

AFSCME Local 2887 News

AFSCME Local 2887 News

Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer 2012

This Issue:

Council 31 Biennial Convention	1
The March in Chicago	1
Pension Reform Lobby Day	1
Positive Strides	2
President's Corner	2
Steward Handbook	2

Contacts for 2012

Officers:

President, Dana Dain
ddain@siue.edu or x5156

Vice President, Vanessa King
vking@siue.edu or 874-0160

Secretary, Vicki Kruse
vkruse@siue.edu or x2770

Treasurer, Vickie Sumner
vsumner@siue.edu or x3819

Executive Board

Members:

Angela Cotton
acotton@siue.edu or 874-0160

Myra Jones
myjones@siue.edu or 874-0160

Diane Schilling
dschill@siue.edu or x3786

Certified Stewards:

Jennifer Brown, ESL
Linda Colombara-Buffo, EDW
Dana Dain, EDW
Vanessa King, ESL
Vicki Kruse, EDW
Diane Schilling, EDW
Melanie Stith, ESL
Vickie Sumner, EDW
Christine Tartt, EDW

The March in Chicago

Looking back at 2011, SIUE AFSCME union members may remember a year filled with events and issues such as hiring freezes; ongoing contract negotiations; members attending rallies in Collinsville, Edwardsville, Carbondale, and Chicago; the Biennial Convention in Springfield; and the election of officers. The March in downtown Chicago saw thousands of AFSCME members strengthen their stance with the backing of other union members across the state of Illinois as well as supporters from the state of Wisconsin.



Chicago AFSCME March and Rally

Pension Reform Lobby Day at the Capitol



Four SIUE employees attended a Pension Reform Lobby Day in May this year. The group did speak to Senator Bill Haine after they requested he be pulled out of session.

Pictured from left to right: Vicki Daggett, Pat Rausch, Vicki Kruse, Leasa Ferry

Council 31 Biennial Convention

The Biennial Convention was held in November, 2011 at Springfield, Illinois. Dana Dain, president and Vicki Kruse, secretary attended both days of workshops, speeches and resolutions. As delegates they voted on resolutions.

Dana attended workshops on new membership while Vicki attended workshops on the history of unions.

While attending for the first time was a valuable experience, there is still more to learn. Since there were so many State of Illinois employees in attendance, we thought gathering the university employees in one area would be more conducive for learning similarities shared by each other and would make it easier to solve like problems or issues. We could even share positive stories.



President's Corner



Welcome to the inaugural newsletter of AFSCME Local 2887, the clerical and kindred employees of SIUE!

Our local consists of office and administrative support, clerks, cashiers, account technicians, mail messengers, space administrators, financial aid advisors, customer ser-

vices associates, collection specialists, medical insurance specialists, storekeepers, parking service agents, and community workers (just to name a few). Our members can be found in the offices, parking lots and classrooms of the Edwardsville, Alton, and East St. Louis campuses as well as Head Start Centers throughout St. Clair County.

I sincerely hope that the newsletter will become a valued resource that provides members with information about topics such as AFSCME International, Council 31, Local 2887, the roles of officers and stewards, the

PEOPLE program, our bargaining agreement, union members rights, and more.

We would love to hear from you...if you have an idea for a future newsletter article or any questions/feedback about the current newsletter. Please send feedback to vkruise@siue.edu or ddain@siue.edu.

I would like to thank Local 2887 Secretary Vicki Kruse for her hard work to help make this newsletter a reality. Without Vicki's dedication this newsletter would simply be another text-filled email.

~Dana

Steward Handbook

Word of the Day

Discrimination: Discrimination is the unequal treatment of workers because of race, gender, age, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, nationality, union membership or union activity, political affiliation or some other unfair basis. Discrimination may occur in hiring, types of jobs given, rates of pay, promotions and transfers, layoffs or other areas. Some employee classes are protected

by law while protection for others is negotiated. Steward Handbook, page 27, afscme.org

Identifying a grievance

Did management violate any of the following:

1. The contract
2. A work rule or regulation
3. A policy or procedure
4. Any federal, state, county or municipal law

5. Any health and safety regulation
 6. Past practice (see pages 16-17)
- Did management's action constitute unfair or disparate (unequal) treatment of an employee or group of employees?

Did management engage in discrimination or harassment?

Did management take disciplinary action against an employee or group of employees?

**"Sit down and read. Educate yourself for the coming conflicts."
~ Mother Jones**

Positive Strides

- Elections of officers and Executive Board were held in November.
- The first meeting of the Executive Board was held in December. All members of the Board were present. Executive Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month.
- Solidarity Committee was formed. Linda Colombara-Buffo accepted the position of Committee Chair.
- Pre-Negotiations Committee was formed. Currently looking for a Committee Chair.
- Four more members became certified stewards in February 2012.
- Meeting with recently hired employees during their New Hire Orientation.
- Brown Bag lunches with local officers and/or executive board members will begin on July 17th and will be offered the 3rd Thurs-

day of every month.

- Extended contract with American Income Life for full members to receive a \$2,500 life insurance benefit.
- General meetings (meetings of the membership) are held quarterly. The second quarter meeting was held at 5:15 on Thursday, June 28th at The Watershed Nature Center.