



Update

Newsletter of the Office Professionals of CMU
October/November 2009

The New Buzzword

By Carol Turner

The great state of Michigan is experiencing major financial difficulties. We all know about these fiscal problems and they directly affect the working people at Central Michigan University. Approximately 25% of CMU's funding comes from state coffers. The rest comes primarily from tuition and a small percentage comes from gifts, endowments, donations, and investments.

In past years we heard phrases such as "tightening the budget", "cutting the fat", "budget reductions" and "program eliminations". Recently, in a meeting with Interim President Kathy Wilbur and Interim Provost Gary Shapiro, we heard a new buzzword: "efficiencies".

Are we not already efficient? Many departments began making their processes more efficient several years ago. We have already reduced our student help, cut back on conference and workshop attendance, eliminated refreshments at meetings, reduced spending on office supplies and equipment, and in some departments

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UAW Local 6888
1205 S Mission
Mount Pleasant MI 48858



Solidarity!

Efficiencies

positions were eliminated or reduced to part-time. Many departments have revised their forms and began utilizing modern technologies, such as email and web based documents, saving time, using less paper, and spending less on postage.

CMU employs 332 Office Professionals who provide services to 1,074 faculty, 571 graduate assistants, over 19,000 students, and roughly 1,800 staff employees. We make sure all employees get paid; we help students with enrollment and billing issues; we answer the phones; we set up the meetings; we respond to questions; we provide clerical assistance to faculty and staff; we take the minutes at meetings; we write letters; we notarize documents; we prepare financial reports; we audit and reconcile accounts; we make copies; we do the filing; we handle the mail. And we are efficient!

NAME GAME CONTEST!

Our newsletter needs a new title, so here is your chance to show your creativity! The title should be relatively short, to the point, and representative of who we are. All members in good standing are eligible to enter the contest. The winner will be announced in early December, and will receive a “basket full of goodies”. To enter, send an email to turne1cj@cmich.edu with “Name Game” as the subject line and suggested title, your name, and department in the body. Deadline for entries is November 30, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Don't be late!

Personnel Transactions

New Hires

Amy Kazanowski, Sr Spec Clerk OP5, ProfEd, 11/16/09

Promotions

Carolyn Studebaker, Exec Sec OP6, Medical School, 8/24/09

Melanie Kelley, Sr Spec Clerk/PT OP5, College of Graduate Studies, 9/8/09

Melissa Stevens, Exec Sec OP6, Economics, 10/5/09

Barbara Steffke, Sr Spec Clerk OP5, Library, 10/12/09

Rescinded Offer

Melanie Kelley, Spec Clerk OP4, ProfEd

Additional Assignments

Deirdre McDonald, Sec/PT OP4, Physician Assistant Program, 8/24/09

Leave of Absence

Laura Hope, Exec Sec OP6, Economics, 8/11/09

Return from Leave of Absence

Heidi Langley, Sec/PT OP4, Facilities Management, 8/19/09

Cindy Howard, Exec Sec OP6, CBA, 9/8/09

Retirements

Darlyn Curtiss, Lead Retail Clerk OP4, CMU Bookstore, 8/31/09

Health Care Reform

By Carol Turner

Those of us who are enrolled in one of CMU's health care plans are fortunate in that we enjoy very good medical coverage at an affordable out of pocket cost. But not everyone in this state, or this country, is as fortunate as we are.

Ken and Shelly were joyously anticipating the birth of their first child. Ken's employer-provided health insurance was a catastrophic plan, and the couple was paying \$100's of dollars out-of-pocket for Shelly's prenatal care. The delivery of their baby would be covered at 80%, and they found a way to set aside enough funds to cover the other 20%. But Ken and Shelly's baby was born with severe birth defects and will need major medical attention for years to come. What are they going to do? How are they going to pay the medical bills? Who is going to help Ken, Shelly, and their child?

There is current legislation yet to be voted on that will provide families in these, and other financially devastating situations the affordable medical insurance they so desperately need.

There is much debate about this bill, and there are many bogus emails being sent around the country regarding it. Here are some true facts about what this legislation does and does not include.

H.R. 3200 WILL

- Provide affordable, quality health care for all Americans
- Reduce the growth in health care spending
- Prohibit preexisting condition exclusions
- Prohibit any annual or lifetime coverage limits
- Forbid federal payment for undocumented aliens
- Provide you with your choice of a health care provider
- Allow a "public option" and individual choice of health insurance
- Penalize hospitals for preventable re-admission
- Provide Medicare coverage for voluntary counseling sessions between seniors and their doctors regarding end-of-life care
- Expand coverage for mental health services

H.R. 3200 WILL NOT

- Allow a government committee to decide what treatments you get
- Allow non-US citizens, illegal or not, free healthcare services
- Prevent you from continuing enrollment in your current health insurance
- Mandate audits of all employers that self-insure
- Ration your health care
- Provide the federal government with direct, real-time access to all individual bank accounts for electronic funds transfer
- Require employers to auto-enroll employees into the government-run public plan
- Reduce physician services for Medicaid
- Ration payments to hospitals for cancer care

Ken could be your son or brother, Shelly your daughter or sister. I know you would want to help them and their baby. It's up to all of us to encourage our elected officials to support H.R. 3200. Below you will find contact information for your Senators and Representatives. Please go to their web sites to send them an email or use the phone number listed to call requesting their support in passing H.R. 3200.

Sen. Carl Levin
<http://levin.senate.gov>
202-224-6221

Sen. Debbie Stabenow
<http://stabenow.senate.gov>
202-224-4822

Rep. Dave Camp
<http://camp.house.gov>
202-225-3561

Rep. Dale Kildee
<http://www.house.gov/kildee>
202-225-3611

University Policy

It is against University policy to allow a student to log in to the SAP system under your global ID and password. The proper procedure is for the department to request limited access for students. Please contact your District Representative if you have questions regarding this policy, or if your supervisor asks you to log into SAP for your student employees.

Reminder

Local 6888 has many committees that serve our membership. One of those committees is the Good and Welfare Committee. This committee will coordinate sending an expression of sympathy for the death of an immediate family member or mailing a card during a serious illness or birth of a new baby. If you are aware of any of these situations involving one of our members, please contact one of the Good and Welfare Committee members. Their contact information can be found on our web site at www.uawlocal6888.org.

Get Involved

Is your life without luster and zeal?
Do you lack that exciting appeal?
There is only one thing left for you.

Support your Union - it's the right thing to do.
Get active, be involved, show your support in every way.
It will make your life better from day to day.
Attend those meetings, speak up and be heard.
Don't just sit back and listen; I'm sure you have a word.
It takes more than one to get the job done.
This fight is ours and this battle can be won.

*Written by Beverly Woods
UAW Local 1292*



Brook Marie Turner
Born September 2009
Granddaughter of Caral Turner,
Faculty Personnel Services



Travis Earl Lloyd II
Born August 10, 2009
Grandson of Theresa Ames,
Doctor Of Health Administration



Danielle Jane Evans
Born October 23, 2009
Granddaughter of Caral Turner,
Faculty Personnel Services

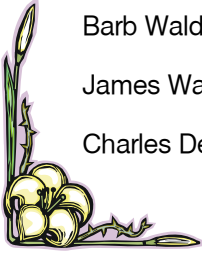
In Memory

Memorial contributions have been made in memory of the following:

Barb Waldbillig, Retiree. Donation made to St. Mary's Catholic School of Alma.

James Watson, Father of Rita Doneth. Donation made to Woodland Hospice.

Charles Decker, Father of Caral Turner, Faculty Personnel Services. Donation made to Woodland Hospice.



Agency Fee Payers

Sherry Burke
Patricia Cotter
Monica Folske
Emily Fortuna
Polly Hoyt
Evelyn Seitz
Debra Teeter
Christina Zalud

FOR SALE Wood for hobby furniture builders. Oak and pine, 8 to 12 ft. Call 989-780-3970.

Next membership meeting is November 18 LK St Claire Rm

October & November Birthdays

BETTY SCHULTE
SALLY BLUBAUGH
JOHNNIE BOUGHNER
KAREN MORDICA
GABRIELLA TUTTLE-BERLING
KELLY STACEY
DONNA FISHER
LAURIE TYLER
MARQUITTE BARLOW
MARSHA DINKFELD
GLADYS MCDONALD
KAY PURTILL
JULIA ALWARD
ANNETTE SEESTEDT
PEGGY CLERC

JOAN MAUL
JANET SOUDER
CHRISTINE BAILEY
CYNTHIA NEITZEL
BECKY JOHNSON
BRENDA MATHER
DEBORAH BARKER
DEBORAH BOYLE
JODI DROUSE
CINDY SMITH
DONNA MAYES
CHERYL BLUEMER
PATRICIA SCHAFER
MARY KAY MAAS
SOPHRONIA LASHUAY

CINDY HOWARD
SALLY OLLER
DEBRA VANLIEW
KATHLEEN ASSMANN
ROBIN DECKER
KATHY HALL
ROBIN HARRIS
BRENDA SCHAFER
LORI RATHJE
AMY POWELL
PATRICIA PERRY
PAULA MCDADE
JANYCE SELESKY
SUZANNE SOVA

Update is published by UAW Local 6888, 1205 S. Mission Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858 (Ph: 989-773-1312).

Members are invited to contribute letters to the editor, articles, photos, or cartoons. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any material. Views expressed herein are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the UAW, District 1-D, Local 6888's Executive Board, or Bargaining Committee.

This newsletter is "LaborDonated".

Deadline for material submission is the 20th of the month prior to the month of issue. Send all materials to Caral Turner, Warriner 308 or via e-mail to turne1cj@cmich.edu.