

The More You Know—September 28, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

This week's edition of *The More You Know* addresses the question—*If YFA eventually strikes, should I participate in this strike?*

You have been provided weekly updates about topics affecting negotiations. You have been provided updates after each stage of negotiations and since we started impasse. And the overwhelming results of the vote to authorize a strike clearly demonstrates Union solidarity.

Should you follow-through and participate on a strike if that eventually happens? This week's *TMVK* clearly outlines your decision to participate or not.

Strike Information to Students

Yesterday, I met with approximately ten student club leaders who pledged support to the faculty and are organizing student involvement and backing to the YFA.

Today, I met with the ASMJC Officers and Student Senators. Prior to that meeting, YFA provided information regarding fact-finding that the YFA legal counsel cleared for us to share. It is posted on the YFA website at <http://yfa.sites.yosemite.edu/impass.html>. While settlement efforts between the YFA and YCCD during mediation were designated as confidential, the YFA presentation is certainly not subject to those constraints.

The three main areas reviewed were:

- The loss of real wages for faculty, which the YFA argues is unreasonable because of;
 - the District's strong, annual ending balances in the District's budget;
 - the fiscal boon of the State's new funding formula, which the YCCD even acknowledges makes it "a winner;" and
 - the fall of our wages to the bottom of the cohort of comparable community college districts which the YCCD agreed to use for comparison since 2007;
- The potential harm to both students and faculty if the District unilaterally imposes increased class sizes; and
- The unfairness to faculty who teach lab courses compared to those who teach lecture courses.

The meeting with ASMJC went well. Additionally, our YFA legal counsel has provided me with a draft document of common FAQs for students. There are a few more modifications to the document that I am working on right now, but I anticipate posting this on the YFA website sometime before the end of the day on Monday. ASMJC and ASCC will be sent an email when the information has been posted.

Strike Leadership Council

YFA is continuing to work on the areas of support needed to plan for an effective strike in the event that the District continues to ignore the faculty and fail to offer an updated contract proposal. If you have not sent your intent to help yet, but wish to participate, please send a private email to yosemitefaculty@gmail.com.

Fact-Finding Report

The fact-finding report has not been received yet, nevertheless it could arrive in under two weeks. After that, YFA and YCCD will have ten (10) days to review it. During all of this time, the District and YFA can still avoid a strike if the YCCD will make a reasonable proposal to the faculty.

YFA Communications

YFA VP/Grievance Officer, Iris Carroll, will be sending an email on Monday or Tuesday next week with instructions for faculty who have not yet submitted private email accounts to continue subscriptions to all YFA communications. We will inform you at what point that the majority of YFA communications will cease from being sent over the District server.

Your continued support has been greatly appreciated. Thank you to many of our colleagues who have conveyed such overt faculty unity and backing. You add energy and inspiration to everyone in YFA working together during all of this.

All my best,

Stay informed. Stay engaged. Stay united.

Jim Sahlman