



# YSU-ACE UNION

Association of Classified Employees

One University Plaza, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

## ACE Chapter meeting- Wednesday, May 17 @ noon

Please make plans to attend the chapter meeting on 5/17 in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. If you RSVP'd you'll receive a boxed lunch starting at 11:45. We will get 0.5 hours of union leave to attend this meeting.

This is a very important meeting where we will be discussing the start of negotiations and taking nominations for the following positions:

- **President** (2-year term)
- **1st Vice President** (2-year term)
- **Secretary** (2- year term)
- 3 seats on the **executive committee** (2-year term)
- 4 **OEA** + 2 additional **NEOEA delegates** (1 year term)
- **NEA delegate** (for 2024 meeting)

## From the President

I would like to thank all the members that attended our Pizza Socials. It was nice getting to know everyone. We would like to continue these socials around every 3 weeks. We think it is important that we get to know each other and to be informed of union issues.

We started negotiations on May 1. We will have informational gatherings in the future to keep you informed. Another important issue coming up is elections. I have addressed my concerns and urge all the new employees at YSU to get involved in the union. The union with your help can address issues that are important to you. We will have nominations at the general meeting, or they can be emailed to the election committee. If anyone has any questions, please reach out to me.

## Upcoming Events

### Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, May 17

### Union Social @ MVR (4pm – 6pm)

Thursday June 8  
Thursday June 22

### Scrapper's game & BBQ

Thursday, June 29

## Scholarship winners!

The winners of this year's scholarship for student assistants are:

- **Veronica Peavy**, Special Education major who works in the Academic Success Center with **Shannon Pope**
- **Patrick Smith**, Music Education major who works in the Dana School of Music office with **Stephanie Pavlovich**
- **Brandon Cantwell**, Journalism major who works in the Geography office with **RosaMaria Vega**



*From the President (continued)*

We are also in the middle of a grievance that I think is very important and may help give us some leverage in negotiations. The grievance is about YSU creating a new position. The union is asking for YSU's procedures and guidelines that are compliant with Ohio Revised Code on how they create new positions. We would like to understand what data they are using and is it consistent across the board. I am also asking for a compensation plan, so that we know everyone is being paid fairly with the state dollars YSU receives. The executive committee will be voting on moving it to arbitration this month. If you have an opinion, please speak out!

Again, I am asking our members to get involved. I would like to see new people stepping up to fill the 6 empty seats: President, Vice President, Secretary, and 3 executive committee seats.

Thank You

Connie Kolarik



**Welcome New Members!**

Jaclyn DeFonde- Marketing & Communications

Joseph Klein- Maintenance

Andrea Leone- Parking Services

Darrius Taylor- Grounds

Shelley Urchek-Geist- Academic Ops, BCLASSE

**ACE at the Scrapper's Game!**

Mark your calendar to enjoy a barbeque dinner and Scrapper's baseball game at Eastwood Field on **Thursday, June 29!** The picnic begins at 5:30pm and includes hot dogs, ribs, pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad, cookies, chips, water, and fountain drinks. The first pitch goes out at 7pm. Contact Rob Chance with any questions or Melanie Leonard to make a reservation for you and a guest.



**Negotiations Committee:**

- Melanie Leonard
- Lisa Devore
- Lonnie Gentry
- Amalia Kostantas
- Paul Trimacco
- Steve Katros
- Phil Bogunia (alternate)



## Executive Committee Corner

**Check out the updated website!**

We're here to represent you and we're only as strong as your voices. Please contact any of us.

**President:** Connie Kolarik, Electrician  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres:** Amalia Kostantas, Academic Ops Specialist 2  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres:** Jill Mogg, Academic Ops Specialist 2  
**Secretary:** Melanie Leonard, Student Employment Specialist  
**Treasurer:** Kim Jenkins, Business Ops Specialist 2

Did you know YSU ACE has a website? It has recently had some updates and we're working to add more information. Take a look, bookmark it, and check back often!

<http://ysuace.ohea.us>

### Executive Committee:

Rich Conway, Groundskeeper 3  
Kay Helscel, Records Management Officer  
Steve Katros, Academic Ops Specialist 3  
Nancy O'Hara, Academic Ops Specialist 1  
Sherry Massaro, Academic Ops Specialist 3  
Kevin Hood, Automotive Mechanic 3

The Executive committee meets on the second Thursday of every month from 11:30am to 1pm in Kilcawley Center. Members are welcome to attend as observers. Each month we review minutes from the last meeting and hear the monthly Treasurer's report, as well as reports from the Negotiation, Grievance and Health Care Advisory committees.

## Membership survey results

Members of the Executive committee collected 96 responses to a paper survey.

There were 30 responses from members who have worked less than two years. They were asked if the job duties/workload was what they expected. (17 Yes, 13 No) Some said there were more duties than described and that there was not a lot of training.

There were 64 responses from members who have worked more than two years. They were asked if their job duties/workloads increased in the past three years. (51 Yes, 13 No) Some of the increases included constantly learning new programs and systems, not replacing employees who retired or left, more processing duties and administrative tasks, an expanded physical footprint but no additional staff to help.

Do you feel valued as an employee? (35 Yes)

Do you feel valued by your immediate supervisor? (15 Yes, 37 No)

Do you feel valued by the Administration? (83 Yes, 13 No)

Additional comments included: no training on new equipment, need for more employees/replace those that left, they are diminishing the value of our specialized skills and training, and the stress has affected my health.

