



Dear USA Members,

Along with other campus unions, USA has been at the table for a long time trying to bargain for our contract that covers the period 7/1/20 – 6/30/23. We have spent much of that time waiting for substantive responses from management to our proposals. Recently, to speed up bargaining and get into the current supplemental budget, the USA bargaining team put forward a reduced package so that our members can get the long overdue cost of living increases and some other important items such as flexible language to be put permanently into our contract. The team decided to withdraw some proposals knowing that we would be back at table this fall to address more complicated issues. However, we have been met with University representatives that are unable to make decisions at the table, with delays in setting up meetings, and a lack of response on many union proposals.

USA has a tentative meeting with management tomorrow and our hope is to get answers on the outstanding proposals so we can finish our new contract. We are very close and already have 11 tentative agreements and are trying to finalize the last 4 items. With that said, if things go smoothly, very soon we will be sending out a message for a ratification vote of the proposed new contract.

In the meantime I'm asking members to support an action tomorrow for our colleagues in the Professional Staff Unit B. They too are having a difficult time with the administration and getting their contract done. I believe it's important that the campus unions work together, and support one another, in our efforts to improve negotiations on this campus. We are all fighting for many of the same things: equitable pay, hazard pay, respect, good faith bargaining, the filling vacancies and better working conditions.

*Please consider joining the action:*

**Unit B Action at Whitmore**  
**Wednesday, March 2, Noon to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Whitmore Café**

This Wednesday, 3/2/22, from noon to 1:00 p.m., we'll gather at the Whitmore Cafe to demand:

- Fair market wages
- Hazard pay for frontline workers
- Equity & respect
- Good faith bargaining

In Solidarity,

Leslie Marsland, USA President

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