

WMU-AAUP and other campus unions to face off in kickball tournament Friday, March 16. Get those knee braces on and get your ice packs ready: The Teaching Assistants Union (TAU) has thrown down the gauntlet and challenged us to a kickball game, along with the Professional Instructors Organization (PIO) and AFSCME at WMU. 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, so let's get out there and kick some. . . kickballs!

Please announce this event to your classes and let them know that admission is free for students to what will surely be a spectacle of awesomeness that won't soon be forgotten on this campus. For everyone else, the price of admission is one non-perishable food item for the WMU Food Pantry or a donation to the WMU Invisible Need fund. You can donate online here. (Select 'Invisible Need' from the dropdown menu under the 'Students' tab.) The event flier is linked here.

If you're planning to play on the WMU-AAUP team or join the cheer squad, please plan to arrive at the SRC no later than 6:45pm on Friday and let us know ASAP that you'll be participating. Call 345-0151, email staff@wmuaaup.net, or simply reply to this message. Participants and spectators: Wear red and white and sport your WMU-AAUP buttons and lanyards.

Friday, March 16, 7-8:30 p.m., on the indoor tennis courts at the WMU Student Rec Center.

#StrengthInSolidarity #UnionStrong #ThisIsAUnionCampus
#CantRememberWhyWeAgreedToThis

Grievance Committee and Member Outreach Coordinator: Deadline for nominations March 15. All dues-paying members of the bargaining unit are invited to apply or to nominate promising colleagues for these opportunities. Grievance committee service is a great way to learn about how the chapter administers and defends the contract, so if you are considering future service as WMU-AAUP contract administrator or grievance officer, this is a great way to prepare for those leadership roles. (Click here to learn more about the work of this important committee.) If union organizing is more your style, click here to check out the Member Outreach Coordinator position description and submit your application ASAP.

Membership Outreach Coordinator is an officer position with responsibilities primarily in summer II and fall. The successful candidate is eligible for a three-credit stipend in summer II and three hours of reassigned time in the fall. Grievance committee service is (contractually) Service to the WMU-AAUP Chapter, meaning that it counts as professional service and must be factored into faculty workload. Nominations for both positions, including self-nominations, should be sent to staff@wmuaaup.net by close of business on March 15.

Nominate your outstanding union rep! Deadline is March 21. 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 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 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 service.

Sabbatical proposal workshops April 10 and 11. If you are considering applying for a sabbatical next year, get help making your application the best it can be by attending one of these interactive workshops, co-sponsored by the WMU-AAUP and the provost's office. Sabbatical applications are due no later than October 1, 2018, so the time is now, as these workshops will not be repeated until spring 2019. Tuesday, April 10, 2-3:30 p.m., and Wednesday, April 11, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon, both in 212 Bernhard.

A. Robert Kleiner Memorial Scholarship applications due June 29. The WMU-AAUP Kleiner Scholarship supports WMU students with interest or experience in collective bargaining and/or labor relations. Undergraduate and graduate students who will be enrolled at WMU during fall 2018 and/or spring 2019 are eligible for the 2018-19 award. Funded by donations honoring deceased bargaining-unit members, the robust performance of this account over the years has made it possible for the WMU-AAUP to increase individual awards to \$2000 (from \$1500) beginning with the next award cycle, as recently approved by the WMU-AAUP Executive Committee.

Please help us identify promising students and encourage them to apply. Recent honorees include TAU VP Naomi Bick (2017-18), former TAU President Kristie Bailey (2016-17), TAU steward and activist Khari Dickey (2016-17), and undergraduate

education major Tabrian Joe (2016-17), who helped to lead the re-establishment of WMU's National Education Association student chapter. Candidates for the scholarship must complete an application form and provide a short statement that demonstrates their interest or experience in collective bargaining and/or labor relations. Applications for 2018-19 awards will be available soon upon request to staff@wmuaaup.net. Applications are due by close of business on Friday, June 29, 2018.

Janus v. AFSCME Council 31 update. The U.S Supreme Court heard oral arguments on February 26 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. A decision on the case is expected in May or June. For more information, check out SCOTUSblog's overview of the oral arguments, CSPAN's video coverage, NY Times Supreme Court columnist Linda Greenhouse's analysis of the arguments and courtroom dynamics, Washington Post columnist EJ Dionne on the politics of Janus v AFSCME, and this brief video of post-argument commentary by national AAUP legal counsel Aaron Nisenson and Mike Mauer.

Mark your calendar:

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

Friday, March 16, 7pm: Epic evening of kickball with TAU, PIO, and AFSCME, Student Rec Center.

Friday, March 23, 5-6pm: Fourth Friday Happy Hour at Arcadia Brewing Co., 701 E. Michigan Ave.

Friday, April 6, 1:30pm: Spring chapter meeting for all bargaining-unit members, 157 Bernhard.

Friday, April 27, 5-6pm: Fourth Friday Happy Hour at Arcadia Brewing Co., 701 E. Michigan Ave.