



U Strike Bulletin

Sept. 7, 2007 • Day 3 • U OF M AFSCME Health Care, Technical and Clerical Strike

Strike's Impact and Support Growing

The strike started out strong on Wednesday, and now we've held the lines through the week. We're ending the week on a high note with a rally outside the Board of Regents meeting. This weekend, get some needed rest, but also stay in touch with your picket captain and fellow strikers.

On Monday, come back rested and ready for week two of the strike. We haven't been called back to negotiations yet, so we have to continue to be strong to get back to the table as soon as possible.

Impacts of the strike were being felt all over the university. Dental Clinics remained consolidated on a single floor. Supervisory staff with no knowledge of patient care was checking in patients, answering phones and assembling patient charts.

Dental students were assigned to answer phones in one clinic. One student said, "I do not pay \$110.00 a day to attend dental school so I can take phone messages." There was a concerning report of untrained staff operating a sterilizer of instruments and dental prosthetics in the 9th floor dental clinic.

Boynton Health Service also remained closed to all but emergent patients as is the Veterinary Teaching Hospital for this week and next.

The loss of police dispatchers could clearly be seen by picketers on University Avenue this morning as it took 90 minutes for U of M police to respond to a fender bender accident this morning. With UMPD dispatchers on strike, police are relying on radio relay to respond to non-emergent calls. Sources say that mail at the Law School is piling up.

The CCE information lines were being staffed today by civil service and P&A staff and while the phones were picked up, they were answered by people without the knowledge base to answer questions. The OIT director at the Carlson School was answering questions on the helpline also. These are just a few examples and one wonders what other things are not happening while administrators are filling in for clerical staff on the help lines.

At the same time the strike deepens so does our support. Barak Obama's campaign is canceling a planned 7,000 person event that had been scheduled to take place on campus September 15th because he will not cross union picket lines. Students at the Humphrey Institute held an impromptu ice cream social for striking workers with 4 gallons of ice cream and toppings. A coffee cart is also being supplied to strikers in front of Humphrey.

Dance students brought class to the picket lines today performing dances for striking workers. Theater grad students are bringing striking workers water and food. Cultural Studies professors brought a platter of sandwiches out to strikers and said they were brainstorming about how to help the strike. Epidemiology administrators brought donuts out to strikers outside of WBOB.

Unionized delivery drivers are refusing to cross picket lines, forcing supervisors to drive to campus and make their deliveries. A Sysco driver waited and chatted with strikers from 7am to 12 noon - first waiting for a supervisor to show up - then waiting for his supervisor to complete his campus route.

**RALLY OUTSIDE
THE REGENTS MTG
For a Fair Contract
Friday, Sep 7 at 11:00 am
McNamara Alumni Center
Washington Ave & Oak St**

Scheduled speakers include **Al Franken**, State Senator **Lyndon Carlson**, striking **workers** and community **supporters**.

The Board of Regents are the highest decision makers at the U. They are meeting on Friday at McNamara. The Regents have the power to settle our contract. Let's let them know that we want a fair contract, and we want it now!

**Strike Headquarters: University Baptist Church, 1219 University Ave, 612-378-3750
Hotline 612-234-8772 • afscme3937.org • afscme3800.org • afscme3260@gmail.com**

Photos from the Picket Lines



Outside of Carlson School



Parents and children at the U of M Childcare Center joined striking teachers on the picket lines Thursday evening.



East Bank strikers converged on the Mall and made lots of noise!



CUHCC strikers were in good spirits despite the high temps.



Bovnton workers surviving the heat wave.



East River Road Garage proudly guarded.

Are you in a bad spot financially while your're on strike? Contact the Mutual Support Committee for advice and possible financial help. Email mutualsupport@afscme3800.org

Ask your friends, family and non-union co-workers to donate to the U Workers Support Fund. Donate online at www.uworkers.org or mail a check to U Workers Support Fund, 1313 5th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414