



MSU APA/MEA/NEA
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Calendar

APA Executive Board

June 25 | 2:00 pm

APA Office

[APA Prepares for Bargaining a Successor Contract](#)

The APA must begin preparations to negotiate a successor agreement by appointing the Negotiations Committee in January of the year our current contract is set to expire.

Show Support for Your Union!

We invite you to show others that you are a union member and part of the largest bargaining union on campus by displaying our APA logo in your worksite.

[Annual Gathering](#)

While other parts of the country were experiencing severe storms and tornados, the weather in East Lansing was pure sunshine for our annual APA picnic.

[Meet a Fellow APA Member](#)

Featuring Jonathon McClain, Research Assistant II in the Department of Physiology.

[Upcoming Events](#)

Resume review and looking ahead to the MSU Homecoming Parade.

Area Representative (AR) Spotlight

George Harris, IT Professional at the Flint campus for the College of Human Medicine.

APA Trivia

Find out how well you know MSU! Discover the answer to the last trivia question and congratulate the winners!

The "Business of the APA Union" (APA-MEA) mailing list (announcement only) and the printed Association newsletter are the official publications of the MSU APA. Additional association information is available on our website: <http://www.msuapa.org>

APA Prepares for Bargaining a Successor Contract

Per Article VII of the APA Constitution and Bylaws, the APA must begin preparations to negotiate a successor agreement by appointing the Negotiations Committee in January of the year our current contract is set to expire.

An initial solicitation for anyone interested in serving on the committee was included in the January/February APA Newsletter and those who responded were appointed to the committee by the APA Executive Board. The committee is a cross-section of more than 30 APA members who work in varied classifications and departments and come to the committee with different interests and years of service at MSU.

As you likely recall, the APA negotiated and ratified our current wage and health care agreement, which is in effect through 2020 – 2021, that ensures wage increases each year as well as fully funded health care for the base plan (BCN). A reminder that this October 2019, all APA members will be eligible for a 2.75% base wage increase. Therefore, the topics of base wage and health care will not be open for negotiation in the APA contract bargaining cycle this year.

The APA anticipates negotiations with MSU to begin in late summer. Prior to that time, the APA will be engaging members and soliciting input for bargaining through surveys, feedback forums, and email. Ultimately, any tentative agreement reached at the bargaining table must be ratified by a vote of all APA dues paying members.

Be sure to watch for official APA ListServ messages regarding contract input surveys and open meeting dates prior to and during the 2019 bargaining cycle. If you have questions, please feel free to email msuapa@msu.edu or contact the APA office at 517.999.4004.

Show Support For Your Union

We invite you to show others that you are a union member and part of the largest bargaining union on campus by displaying our APA logo in your worksite. Maybe you picked up one of the APA pins, magnets, lanyards, keychains or other swag from one of the APA events. If not, or you have misplaced it, there is one below to print (from your non-work printer) to display somewhere in your workstation. You can print in black or green ink.

You never know when APA Membership Committee members may be stopping by your worksite. Members in good standing who are displaying the APA or MEA logo when the surprise patrol stops by, will receive a prize. Prize patrols will start in June.

APPA

Administrative Professional Association

Michigan State University

Michigan Education Association

517-999-4004

Email: msuapa@msu.edu

www.msuapa.org

www.mea.org

Annual Gathering

While other parts of the country were experiencing severe storms and tornados, the weather in East Lansing was pure sunshine for our annual APA picnic. Held on May 21 at Patriarcho Park, the picnic provided a chance for APA members to take the night off from cooking and to gather with fellow union members and their families for a social and networking event.

A family friendly event for kids of all ages, with toys and activities provided and of course the snow cones were a big hit with both children and adults.

APA members who won door prizes include: Dave Graff, Allen Scheck, Haida Lopez, Geronimo Felipe and Stephanie Bahorski.

Members also had a chance to contribute to an *Idea Board* for contract negotiations as the Bargaining Committee begins to seek input from members on proposed language changes, conditions of employment and benefits for the upcoming contract negotiations with the university.



Meet A Fellow APA Member

Jonathon McClain

What is your job title?

Research Assistant II

How long have you been at MSU?

I have been at MSU since I started my undergraduate degree in 2001. I worked part-time at MSU after graduating in 2005, before becoming full-time in 2007.

Have you been a member of the APA the whole time?

I started out as a member of the CT union before being promoted. I have been a member of the APA for 10 years.

What department do you work in, and can you tell me a little bit about what you do?

I am a lab manager in the Department of Physiology. I perform experiments and analyze data, order supplies, and maintain compliance in the lab. Our lab focuses on cellular mechanisms that drive gut function in health and disease.

What brought you to your job at MSU?

I enjoyed working in the lab environment part-time at MSU, so I decided to make a career out of it here.

What do you love about working at MSU?

I love interacting with the graduate students and post-docs in the lab. I enjoy being a steady part of the lab as they advance and new students come into the lab.

What do you like to do when you are not at work?

I enjoy woodworking, gardening, spending time with my wife and daughter, and I am a self-defense instructor.

Upcoming Events

Resume Reviews

As part of the More You Know Lunch series we have offered some sessions on how to look for a new job, but wanted to ask if there is interest in providing a peer review for some tips on your resume. We know sometimes the lunch hour is rushed and we also have members who work evening and weekend hours. If there is enough interest, we would look at doing this after 5:00 p.m. or on a Saturday. If you would be interested in having your resume reviewed or serving on the panel reviewing the resumes providing some constructive feedback, please let us know. Contact Sue Brandt brandts@msu.edu.

Save the Date – September 27

APA is planning participate again this year in the MSU Homecoming Parade the evening of Friday, September 27th. APA members and their families are invited to be in the parade with us. If you would like to help with the planning of our parade entry, please contact Sue Brandt brandts@msu.edu. Who knows, if we get enough volunteers and there is interest, we could upgrade from a banner to a float!

Area Representative (AR) Spotlight

George Harris

What is your job title?

IT Professional

What area of campus and department do you work in?

I work at the Flint campus for the College of Human Medicine

How long have you been at MSU?

3 years

How long have you been an Area Representative?

6 months

Why is being a member of the Union important to you and what value does it bring?

Being a part of something bigger; something that makes a change for the better with programs, initiatives, information, assistance etc. Being a part is something that gives me a voice.

What words of advice do you have for the new hires at MSU?

My advice to new hires is to keep a positive attitude; enroll in professional development courses to improve your skill set/knowledge. You have the opportunity for union support to make your life easier. My advice is to take advantage of this.

What do you love about working at MSU?

I am surrounded by colleagues dedicated to their work and to making MSU a great place. MSU also has numerous opportunities to develop new skills and continue career related education.

What do you like to do when you are not at work?

I make pens and other small wood/resin items. I also like to walk my 2 dogs around the subdivision.

What's and AR and their Role?

The AR's are appointed by the Executive Board and their role is to assist with distributing APA materials and information and to serve as a resource for members. AR's are assigned to a geographic area of campus, so if there is not an AR in your immediate building, you can find one nearby. For a list of AR's go to <http://www.msuapa.org/about/area-representatives-2/>

APA Trivia

This month's question: Name the department on campus that allows all active MSU students, faculty, researchers and staff to download Microsoft Office 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, etc.) on 5 computers, 5 tablets, and 5 smartphones for their personal use.

Email your answer to Sue Brandt at brandts@msu.edu by June 13, 2019. Limit of one guess per person. Two members who correctly answer will be randomly drawn to win various prizes. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter. Must be an APA member in good standing to win; however, APA Board Members, Area Representatives and Communications Committee Members are not eligible to win.

Congratulations to last month's winners Jennifer Dawson and Scott Friend who were drawn from those who correctly answered that the building in Flint where the MSU College of Human Medicine is located use to house the former business of the Flint Journal. The bonus question last month was to name the year-round shopping building that shares part of the parking lot with CHM-Flint and that answer was the Flint Farmer's Market.