

Teaching Assistants Union challenges WMU-AAUP to kickball game (March 16). Get those knee braces on and get your ice packs ready: TAU has thrown down the gauntlet and challenged us to a kickball game, along with the Professional Instructors Organization (PIO). Those TAU whippersnappers may be younger than we are, they're probably healthier on average, and they almost definitely have better knees, but we've got old age, treachery, and good insurance on our side. The cost of admission to what will surely be a spectacle of awesomeness that won't soon be forgotten is a non-perishable food item for the WMU Food Pantry or a donation to the WMU Invisible Need fund. The game will be at the WMU Student Rec Center on Friday, March 16, at 7 p.m.

Call for kickball players and cheer squad members. Rumor has it that TAU is "assembling a team of victors" in order to "crush" us on March 16, so if you are a ruthless, highly disciplined athlete, or at least have a good sense of humor and/or a high threshold for public indignity, we need you to answer this call! Sound like you? Fantastic! Join us on the team or on the cheering squad! Call 345-0151, email [staff@wmuaaup.net](mailto:staff@wmuaaup.net), or simply reply to this message to let us know you're in.

Nominate your outstanding union rep! Has your Association Council representative served in ways you would like to see recognized and honored? Now's your chance! We have an exceptional group of colleagues serving as AC reps, but their efforts on behalf of the faculty to defend the contract, preserve and strengthen academic freedom and shared governance rights, and maintain and enhance the quality of our professional lives rarely get the recognition they deserve. To try to take at least a small step toward remedying this, the WMU-AAUP Chapter is now accepting nominations of outstanding Association Council reps for recognition at the chapter meeting on Friday, April 6. Please submit your nominations to [staff@wmuaaup.net](mailto:staff@wmuaaup.net) by no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, including the AC rep's name, department or unit, and a brief description of what you appreciate about their contributions.

Janus v. AFSCME Solidarity Action: Monday, February 26. The U.S Supreme Court will hear oral arguments next Monday in Janus v. AFSCME Council 31, an anti-union case challenging the constitutionality of agency fees for public-sector bargaining units. If the court decides in favor of the plaintiff, as many legal experts believe it will, the decision would essentially establish so-called "right to work" rules as the law of the land and weaken public-sector unions nationwide. Please plan to wear red and wear/display your WMU-AAUP buttons, lanyards, and stickers on Monday, Feb. 26, to stand in solidarity with union members throughout the U.S. If you need WMU-AAUP gear, contact us ASAP at [staff@wmuaaup.net](mailto:staff@wmuaaup.net). A decision on the case is expected in May or June. Click [here](#) for more about Janus v. AFSCME Council 31.

Mark your calendar:

Friday, February 23, 5-6 p.m.: Fourth Friday Happy Hour at the University Roadhouse, 1332 W. Michigan Ave.

Friday, March 16, 1:30 p.m.: Association Council meeting, 157 Bernhard.

Friday, March 16, 7 p.m.: Kickball game with TAU and PIO, Student Rec Center.

Friday, March 23, 5-6 p.m.: Fourth Friday Happy Hour, location TBA.

Friday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.: Spring chapter meeting (for all bargaining-unit members), 157 Bernhard Center.