

Summer greetings 3937! This week we have some words from our President on the Janus v. AFSCME case, information on the U's budget process, Local 3937 Presidential candidate statements, plus event and survey reminders.

President's Column

\$45 million dollars is how much money corporations have poured into the legal effort to use the case of plaintiff Mark Janus to lower pay for public employees. Think about that for just a moment. Not only are corporations funding the legal process for this gentleman; they are also funding a campaign where they send people out to talk public employees into their way of thinking. Do not fall for that line. Hang up. Shut the door. You know that among all the benefits that belonging to a Union bring you, perhaps the most important is a good pension that will allow you to retire with dignity. Others at the U receive a 401k contribution. Most lost that investment back in 2008 and have yet to regain enough to sustain them in retirement, not even talking a dignified retirement. Call 612.417.8366 if you need to sign a membership card. Someone will bring one out to you!

*Mary Austin
President
AFSCME Local 3937*

FY2019 Budget

The Board of Regents is considering and will approve the FY2019 Operating Budget

in May and June.

Click to go to the [Regents home page](#)

View the [FY2019 Operating Budget](#).

If you wish to make an online comment on the budget, please read the instructions carefully...there are about five rules that must be followed to get into the docket document. <https://regents.umn.edu/2019-budget-feedback> (the form begins at the bottom of the page.)

Tuesday, May 29, 12:00 p.m. – Online comment period closes.

If you want to attend the Regents' meetings in June to see passage, you can check the docket materials for a better sense of what time the FY2019 budget will be before the Regents.

- **Thursday, June 7, 7:45 a.m., 600 McNamara Alumni Center** – Board of Regents Finance & Operations Committee meets to act on the President's recommended FY 2019 operating budget. This meeting is public, live streamed, and video recorded.
- **Friday, June 8, 9:30 a.m.** - Board considers final passage of the FY 2019 operating budget. This meeting is public, live streamed, and video recorded.

It is not too late to sign up for Steward Training on Wednesday June 6. Call 612.417.8366 if you are interested in attending. You can take this all day class with no obligation to take on Steward Activities but we hope you will be willing to at least do some non-grievance work with what you will learn.

VP Corner

Reminder! It's contract negotiation season!

Please fill out your survey ASAP! It shouldn't take more than a few minutes and we'd like

to hear from everyone!

If you're not a member and did not receive a survey, but you would still like to propose a contract issue or comment, we will be hosting a series of contract negotiation lunches around the Twin Cities campus where you can become a member, and we will send you out a survey. These lunches will also be a forum for any questions or comments, from all members, and we suggest all members and prospective members attend.

Thanks!

The Contract Negotiation Team

*submitted in solidarity by
Robert Francis
Vice-President of Organizing
AFSCME Local 3937*

We have a [Union Happy Hour](#) this week sponsored by all the AFSCME unions on campus. It is **this Friday, May 18th** at Stub and Herbs from 4-7pm. We'll see you there!

Have you voted in our Local's Presidential election yet? Have you put the envelope in the mail box yet? You need to get those things done as soon as possible...ballots must be at the Council 5 offices no later than Tuesday May 29 to be counted.

Local Presidential Candidate Statements

Bob Francis for President

I'm Bob Francis and I'm running for President of AFSCME Local 3937.

Growing up in an union family in Flint MI, as a second generation AFSCME member, the Union felt like it was a part of the city, a part of the community. This year, teacher unions around the country are showing how valuable they are to their communities; they are leading the way against years of bad contracts and hostile legislators. They are fighting back and making their presence known. I believe our Local has faced similar challenges, and as front line staff, we also play a crucial role in the University communities.

If elected, I will take the lessons learned by our brothers and sisters across the country and help lead our fight. I will expand on my work as the Vice President and increase membership engagement, expand our outreach, and mobilize our strengths. Specifically,

I have contributed a few key things:

- 1) Modernized internal operations.
- 2) Expanded outreach through the introduction of a professional newsletter format.
- 3) Increased membership participation at Local events, like Day on the Hill, by up to 300%.

I want to be the President of Local 3937 to continue the fight, to make our presence known, to turn around years of bad contracts, and to prove our rightful spot within our communities!

2018 isn't business as usual... so why should our union be?

Vote for Bob Francis for President of AFSCME Local 3937

Mary Austin for President

Again, if you have not mailed your ballot, please do so soon. The role of President of the Local is important. I attend many meetings with management from across many departments speaking in support of Unit 7 employees at the U. I listen to your concerns and bring them to the proper people for further discussion and action. You need a good strong advocate in your corner in the coming months with contract negotiations and with the Supreme Court ruling on the Janus case expected soon. I am that person and have

been that person for the last three years now. I want to continue. VOTE MARY AUSTIN. Thank you for all your support over the years.

Remember--every Friday is a new opportunity to show your support for the union with a little bit of fun. Wear something green this Friday! Take a selfie or have a friend take a picture and post it to our [Facebook event](#), the most interesting or creative selfie will win a prize! Show us your green socks, shirts, pants, ties, lanyards, lipstick, earrings, or scarves!

Save The Date

Steward meeting

- 2nd Wednesdays: June 13th

Organizing meeting

- 3rd Wednesdays: June 20th

Membership meeting

- 4th Wednesdays: May 23rd (E-board meeting at 5:15 pm immediately followed by membership meeting) **We will be considering voting instructions for our 2018**

International Convention delegates at this meeting.

Special Membership meeting (for the Election Committee to officially report the results of the Local's Officer and Executive Board elections.)

Wednesday, May 30th

All at 5:30pm in Suite 356

[312 Central Avenue SE,](#)

[Minneapolis, MN 55414](#)



Our home page has more information and resources such as steward contact information. Find the most current version of our contract here.

Like us on Facebook and/or follow us on Twitter, we post a variety of labor related items daily as well as breaking news that affects us.

submitted in solidarity by AFSCME Local 3937 leadership, edited by Nicole Masika, secretary