

NEIUPI Update & Announcements

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April 3, 2023

UPI Week of Action!

Attend the RALLY before the BoT Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 4 at 9:45 AM in Village Square

NEIUPI's Organizing Team is organizing a **RALLY** in advance of the April 4 Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting, which will take place in Golden Eagles at 10 am. **Meet at Village Square between 9:30-9:45 am to gather with other Members and create a visible presence! WEAR GREEN!**

Those who wish to address the committee during the public comment segment of the meeting may register for an opportunity to speak by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2023, by completing the online [Public Comment Registration Form](#) or email Public-Comment@neiu.edu.

Approved speakers will be notified in advance and will be permitted three (3) minutes to speak.

Attend the Membership Meeting on Thursday, April 6 from 3-4 PM on [Zoom](#) (different link than usual).

This is a VERY CRITICAL MOMENT and we need ALL NEIUPI

members to attend.

We recognize that our membership's ability to attend in person might be affected by Ramadan, Passover and Good Friday, therefore we will hold our meeting on Thursday, April 6 on Zoom.

UPI STRIKE AT Chicago State!

Our UPI siblings at CSU **declared a strike after bargaining failed** on Saturday, April 1. While we are fighting our own battles here, we need members to go support their strike. If you can spend time on their picket line this week, please email Nancy gratefulmargin@gmail.com. Picketing information was shared on our off-campus email.

[Sun-Times: CSU Faculty to strike Monday](#)

Bargaining Continues With Workload Proposal

On Thursday, March 30, the NEIUPI Bargaining Team presented their Workload Proposal (based on your feedback!) to the Administrative Team. Big thanks to all the Observers in the room.

We are currently awaiting mediation. **However, mediation does not eliminate our need to discuss and plan for possible labor actions. We can only get a good contract if we organize, and we need the help of every single member.**

Meeting with Deputy Governor Martin Torres

Responding to repeated contact about the dire situation at NEIU, a meeting with the Deputy Governor for Education was jointly organized

by the president of UPI, Nancy Matthews, and the chair of Faculty Senate, Nancy Wrinkle on March 24.. Each chose half of the attendees. For UPI: Nicole Holland, Hector Morales, Mateo Farzaneh, Mary Thill and associate member Chair Maria DeLaTorre. From the Senate: Tim Duggan, Sarah Fabian, Anne Le, Deepa Pillai, and Qiumei Jane Xu. The First Assistant Deputy Governor Teresa Ramos also participated. Our big “ask” was basically: “Tell the new board members to listen to the people.” We made an effective, organized, and organic presentation of issues. The Dep Gov was personable and a good listener, but made no commitments; the governor’s office sees their job of appointing new board members as nearly done, and will not intervene directly. Despite the lack of specific commitments, this meeting was worthwhile for planting our ideas with them. Most revealing was their surprise at the ways that our administration has discouraged us from direct communication with the BOT! So let’s keep up the communication with the BOT!

Also on the political front, **Nancy Matthews met with Senator Ram Villivalam** on Friday night at the UPI House of Delegates meeting, where he was a keynote speaker. Telling our story, asking for support. YOU can do this too! Contact your state reps and senators and tell them our story. We need their support.

What Else Can I Do Now?

Sign a STRIKE CARD to Show that You Are Willing to Withhold Your Labor for a Fair Contract.

If you have not yet received one, reach out to an Organizing Team Member:

Melinda Storie

CAS GES

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Olivia Cronk	CAS English	ocronk@gmail.com
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Save the date: Thursday April 13: Board of Trustees Meeting at 1 pm. - We are planning an action and need you there in person!

NEIUPI is working for a fair contract and an inclusive university!

