

Open Letters on Harvard and the Economy

Open Letters and Updates published by HUCTW over the past year can be found on our web site at: <http://www.huctw.org/economy/>

Executive Board and Local Representative Elections

The annual HUCTW election for Executive Board and Local Representatives will take place on December 8. Member participation in HUCTW elections is an important marker of the strength of our union, especially with contract negotiations on the horizon, so we urge you to get out to vote!

HUCTW provides all candidates with lists of members in their areas with their work locations and work phones. Candidates are responsible for contacting members with their campaign information. Remember to bring your ID when you come to vote! A list of voting locations and candidates is available on the HUCTW web site. For more info on the election please go to: <http://www.huctw.org/elections/>

Update on Work Security and Layoffs

Work Security is a program to support our layoffs. For more information on the details of the program, please see: http://www.huctw.org/work_security/

Since June 23 through November 24, 62 laid off HUCTW members have been placed into permanent jobs. An additional 8 members are currently working in temp or term jobs at Harvard--these temporary placements effectively lengthen the time available to search for a permanent job and do not abbreviate the Work Security time. Placements have included jobs in the general administrative, library, lab, communication, and IT families. Candidates who have secured jobs so far were in salary grades 49 - 55 and have years of service at the University ranging from 1 to 24.

We continue to work every day to help the rest of our laid off members get placed. As part of a broad-based community effort, we encourage you to watch for openings, ask questions, and support the candidacy of layoff applicants for jobs in your area.

Preparing for Contract Negotiations 2010

In dozens of local meetings, HUCTW organizers have been talking with members across the university to share information and generate ideas for our next contract. While HUCTW and the University are facing an unusual set of conditions coming into these negotiations, our Union will strive to make as much creative progress and improvement in our Harvard workplace as possible. We will continue to create a variety of avenues for members to participate in this discussion, and will report on the ideas that are emerging.

Dues Rate Reminder

Every January, our union dues increase in accordance with the AFSCME constitution and are based on the average pay increases of all AFSCME members nationwide. In 2010, dues will increase by 28¢ per paycheck to \$16.11 for those working more than 20 hours per week and \$12.14 for those working 20 hours or fewer per week. For more information on how dues are used see the HUCTW web site at:

www.huctw.org/basics/2008_where.pdf

Membership Meeting

The semiannual HUCTW membership meeting will take place on December 15, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., at the Center for Workplace Development, 124 Mt Auburn Street, Room 3314.

November 2009

Harvard Union
of
Clerical &
Technical
Workers



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Harvard Union of Clerical and
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HUCTW Programs

Childcare Fellowship

Recipients of **2009** awards have one final opportunity to submit a Verification Form for expenditures incurred throughout 2009—this deadline is November 30, 2009. Late applications for **2010** awards will still be accepted through March 1, 2010—awards for these late applications will be smaller than for on-time applications.

Transportation Fund

The Transportation Fund assists members with significant commuting and/or parking costs. The program operates on a 6 month cycle: the application deadline for expenses incurred between July 1 and December 31, 2009 is January 15, 2010. For details, see our web site.

Housing Energy Efficiency Programs Information

In October, the Joint Committee on Housing and Transportation sponsored a workshop that provided information to both renters and home owners on a variety of money-saving energy efficiency programs. An information sheet summarizing much of this information and including web links is now available at: http://www.huctw.org/housing/workshop_info.pdf

Other HUCTW Programs

Housing Assistance Small Loan Programs

Zero-interest loans from the Harvard University Employee Credit Union (HUECU) for certain types of housing situations, including rental transitions, homeowner moving, and emergency hardship. For details, see the HUCTW web site or call the HUCTW office.

Academic Enrichment Fellowship

Support for academically-oriented extracurricular activities for HUCTW members' children aged 5-18. The deadline for the cycle from September 1 through August 30 is August 2, 2010. See the HUCTW web site for detailed guidelines and the application.

Education Fund

We gained significant improvements in the current Agreement to the TAP and Education Fund programs. The deadline for applications fall 2009 courses is January 25, 2010. See the HUCTW web site for details of course eligibility and the application form. Look for an e-mail about Ed Fund workshops in December.

HUCTW Workshops

After a hiatus this summer and fall, we are scheduling new dates for HUCTW workshops, including the Reclassification Workshop. To be added to the list for notification when a workshop is scheduled, send an e-mail indicating which workshop you're interested in to: huctw.training@huctw.org A list of workshops is available on the HUCTW web site. Contact the HUCTW office if you are interested in setting up a workshop for your area.

Other Resources for HUCTW Members

Our parent Union—the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees—offers a range of discounts and benefits to members:

- Discounts and services via AFSCME Advantage: www.afscme.org/members/71.cfm
- Scholarship programs available to members & children: www.afscme.org/members/852.cfm

Harvard Real Estate Services (HRES) provides free home buying seminars, as well as the cash back benefit available through Harvard's Real Estate Advantage Program (REAP). Visit the HRES for details at: <http://www.facultyrealestate.harvard.edu/seminars.htm>

HUCTW Organizers

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HUCTW Officers

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