

Come and support our students!

Cheryl Thayer, *President*
Mary Hope Griffin, *Vice Pres.
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March 2018

What is the AFA?

It's *your* union, protecting and fighting for the rights of all adjuncts covered under the bargaining agreement between the college and the AFA (anyone teaching at least six LHE's in any of the three previous terms).

Please Welcome Our Newest AFA Members!

Simon Peter Kakumanu -Math
Gwyn Stupar - Library

Graduation!

Graduating Oakton students will march on May 15. Any Oakton Adjunct faculty may be seated with the faculty. You received information from Student Services as to obtaining regalia and times, dates and place.

Spring Membership Meeting/Dinner ***April 22 5 – 7:30 p.m.***

The Spring Membership meeting will be held on Sunday, April 22. We will be at a new location: Club Casa Café at 353 N. River Rd. in Des Plaines, across from Holy Family Medical Center. As always, members are free; guests and non-members are \$25. RSVP to Valerie Krejcie in Div. 3 or at valeriek1212@gmail.com.

The executive Board of the AFA is at the end of their three-year terms. Voting for the new AFA board will be at the meeting; voting will open at the beginning of the meeting during appetizers, so if you need to vote and run without staying for dinner, that is possible. (See #3 below for info on running for one of these positions.)

From the President:

1. There are many union activities this semester. Last fall you voted for the **IEA** representatives to the **Regional Assembly** in Rosemont, identifying David Williams and Randy Felsenthal to represent us. Cathy Willis and I also attend as minority representative and Higher Education Board member to the Regional Assembly, which carries out the business of the Illinois Education Association, of which we are a part.
2. The **NEA Regional Assembly** vote has passed. If you did not receive a ballot and envelope, please contact Ruth Whitney at: aruthwhitney@gmail.com We need to ensure that our mailing addresses are correct.
3. This semester at our membership meeting, you will be **voting for your Adjunct Faculty Association Executive Board**. Nearer the time, you will be notified so you may apply for candidacy for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. These are for three-year terms beginning in August, 2018.
4. During Orientation week, the Oakton's Chief of Police, Marvin Bornschlegl, announced that there is now an Emergency Management plan for Oakton. He stressed that many faculty had not updated or registered information in **Alert Oakton** through *MyOakton*. *Alert Oakton* notifies you of school closures due to

inclement weather, flooding, or any serious condition, so please update your information as soon as possible.

The Chief also shared this additional information:

- Emergency preparedness information can be located by anyone clicking on the “Emergency Preparedness” link found on the bottom right corner of each of the pages of the www.oakton.edu web page.
- Students and employees can learn more about emergency preparedness by visiting the FEMA preparedness for citizens page: <https://www.dhs.gov/private-citizen>
- Employees looking for more information can visit: <https://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>
- Additionally, employees interested in learning more about emergency preparedness and active threats, can take the FEMA IS-907 course: <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-907>

5. Title IX training ended on February 28. If you have not completed the training, login to *MyOakton*, click on *Employee* tab and in the Announcements (middle section) click on the Title IX training. If it is not operational, direct any questions to Mindy Finnigan.

You are welcome to attend the AFA Board meetings on the first Monday of the month from 1 to 2 in the Rm 2544 in DP:
April 2 May 7 June 4
Come to the Oakton Board of Trustees meetings at 7:30 on:
April 17 DP
May 22 RHC P104

New Initiatives:

6. Adjunct faculty have been invited for the first time to participate in the Faculty Retreat held on Friday of Orientation week. The AFA has agreed to help subsidize this event. More details will be forthcoming.

7. As part of the finalized contract, an Adjunct Faculty channel was approved. The Channel is now active and located in *Teach & Advise* through *MyOakton* at the end of the second column.

8. On February 26, the Supreme Court heard the Janus case (Janus v. AFSCME). In a nutshell, Janus is challenging the right of AFSCME to collect fees from people who do not want to belong to a local union (Fair Share). The Supreme Court ruling may rescind previous Supreme Court rulings (for a more complete discussion go to: <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/2/26/17053328/janus-afscme-supreme-court-unions-minorities>) Thus, the AFA is looking to establish a strategy group to address issues facing the membership as a result of the anticipated negative decision of the Janus case.. Engagement is one of the greatest issues we face. As a union we want to be more inclusive of all adjunct faculty and engage more of our members. To that end, an AFA Strategic Planning Committee is being formed and is open to all adjunct employees. It is a priority for all of us. Please send an email to: oaktonafa@gmail.com if you are interested in being a part of this strategic planning group.

Trustee Reception a Success

Prior to the last Oakton Board of Trustees meeting, the AFA hosted a reception for the Trustees. Finger food was served, and many Board and various adjunct faculty were able to meet each other in an informal setting and chat. The Board was able to find out about our concerns and experiences, and we were able to share ideas and observations with Board members individually.

In Memoriam
Alan Kaplan
A/C, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology

**Come to the Oakton
Board of Trustees
meetings at 7:30 on:**

March 20 DP

April 17 DP

May 22 RHC P104