

Sabbatical Requests

Any full-time paraprofessional or faculty member who is interested in a sabbatical leave for the 2011-2012 academic year and who has not made this interest known should obtain the Sabbatical Leave Request Form from the Provost's office, Room M278, or by email from kleineim@matc.edu.

All requests must be received with proper signature by the Provost by 4 p.m. on October 31, 2010.

Those who submit an application will be notified about the action taken on their request no later than December 21, 2010.

Condolences

We offer our condolences to the following Local 212 members, friends and family:

To Members:

John Reiss – Father
Jean Borkin – Husband

Friends and Family of:

Retiree – Helen Didley
Retiree and Past Local 212 President – Ed Heidenreich
Retiree – Herbert Ware
Educational Assistant Larry Peterson



President Obama speaking to the Labor Fest crowd, September 6, 2010.

– Photo by Sue Ruggles

Upcoming Social Solidarity Events

If you haven't been to the Mitchell Park Domes in awhile, you might not know what a beautiful place it can be for social gatherings.

Save the date: Saturday, October 23 for the **Fall Social at the Mitchell Park Domes.**

Watch your email for information about menu and times.

Don't wait any longer to get your tickets for the **Road Trip to Lambeau Field** to see the Green Bay Packers take on the Miami Dolphins!

Mark your calendar: Sunday, October 17, kickoff at 12 p.m.

The \$180 per-person cost (\$155 per person without the bus) includes game ticket, round-trip bus ride – including a bloody mary bar on the bus – and three-hour pregame tailgate party.

First-come, first-served...TICKETS ARE LIMITED.

Go to the Local 212 website to get your order form: <http://www.local212.org/pdfs/2010PackerGameOrderForm.pdf>

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American Federation of Teachers
Local 212
Milwaukee Area Technical College

News & Views

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President's Message

Show Your Support: Michalski, Feingold, Barrett, Moore

By Dr. Michael Rosen
Local 212 President

Thanks to those of you who joined Local 212's Committee on Political Education (COPE) for the first time and to continuing members who increased your contributions. The response this year was overwhelming. 61% of the full time faculty now contribute to COPE!

Every division responded to the challenge. Unfortunately, very few administrators did. Yet, they benefit from COPE's work as much as anyone. So when you run into your dean or associate dean, or a 212 member who is not contributing, urge them to sign a card and join our efforts.

I want to bring your attention to a few key November elections.



Mayor Tom Barrett at Labor Fest.

– Photo by Sue Ruggles

In the 21st district that covers South Milwaukee and Oak Creek, Local 212 has endorsed **Tom Michalski**, the kind of candidate that we could only dream about. Tom graduated from MATC and worked at Allen Bradley for 38 years, serving as

chief steward and vice president of UE Local 1111. He is a member of the MATC District Board and the president of the Oak Creek Common Council. His daughter is also an MATC graduate. Tom Michalski is committed to MATC, its students and working families. We need him to represent us in the Legislature.

Senator **Russ Feingold** is in a tough race for re-election. Russ has been a real friend of MATC and Local 212. When President Bush attempted to eliminate all Carl Perkins funding and the jobs of 45 Local 212 members, Russ led the fight in the Senate to restore the funding and save our colleagues' jobs.

When Bush reneged on his promise to increase Pell Grants, the main source of fi-

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And in This Corner...

Stand Up for Public Employees

By Charlie Dee
Local 212 Executive VP

Ever wonder why politicians who claim to be "conservative" constantly attack public employees, especially teachers?

The latest example of this we pointed out on Faculty Coordination Day: Scott Walker, the likely GOP nominee for governor, attacking our health care and pensions.

In case you missed it, Walker wants to make it illegal for public employee unions to negotiate health care, with the result that

public employers like MATC could charge us employees anything they want for our health insurance. If this were to happen, and the administration was nice to us and decided to charge us only half of the premiums, that would reduce your income by \$15,600 per year in our family PPO or \$13,872 in our family HMO.

Similarly, Walker brags that if he's elected, he'll make it illegal for public employers to pay the "Employee" portion of our annual pensions, as MATC has done for employees for over 40 years. Since that portion

is 6% of your gross income, if you make \$75,000, Walker would make you pay \$4,500 per year to get the same benefit.

So if you vote for Walker (or Mark Neumann), you'll be voting to reduce your

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nancial aid for our students, Russ led the fight to increase the grants. And he was the only senator to stand up to the lies about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and oppose the costly and unnecessary war.

Russ Feingold's opponent, Ron Johnson, has already spent \$4 million on the election trying to convince voters that Russ is an elitist. This is truly a case of the pot calling the kettle black, since Johnson is a millionaire who inherited his wealth and has no record of supporting education and teachers.

He denies the science of global warming, promotes eugenics – the pseudo-scientific idea that intelligence is determined by one's ethnicity – and would increase the federal deficit by making tax cuts for millionaires, including himself, permanent.

Local 212 has also endorsed Mayor **Tom Barrett** for governor. We have had our disagreements with Mayor Barrett over the years, most recently over Everest College and mayoral control of MPS. But unlike his opponents, Tom Barrett has supported MATC, has not proposed cutting our funding and has worked with Local 212.

His opponents, Mark Neumann and Scott Walker, have proposed taking away our right to bargain over health care and making us pay the portion of our pensions now paid for by the college. Barrett does not support these initiatives. Walker and Neumann also promise to fire teachers rated ineffective for two years. This is a slippery slope. The best choice is Tom Barrett.

Finally, we have endorsed a former MATC student and great friend of our local, **Gwen Moore** for Congress. We were the first union to endorse Gwen and she has never forgotten that we supported her when no one else did. When I recently asked Gwen to author a letter advocating stronger regulations over for-profit diploma mills than the Department of Education recommended, she didn't hesitate. She not only authored the letter, but is circulating it through the entire House. She has helped lead the fight for Pell Grants and recently helped the college obtain a \$450,000 earmark.

These elections are important to MATC, our students and our future. Please remember to vote for candidates who have demonstrated their commitment to MATC, our students and Local 212 on November 2.

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annual income by at least \$20,000. But why would attacking middle-class professionals whose jobs greatly benefit the community as a whole be such a widespread tactic by Walker and other GOP politicians?

Stated simply, the Republican Party is no longer the party of my father, Dwight Eisenhower and Nelson Rockefeller. It has been taken over by right-wing ideologues whose policies serve only the richest citizens and corporations. However, they need some way to appeal to middle-class voters to convince them that the GOP is on their side. So they demonize one group of middle-class voters – public employees – in hopes of getting the other middle-class voters to see us as their enemy and vote for Republicans.

It's as slick as it is cynical: if private-sector middle-class folks see public employees as their main enemy, they might not take a close look at the GOP's policies that do them no good at all. These would include the GOP's opposition to universal health care that would be a great boon to small businesses, the GOP's relentless push for wars of choice, such as in Iraq, that will eventually cost us three trillion dollars and the lives of thousands of our citizens, or tax cuts for the wealthiest 1% of Americans

Academic Tech

By Mark Mankowski
Academic Technology Committee co-chair

Academic Technology, the joint governance committee that makes recommendations about the use of technology across the college, will discuss a number of items over the upcoming academic year that will have a positive impact upon our electronic workplace environment.

Topics will include MATC's new portal and web presence; thin client computing in offices, classrooms and labs; the RAVE mass notification system; Blackboard and



Local 212 showed a strong presence in the Sept. 6 Labor Fest parade.

– Photo by Sue Ruggles

that result in the entire middle class having to pay more.

Now, we're not the only boogeyman this political season: there are also immigrants, who have been attacked by opportunist politicians during every recession since the mid-19th century. In the past, Bush's genius, Karl Rove, used the three g's – guns, gays and God – as the hot-button social issues to get people to vote for the GOP and not realize they were screwing themselves economically. Before that, Reagan used the "Welfare Queen" myth and other thinly veiled racist themes to appeal to the white middle class.

Since we're the latest scapegoats, we have our work cut out to explain to our friends and neighbors that they're only hurting themselves if they treat public employees like us as their enemy.

Let's get to work. We only have two more months!

mobile Blackboard; and MOX, the mobile system that will eventually put the new MATC portal on smartphones and other 3G/4G devices. We also consider issues regarding effective student and faculty technology use and training.

If you have an interest in or have questions about the way we use technology at MATC – present and future – our committee welcomes your interest and input. Our Thursday meetings, 1-3 p.m. in M302 at the Milwaukee Campus, are open to all 212 members. Upcoming meetings this semester are 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2 and 12/16. For information, please call ext. 77412 or email mankowsm@matc.edu.

ER&D

Peer Support, On Course II and 'The Teaching Professor'

By Michelle Felix, ER&D

The results of the survey we conducted during the spring semester show decidedly that the majority of you prefer to take your for-credit courses during the semester breaks. That is why you see only one ER&D class offered this semester. We continue to offer Peer Support because of the overwhelmingly positive feedback we receive from those who complete it.

The mission of the Peer Support course is to work with colleagues in a collaborative manner that will enhance teaching and learning at MATC. Peer Support provides participants with the structure to reflect on their teaching practice while learning best practices in a variety of topics.

If you are in your first certification cycle, Peer Support completes the requirement for #52 Teaching Methods. Peer Support offers three recertification credits to instructors who have completed their original

certification and are looking to re-energize their teaching. To view a video announcement for the class, go to http://video.matc.edu/mulvenna/peer_support_ad.asx.

We are very excited to bring the highly regarded On Course back to MATC. We heard from many of you who completed On Course I that you want more, so in January we will offer On Course II. This four-day workshop builds on the learning strategies to empower students that you learned about in On Course I. Part II equips you to design and deliver learner-centered educational experiences that help students move from superficial to deep learning. You need to have completed On Course I to be eligible.

Look for these courses in INFOnline under the subject ZERD. If you have trouble registering, please contact ER&D at ext. 76830, or at the Downtown Milwaukee Campus, visit FH213 and an educational assistant will help you.

ER&D's goal for this year is to make more resources available to you beyond the for-credit courses. Toward that goal, we have purchased a subscription to *The Teaching Professor*, a forum for discussion of the best strategies supported by the latest educational research for effective teaching in the college classroom. Those who are familiar with the resource have praised it for its practicality and applicability to MATC.

Anyone at MATC may create his or her own account and have full online access. For information, please contact us at ext. 76830.

Look for ER&D to offer workshops throughout the semester and on all campuses addressing a variety of teaching best practices. These will be announced through GroupWise.

Here's to a semester in which we grow, renew and revitalize our teaching.

Part-Time Faculty News

You Are MATC's Heart and Soul

By Sally A. Lindner (SAL)
6th VP – Part-Time Faculty

Welcome back, part-timers. If you are newly hired, welcome to MATC. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and that you are as eager as I am to get back to what we do best – providing our students with an excellent education.

The heart and soul of this college is the faculty and staff who provide our students with a high-quality education. The magic that is MATC begins in our classrooms, labs and shops. What makes MATC work is the relationship between you, our faculty and professional staff, and our students. As I have said many times before, the work we do changes lives and provides many in our community with hope and opportunity.

Part-time faculty recently received a letter asking us to participate in MATC's Employee Giving campaign. I fully realize that times are bad – so bad for many of us part-timers that we ourselves are in dire straits.

However, I know that many people in our community really need help. If you can donate any amount whatsoever, no matter how small, it would help immensely.

* * *

Assignments are made per your Letter of Availability. A teacher's load is filled to the range specified and it is based on seniority and availability of courses. This means that if administration assigned you a 40% load, it is legal if you so specified a range of 40%-49%. They do not have to legally assign you anything more than 40%.

The Letters of Availability for the forthcoming spring semester will be sent to your homes by October 1. Complete that letter with care, and be certain that you submit it by the due date. Please also make a copy for yourself. In addition, have Labor Relations time stamp your letter and request a copy. After the letters are sent, I'll email detailed information to all part-time faculty.

Good news! You will receive a wage increase this fall. I'll send the new part-time faculty salary schedule in a separate email.

* * *

Local 212 communicates to all faculty and professional staff via MATC's GroupWise. If you do not have an account, you'll need to obtain one. Note that you can direct all MATC GroupWise mail to a personal email account.

* * *

In closing, as you know, I advocate open channels of communication. I welcome input from all part-time instructors on issues that are important to them. Call or email me (414-774-0740 or lindners@matc.edu) or our Part-Time Grievance Representative Vivian Beckley, with any concerns or suggestions. Active participation makes for a strong, dedicated, cohesive and viable union.