297-7430 ([stoneg@matc.edu](mailto:stoneg@matc.edu)).

**GEORGE STONE, INSTRUCTOR**

## **SAVE up to 30% on these National Hotel Brands!**

AFT members receive discounts up to 30% off rates at more than 5,000 hotels in North America. Call the toll-free numbers listed below and mention your AFT PLUS member ID number: **20952**.



**AFT PLUS**  
The Benefits of Belonging



1-800-996-2087



1-800-268-2195



1-800-769-0939



1-800-682-1071



1-800-462-8035



1-800-545-5545



1-888-821-5779



1-877-202-8814



1-800-889-9706

Advance reservations required. Blackout dates may apply.  
Discounts cannot be used with other programs.

MAY '04

### **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS! FROM THE ELECTION COMMITTEE**

The voting process for the Board Members and Bargaining Committees on April 28<sup>th</sup> would not be possible without all of the members that volunteered their time to staff the polling stations. First, I would like to thank Jean Dueling, Mary Kay Flynn, and Joanne Lange for taking the time to help count/verify the ballots. The following individuals worked at their respective campus polling station. If I have missed someone's name, I apologize and it is my fault but, please let me know so I can make sure you are recognized in the next newsletter.

#### **Milwaukee Campus**

Veronica Neumann, Alexandra Topping, Joanne Johnson-Clauser, Kay Snowden, Susie Lunsford, Mary Tate-Smith, Alain DeMars, Layne Davis, Steve Turner.

#### **North Campus**

Wayne Printz, Sharon Lysaught, James Anderson, David Racer, Paul Redig, Larry Domine, Terri Sutton, Glenn Petrick, Patricia Casillo.

#### **South Campus**

Rita Santiago, Jim Mihal, Willie Ferguson, Peter Attipetty Jim Benedum.

#### **West Campus**

Anne Lehman, John Pludeman, Tom Pscheid, Dick Tupta, Jim Augustine, Jean Dueling, Peg Pomplin, Pat Gunn, Bob Brzycki.

Without your help the election could not take place, so again, THANK YOU!

**BOB BRZYCKI**  
**ELECTION COMMITTEE CHAIR**

#### **FROM THE EDITOR**

Have a great summer break and return refreshed from an invigorating experience on our valuable land. Don't let our park systems become privatized. Work to keep it precious for all of us to enjoy. Stay informed and active.

With summer joy from our AFT Local 212, Union staff and editor.

**JANET NORTROM**

American Federation of Teachers - Local 212  
Milwaukee Area Technical College, AFT-WI/AFL-CIO/MCLC  
739 West Juneau Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233  
Telephone: (414) 765-0910  
Janet Nortrom, Editor: (414) 297-7000, Ext. 79399  
Pamela Bautch, Office Manager/OPEIU Local 9, AFL-CIO