Member actions will make the difference for a great contract

The first week of negotiations for Local 1000’s 2016 contract provided an opportunity for our bargaining team to introduce themselves and show the state the wealth of knowledge and experience that our negotiators bring to the table. This bargaining team—with over 1,000 years of state service between them—has the tools, resources and preparation to make sure our members’ voices are heard.

Continuing our efforts to improve our hard-earned contract rights, Local 1000’s team met with state negotiators at the master table on April 20, capping a first week of bargaining boosted by the support of thousands of members up and down the state.

“We’re off to a great start to get a great contract, but we need the support of our members to keep the pressure on.”

—Margarita Maldonado, Vice President for Bargaining

During the week of April 25, our team’s focus will turn to professional development. With more than half of our members reporting that they haven’t had an individual development plan in the last year, we’ll work to ensure that our members have the resources and opportunities necessary for them to flourish in their jobs and careers.

Bargaining continues throughout April and May. Our master table team bargains over contract issues that affect all of the 95,000 members Local 1000 represents. Teams from each of the nine bargaining units meet separately with the state to address issues specific to their units. At the end of each bargaining session, we report on our progress through text messages, emails and on our website—seiu1000.org
Stronger Together

Now that negotiations for our new contract have begun, Local 1000’s elected bargaining team is in high gear; every day is spent either at the bargaining table with the state or preparing for the next round. After months of training and surveying the membership to establish our priorities, our team is focused and hard at work.

Unit 21: Educational Consultants & Librarians

Unit 21 includes consultants who work with educational programs from pre-kindergarten through post-secondary or higher education, and the state librarians and archivists.

Chaired by Miguel Cordova, Unit 21’s initial meetings with the state have been about setting the tone for negotiations and detailing the specific needs and priorities of this unit. The team opened bargaining by describing their careers in state service, their vast professional experience, and how workplace incidents led each of them to want to get involved in improving workplace conditions.

Leaves and pay are top priorities, along with professional development and growth. Fostering career goals, ensuring equitable access to professional development opportunities and creating a climate that values their commitment to their field are important this bargaining cycle.

“We are working hard to make sure our members’ voices are heard at the bargaining table. We know Unit 21 is behind us as we stay strong for their issues.”

Miguel Cordova
Chair, Bargaining Unit 21

Unit 21 Bargaining Team

Miguel Cordova
Chair | DOE

Bobby Roy
Vice Chair | DOE

Joanne Vorhies
BGCC

Laura Casillas
Alt. Vice Chair | BGCC

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To follow the work of Unit 21 and all contract negotiations, visit seiu1000.org/our-union-our-contract-our-future