



protecting academic quality

MESSAGE TO MEMBERS: October 19, 2010

Contract Campaign to Kick Off at Fall Members' Meeting: Wed., Oct. 27

Dear full- and part-time members of United Academics,

Please join your United Academics colleagues next week for an important meeting:

UA Fall Members' Meeting and Contract Campaign Kick-Off

Wednesday, October 27

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Memorial Lounge, Waterman

(Refreshments will be served)

Faculty at UVM can feel justifiably proud of the gains we've made through United Academics, including salary increases well above any offered unilaterally by the UVM administration, improved job security and professional support for non-tenure-track faculty, and crucial improvements to the health plan promoted by the administration--improvements not only for ourselves but for UVM staff as well.

But as our team--Nick Danigelis (Sociology), Sue Dinitz (English), Mary Peabody (Extension), David Shiman (Education), Richard Single (Mathematics & Statistics), and Denise Youngblood (History)--prepares to negotiate a fourth contract for full-time faculty, we anticipate considerable challenges:

- guarding against workload exploitation
- ensuring retiree health care benefits
- obtaining greater employment security for non-tenure-track faculty
- protecting academic quality

What should we be doing now to help our team prepare to meet these challenges--and what else do we want and need from our next contract? What other issues do you see that our team should anticipate and address?

All faculty in United Academics--full-time and part-time--are urged to attend this crucial meeting kicking off a campus-wide discussion. At the meeting, we will also have an update on grievances and other contract issues, review the results of the workload survey, vote on two changes to the UA constitution, and take nominations for officers and members-at-large as well as delegates.

If you can't attend the meeting, you are welcome to send your suggestions for revising the contract to David Shiman at david.shiman@uvm.edu.

We've made significant gains since faculty first unionized in 2001. Working together, we can continue this trend of protecting academic quality and improving faculty lives at UVM.

We hope to see you on the 27th!

David Shiman, Professor of Education

President, United Academics

and

Kathy Fox, Associate Professor of Sociology

Vice President, United Academics

Visit United Academics on the web at <http://www.unitedacademics.org>

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