2016

CFT Communications Awards

AWARD WINNERS

Prepared March 15, 2016
Visit the home of the CFT Communications Awards at cft.org/get-involved/communications-awards.

California Federation of Teachers
AFT, AFL-CIO
A Union of Professionals
Blasting the Broad-Walmart attack

Educators, parents, and students fight billionaires’ plan to dismantle public education in L.A.

Eli Broad was put on notice at the opening of his new museum on September 20 that the Los Angeles education community was not going to stay silent on his radical plan to move 50% of our LAUSD students into unregulated charter schools that don’t play by the same rules as other schools.

Outside the museum, a crowd of more than 700 people, waving red and yellow signs, paraded back and forth, chanting, “You want reform? Fire the masses! Then fund more classes!”

The high-profile event, which captured media attention and made for the museum opening, was the first in a series of actions that will roll out as educators, parents, students, and community members organize against the scheme.

Broad’s 48-page playbook, labeled “Great Public Schools Now”—was leaked to the press last month (read it at unbtnedthesheets.com). The confidential draft confirmed the scope of the scheme: Broad intends to aid a campaign to raise nearly half a billion dollars to open enough unregulated charter schools to enroll half of our LAUSD students over the next eight years. Among the plan’s allies are the ultraconervative Walton Family Foundation, whose students went on a hunger strike and have long supported the growth of unregulated charter schools across the country.

Broad was one of the early members of what has been called the Billionaire Boys Club, which has had a major impact on public policy by pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into transforming K-12 urban education by training administrators and supporting unregulated charter schools, charter pay, and other market-based schemes.

Broad and his allies funded a plan to greatly expand unregulated schools in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, where the school district was turned into an unregulated “all-charter” zone. Broad’s “reform” there has resulted in massive inequities and civil rights violations for students, as segregation has been reinforced and special education students have been left behind.

A parent and activist from New Orleans, Karen Harper Royal, who has lived with the Broad privatization model, shared her experiences at the Broad Museum rally:

“When they tell you that this is about giving parents choices, what this does is take away our choices and puts the choices into the hands of those who want to profit from public education,” she said.

In LAUSD, the loss of 50% of students

More than 700 educators, parents, students, and community members marched outside the new Broad Museum on September 20 to protest the billionaire’s plan to dismantle the LAUSD schools.

Best News Writing

FIRST

United Teachers Los Angeles

Blasting the Broad-Walmart attack

By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist

Judges’ comments: Exposes the man behind the curtain — Eli Broad. Clearly delineates the motivation for privatizing schools. Excellent use of quotations especially from parents in the district.

SECOND

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers

“Warning of Attacks on Public Education and Teachers’ Unions”

By Katharine Harer, Co Vice President and SCIO Lead Organizer

THIRD

United Educators of San Francisco

“AFT-Sponsored Pro-Social PD a Success”

By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director

HONORABLE MENTION

AFT College Staff Guild, Los Angeles

“All In To Win”

By Velma J. Butler, President; Dorothy Bates, First Vice President; Sandra Lepore, Executive Director; Steve Weingarten, Communications
EDITORIAL

CHARLES DICKENS PUBLISHED ‘A CHRISTMAS CAROL’ IN 1843. It was written in response to the suffering of the urban poor caused by the Industrial Revolution, the ‘poor laws’ that forced the impoverished into workhouses, and the abuses of child labor. But it’s really a tale of personal enlightenment and redemption — of how generosity based on individual conscience can make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

A charming tale, but far from the radical reform that early labor activists desired, which often involved confrontation by groups of rough men demanding their rights. Dickens was not comfortable with that kind of labor action, nor was his publisher, nor were the privileged English elite, so A Christmas Carol didn’t go there.

So how did workers manage to get a minimum wage, a forty-hour work-week, sick leave and laws abolishing child labor? Was it through ghosts in the night or acts of individual philanthropy by privileged folk like Ebenezer?

In fact, it was through the struggles of those “rough” labor activists, ones that Dickens failed to acknowledge, who demanded a more equitable workplace. Often the struggle they engaged in was violent, and many of them died fighting for labor and economic justice.

So this Christmas season, let’s enjoy a reading of Dickens’ Christmas Carol, but let’s remember that it really wasn’t Marley’s ghost or Ebenezer’s epiphany that was responsible for improving the conditions for working people.

It was agitation by labor leaders like Eugene Debs and A. Philip Randolph and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Cesar Chavez, who made sure that the Tiny Tims of the world would thrive.

UPM wishes all a happy holiday season. ☃

Best Editorial or Column

FIRST
United Professors of Marin
“A Christmas Carol”
By Arthur Lutz, Editor

Judges’ comments: A wry, tongue-and-cheek new twist on income inequality and how to address it. Lovely little piece for a holiday issue — a literary labor history lesson in 300 words with unifying graphic presentation. One judge said, “It more than met our great expectations.”

SECOND
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
“Prez Sez – A Sad New Reality in Education”
By David Yancey, President

THIRD
Part Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock
“New Contract at Hancock College a Sign that Unions are on the Rise”
By Mark James Miller, President

HONORABLE MENTION
United Educators of San Francisco
“With Listening Tour Now Complete, Time for Action!”
By Lita Blanc, President
**Best Feature Writing**

**FIRST**

Glendale College Guild

*Adjunct Junction: Voices of Adjuncts*

By Julie Gamberg, Guild Second Vice President-Adjunct Faculty Representative

**Judges’ comments:** Great job of collecting quotations and weaving them together in this alternative feature treatment that skillfully pulls together oral history in the Studs Terkel tradition. Quotations build upon one other in a powerful way and help tell the story in the members’ own words.

**SECOND**

United Teachers Los Angeles

*“The Parent-Community Connection”*

By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist

**THIRD**

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers

*“Student Success: By Any Means Necessary?”*

By Merle Cutler, CSM Professor of English

**HONORABLE MENTION**

United Professors of Marin

*“Thanksgiving – A Day of Thanks – But For Whom?”*

By Arthur Lutz, Editor
Visual Awards

Best Original Art or Photograph

FIRST
United Teachers Los Angeles
“Making a Stand on Grand”
By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist

Judges’ comments: Compelling image that communicates power. Good use of inset to show impact and size of the rally. Non-standard composition makes effective use of a person’s back and underscores the diversity in UTLA.

SECOND
Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation
“Student Debt” digital illustration
By Mark Wessel

THIRD
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers

“Are You Dating a Narcissist?”
By Nancy Husari, ESL instructor and cartoonist

HONORABLE MENTION (TIE)
AFT College Staff Guild-Los Angeles
“Holiday 5k Run for Shoes That Fit Campaign”
By Velma J. Butler, President; Leilani Piernas, E-Board Delegate; Margaret Duncan, Classified Member; Luz Nunez, Classified Member; Milagros Castillo, E-Board Chapter Chair

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
“Part Time Medical Stipend: Sign Up Now!”
By Michelle Kern, CSM Part Timer Representative and SCIO Organizer
Best Use of Graphics

**FIRST**
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers
“*The Epic Battle Continues*”
By Alisa Messer, Political Director

Judges’ comments: Professional, clear, and attractive with a great color palette. A creative way to report the long battle if you don’t have time to read in-depth articles. One judge said, “It’s a timeline that saves time.”

**SECOND**
United Teachers Los Angeles
“*Build the Future, Fund the Fight*” campaign
By Carolina Barreiro, Communications Specialist

**THIRD**
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
“In Memory of Kieron Connolly and Paul Humann”
By David Yancey, President
**Best Flyer or Poster: Fewer than 500 members**

**FIRST**
United Professors of Marin  
*UPM recruitment flyer*  
By Arthur Lutz, Newsletter Editor

**Judges’ comments:** How many times do you see a dodo on a flyer? It’s attention-grabbing and has a whiff of intellectualism with the bird’s scientific name. One judge said, “Don’t be a dodo — join the union.”

**SECOND**
ABC Federation of Teachers-Retired  
*“Now It’s Your Time to Celebrate the Rewards of Retirement”*  
By Dennis Cox, President
Best Flyer or Poster: More than 500 members

FIRST
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
“Part Time Medical Stipend: Sign up Now!”
By Michelle Kern, CSM Part-Timer Rep and SCIO Organizer
Judges’ comments: Nice visual way to communicate an important issue with excellent send-up of a flow chart and a faculty member’s original illustration. One judge said, “It really grabs me.”

SECOND
Coast Federation of Classified Employees
“Holiday Party flyer”
By Katherine Reedy, Executive Director

THIRD
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
“Celebration of the Life of Kieron Connolly”
By Patti Berg, Office Manager

HONORABLE MENTION
Los Angeles College Faculty Guild
“In Our Best Interest”
By Tina Ramllal Epherson, Communications Coordinator
Newsletter Awards

A message from the PACE union Board

Hello PACE coworkers,

This school year is now coming to an end. It has been a very difficult and the most challenging year to say the least. In spite of all our challenges at PACE this year, our union has had one great year. Our membership is at its highest. We as a board have been very vocal in making sure that your concerns are being heard at the joint labor management meeting. In hope that you are well informed of what is happening at PACE we have conducted site visits, regular membership meetings and our newsletter. This year we are mission to inform and inspire you to help us work in a less stressful and more empowering workplace, to hear what is happening and how we together can make changes in our agency. We must continue to encourage more staff to join us, to strengthen our union and become one great sisterhood and brotherhood of empowered union members. Remember that united we stand and divided we fall. Let’s make next school year a greater year.

Have a great summer.

Double Session Grievance

After many unsuccessful attempts to negotiate the increase of salary for staff that worked in traditional session last school year and were moved to work in double session this year 2014-2015, our Union had no other choice but to file a grievance against PACE. The grievance was submitted at the Joint Labor Management meeting on March 27, 2015; the grievance was well accepted and after our organizer, Diana Fraire, explained to Administration the possible way to fix the problem with the salaries according with LACOE wage scale, PACE agreed to review the salaries of every single staff affected with the change to Double Session. Our Union wants to recognize that if it wasn’t because all the support and trust from staff, it would have been difficult to win this battle. We would like to emphasize that if we maintain this unity, we could continue winning more fights. This has been a great triumph!!! Don’t think it over and join us today. We would like to see you fighting next to us and be part of our Union success.

JLM updates

For the past few months we have been meeting with management. Regarding different topics:

1. Job description for the 2015-2016 school year
2. Lays off for 2015-2016 school year
3. Work Share forms
4. Breaks given in a timely manner
5. Each individual responsibility in sending their checks to make sure they receive appropriate income.
6. Double session grievance
7. Parking at IRS
8. Teachers taking work home!
9. Force group for PRP on paper work
10. FDA (furlough)
11. Tremendous paper work done

Some of these topics have been resolved. Some are still pending.

Best Single-Page Newsletter: Fewer than 500 members

FIRST

Early Childhood Federation

Making a difference every day

By PACE Board Members: Mary Pimentel, Chair; Gloria Garcia, Vice President; Sonia Rodriguez, Parliamentarian; Marie Castillo, Secretary; Monica Guerrero, Board Member; Diana Fraire, Organizer

Judges’ comments: Visually appealing banner that uses the letters of the alphabet. Provides a sense of unity and connects workers scattered in far flung places. The judges say, “Keep the newsletter going!”
Hot Off The Press

STAFF GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

• Spotlight on Politics: Don’t forget! March 3, 2015 is the Board of Trustees election. The stakes are high as this is the final and only election. No run-off. The candidate with the most votes wins. Again, here is a list of the candidates we have endorsed:

  Seat 1 — Andra Hoffman, Community College Professor – AFT Faculty member at Glendale Community College and headed their job placement center. She advocated for community college in the legislature and is a strong supporter of classified employees.

  Seat 3 — Sydney Kamlager, Education Policy Advisor — Sydney has deep roots in activism and public service. As the education advisor to Senator Holly Mitchell, Kamlager has promoted positive legislation for classified staff.

  Seat 5 — Scott Svonkin, Community College Trustee, Incumbent — Currently Board of Trustees President.

  Seat 7 — Mike Fong, Educator/Job Trainer — A veteran grassroots activist, Fong has mobilized voters in minority communities for many candidates and ballot measures.

• CFT Convention 2015: The Staff Guild onsite election was held on Thursday, January 15, 2015. Local 1521A elected delegates to attend the CFT convention being held March 20th to 22nd at the Manhattan Beach Marriott.

Best Single-Page Newsletter: More than 500 members

FIRST

AFT College Staff Guild

Hot Off the Press

By Velma J. Butler, President; Dorothy Bates, First Vice President; Sandra Lepore, Executive Secretary; Steve Weinarten, Communications

Judges’ comments: Succint helpful information.
A little bit of information on numerous topics – a quick digestible read for busy college staff.
Best Four-Page Newsletter: Fewer than 500 members

**FIRST**

UC-AFT Riverside

*The Raven*

By Carla Arbagey, President

**Judges comments:** A constantly evolving creative effort in a literary style that provides substance for librarians. Well-researched and contemporary – a new take on a union newsletter. The local is having fun with the medium and it really makes you want to check out the next issue.

**SECOND**

Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation

*Local Update*

By Mark Wessel, Editor

**Victory for Union Activists**

Our local union leadership, along with nationwide labor leader Ansel Bess (UC Davis Librarians and UC-AFT VP for Legislative), worked diligently for the past year to correct an issue in classification of librarian positions in the Social Sciences & Humanities Division. Despite the fact that our candidates were doing work that fell under the scope of Article 4A of the MOU, they were classified under the C4 General pool.

On June 1, 2013, Ansel Bess, Brenda Housholder, Carla Arbagey, and Mo Amen met with University Librarians Steve Melbourne-Gottlieb and labor relations officer John Henley to finalize an agreement on this classification issue. In a great win for our union, the management agreed that those positions should be moved into the librarian pool.

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**Shop Notes from the Grievance Steward**

UC-AFT Local 20 East Bay Region

The local-based on Wednesday, May 11 at the De local office. Omar Hamed, President of the Local, was on hand to address concerns of members regarding the recent changes. We discussed the potential for a new contract to be signed by the end of the calendar year. If you have any questions, please contact the Local office at (510) 898-7000.

**Support Equality!**

Best Four-Page Newsletter: More than 500 members

**FIRST**
Coast Federation of Classified Employees
*BUM Bulletin*
By Katherine Reedy, Executive Director; Ann Nicholson, President; Connie Marten, Golden West College Vice President

**Judges’ comments:** Content-rich, engaging, and fun — with many photos of members doing things. “It makes me feel like I want to get to know my local,” said one judge. ‘Ask Rosie’ is a great department that provides helpful information for members at work and at home.

**SECOND**
Peralta Federation of Teachers
*The Peralta Teacher*
By Matthew Goldstein, President; Ed Jaramillo, President; Debby Weintraub, Communications Director; Matthew Goldstein, Communications Director

**THIRD**
AFT College Staff Guild-Los Angeles
*In Strength and Unity*
By Velma J. Butler, President; Dorothy Bates, First Vice President; Sandra Lepore, Executive Secretary; Steve Weingarten, Communications

**HONORABLE MENTION**
State Center Federation of Teachers
*The Federalist*
By Leah Unruh, Editor
ABCFT’s own – Laura Rico – accepted the CFT’s most prestigious honor, the Ben Rust Award, at this year’s CFT Convention in Los Angeles, accompanied by a bevy of ABCFT Retirees and ABCFT Local members. Ray Gaer, ABCFT President and CFT Vice President, and Roni Love, ABCFT Secretary and former ABCFT President and CFT Vice President, presented Laura to the large gathering where she shared moments about her remarkable career: serving ABC families for many years as an early childhood educator, ABCFT’s and ABCFTTR’s local president, CFT senior Vice President, AFT vice president, and AFL-CIO vice president. As co-president, Laura jointly led CFT’s last K-12 strike in 1993 which, after eight days, “taught the district that it is better to collaborate with the union than run an authoritarian top down district,” thus helping forge a successful labor-management partnership which exists to this day. During her acceptance speech, Laura recognized the contributions of her partners in ABC and her many colleagues, and paid a touching tribute to her mom, Emma Rico, who exemplified courage and dignity and encouraged Laura to stand up for what she believed in; what she knew was just! Laura ended with an old Mexican saying, “They buried us, but they didn’t know we were seeds!”

By Roni Love

Best Six-Plus-Page Newsletter: Fewer than 500 members

FIRST
ABC Federation of Teachers-Retired
ABCFT Retirees
By Julien Minard, Historian and Editor
Judges’ comments: Provides a wide range of information on topical issues that affect retirees. Encourages and maintains engagement with the union and each other. One judge said, “It keeps the nose under the tent.”

SECOND
Newport-Mesa Federation of Teachers-Retired
N-MFT Retired
By Donna Ewing, Vice Chair Communications

THIRD
United Professors of Marin
UPM Newsletter
By Arthur Lutz, Editor
Best Six-Plus-Page Newsletter: More than 500 members

FIRST
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
The Advocate
By Eric Brenner, Editor

Judges’ comments: Very professional and content rich. Stays on message and follows workplace topics and union campaigns successfully over time.

SECOND
Adjunct Faculty United
AdFacts
By Judi McDuff, Executive Director

THIRD
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
Faculty Matters
By Barbara Hanfling, Editor; Farideh Dada, Assistant Editor; Patti Berg, Copy Edit/Layout; Ciaran MacGowan, Louis Bermudez & Barbara Hanfling, Photos
**First**  
United Teachers Los Angeles  
*United Teacher*  
By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist  

**Judges’ comments:** It’s extensive, professional, frequent, and newsy — with lots of photos. Covers the union perspective from a broad range of constituencies, yet examines bigger issues. One judge said, “I look at this and I say, ‘My union is active and engaged.’”

**Second**  
United Educators of San Francisco  
*San Francisco Educator*  
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director

**Third**  
Los Angeles College Faculty Guild  
*Read On*  
By Robert Fulton, Managing Editor; Deborah Kaye, Editor

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**Best Tabloid Newsletter**
COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS 2016
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFT, AFL-CIO

16

Oct. 28, 2015: negotiations update
District promises info on budget details; key to salaried staff

After weeks of probing, District CFO David Martin met with AFT, UESF, and SMCCTF representatives to discuss the 2015-16 CalState budget. The District is projected to run a $10 million deficit in the next fiscal year, which will affect salaries, benefits, and programs.

What do you think of the ACCJC? Tell the Board of Education by Sept 25, 2015

In December the ACCJC will come before NACIQI (National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity). NACIQI has the power to recommend the DOE whether to reauthorize the ACCJC or not. The deadline to submit third-party comments about the ACCJC to the Department of Education is Sept. 25, 2015. Follow these instructions to make a third-party comment and let the DOE know how the ACCJC treats community colleges. This is our opportunity to show the Department of Education that this rogue agency is not widely accepted.

Monday, Sept. 21: Join AFT 2121 and make a public comment to the Board of Governors!

The Accreditation Task Force Report will have its First Reading at the California Community Colleges Board of Governors meeting this Monday, Sept. 21 time TBD (1102 Q Street, Sixth Floor Sacramento, CA). View the meeting agenda.

Our union is working to organize a delegation to make public comments. If you want comment on the Accreditation Task Force Report contact Tim Kilkenky (tkilkenky@af2121.org).

Tuesday, Sept 22: Delegate Assembly

Join us to participate in discussions of next steps for our contract fight! All faculty are invited to our next AFT 2121 Delegate Assembly meeting on Tuesday, Sept 22 from 3-5pm at the Chinatown Campus in room 602.

Public momentum builds for our contract fight!

Have you seen? Our organizing for the CCSF that students and faculty deserve is getting some public attention! KRON4 and the SF Examiner have reported on our vote to establish the Strike Hardship Fund. Hopefully the BOT is also getting the message – we will know when they come back to the table with substantively better proposals.

Best Email Newsletter

FIRST
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers
AFT 2121 E-News
By Athena Waid, Organizer
Judges’ comments: Just the right amount of graphics, and just the right number of links. The layout encourages continued reading and makes good use of the medium.

SECOND
United Educators of San Francisco
UESF eNews
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director

THIRD
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
AFT 1493: The Advocate Newsletter
By Eric Brenner, Editor
Web & Social Media Awards

**Best Website: Fewer than 500 members**

**FIRST**

Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers  
ccft.cabrillo.org  
By David Lau, Communications Director  
Judges’ comments: Easy to find what you need, be it the contract, ways to contact officers and representatives, or professional issues important to members. Clean, simple, inviting site — easy on the eye.

**SECOND**

Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College  
pfaofahc.com  
By Dorran Nadeau, Webmaster

**THIRD**

Part Time Faculty United at College of the Canyons  
aftcoc.org
Best Website: More than 500 members

FIRST
United Educators of San Francisco
uesf.org
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director
Judges’ comments: Up-to-date content features members in the workplace, at rallies, and in the community. Compelling photos and videos on homepage and throughout the site. Consistent and uncluttered design with well-organized navigation. Good Facebook and Twitter integration.

SECOND (TIE)
United Teachers Los Angeles
utla.net
By Tammy Lyn Gann, Communications Specialist

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
aft1493.org
By Eric Brenner, Webmaster

THIRD
AFT College Staff Guild
local1521a.org
By Velma J. Butler, President; Scott Matsuda, Support Staff

HONORABLE MENTION
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
fa-aft6157.org
By Patti Berg, Office Manager
Best Use of Social Media

FIRST

United Teachers Los Angeles
Facebook.com/UTLAnow
By Tammy Lyn Gann, Communications Specialist
Website

Judges’ comments: Frequent, almost daily posts, picture members and the larger community engaged in current events, union and education issues. One judge said, “This facebook page makes me think that if I were to get involved, I’d meet great folks and have fun while fighting for important issues.”

SECOND (TIE)

United Educators of San Francisco
Facebook.com/uesf61
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director

San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers
Facebook.com/aft2121
By Alisa Messer, Political Director; Athena Waid, Community Organizer

THIRD

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
Facebook.com/AFT1493
By Michelle Kern, CSM Part Timer Rep and SCIO Organizer

HONORABLE MENTION

Coast Federation of Classified Employees
Facebook.com/cf4794
By Katherine Reedy, Executive Director


Best Single Effort: Fewer than 500 members

**FIRST**

Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College

*All Staff Day Presentation, Fall 2015*

By Mark James Miller, President

Judges’ comments: Extensive analysis of what the union does for you and how it relates back to the member. A model union welcome to the workplace.

**SECOND**

ABC Federation of Teachers-Retired

ABC Federation of Teachers’ Retiree Union Honors Cy Brown

By Julien Minard, Editor
Best Single Effort: More than 500 members

FIRST
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers
Top Ten Lies of the ACCJC
By Li Miao Lovett, Communications; Alisa Messer, Political Director

Judges’ comments: Beautifully designed and distilled to the essence of the problem. An alternative treatment that is effective, reader-friendly and adaptable to multiple media.

SECOND
United Educators of San Francisco
We Walked The Line in ’79
By David Clisham, Esq., former UESF Staff Representative

THIRD
Cerritos College Faculty Federation
Interview with the New President Fierro
By Jack Swanson, English professor & former Communications Chair; Craig Breit, Communications Chair

HONORABLE MENTION
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
Strategic Campaign Initiative Update
By Katharine Harer, SCIO Lead Organizer; Michelle Kern, SCIO Part Time Organizer
SPECIAL AWARD

Kick Ass Campaign

United Teachers Los Angeles
Build the Future, Fund the Fight Campaign
By UTLA Communications Staff

Judge's comments: Uses different platforms to deliver coherent message with strong visual identity. Demonstrates how important it is for the union to have the resources necessary to advocate for all unit members. One judge said, "A successful dues campaign that made dollars and sense."
President’s Letter May 2015

By Mark James Miller, PFA President

Hello everyone! I hope you’re having a great session. If not, don’t forget to take a step back and rejuvenate.

This has been an excellent month for the Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College. Our membership recruiting efforts are in full swing, and we have 61 new members for 2015. We signed up 137 new members in the last quarter.

California Federation of Teachers (CFT) Convention, held March 20–22 at the Marriott in Sacramento, was another outstanding event all the way around. Our local went for a new high, Tresorier Rich Baker, Math Instructor Nahid Lughtmanni and I. In the past, our local was honored with numerous awards. We had our highest numbers of members this year (for the 3rd consecutive year). We also won First Place for the Best Bulletin Series as well as a Pride of the Union Award. More than 600 people attended the convention, as Assemblyman Jose Medina, chair of the Assembly’s Higher Education Committee, praised the new president, Betty Yee and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson, for their efforts and achievements. The union strength and union membership ties across the state are the backbone of the organization, as are the workshops on topics as varied as the student debt crisis and education.

New Pay Rates Go Into Effect

Best Bulletin Series: Fewer than 500 members

First
Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College

President’s Letter

By Mark James Miller, President

Judges’ comments: Provides an eclectic take on the life of a local union that keeps members in the loop. One judge said, “The ‘Mark’ of a good union leader.”
COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS 2016
CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, AFT, AFL-CIO

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UC Lecturers & Librarians
Welcome You to UCR!

What do UC Librarians do?
- Teach classes on how to use the library and how to conduct research.
- Offer instruction workshops on research skills such as databases and citing sources.
- Develop Brightspace modules so you can easily find them.
- Lead, organize, and develop workshops and seminars.

Our mission is to help students.
As librarians, we strive to increase knowledge and face challenges such as lack of funding.
Providing a full-service library that is available 24/7 to students.

Our Teaching Conditions
Strategic Training Conditions

First
UC-AFT Riverside
Fall Organization Campaign at UCR
By Carla Arbagey, President

Judges’ comments: Good job of reaching students and their families to raise awareness. Top-notch visuals and text make concrete to students the contributions of librarians and lecturers to their education. Assemblyman Jose Medina’s appearance drew even more public attention.

Best Public Relations: Fewer than 500 members

SECOND
Part Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College
Public Outreach Campaign 2016
By Mark James Miller, President

UC-AFT is fighting in contract negotiations to stabilize and professionalize pre-continuing lecturer appointments at UC. Quality education at UC equal or exceeds that of other institutions.

Here is what our bargaining team is fighting for:
- Increased job security in the form of continuing appointments.
- Fair and equitable retirement and health benefits for all lecturers, including part-time.
- Participation in shared governance and representation of representatives on college committees.
- Fair and equal teacher evaluation and student evaluations.

UC Lecturers and Librarians: Teachers, Innovators, and Researchers dedicated to the success of the University's teaching mission and service roles.

I Publicly pledge to stand united with my Lecturer Co-Counselors in the University Council — American Federation of Teachers as our fight for a fair contract that guarantees the respect that Lecturers deserve. I understand that Lecturer teaching conditions are student learning conditions. I Publicly pledge to support my co-counselors and the union bargaining team by attending bargaining sessions.

Name:
Department:
Office Location:
Email:
Phone Number:
I am a (please circle what best fits):
- UC-AFT Member
- United Staff of California
- Faculty/Adjunct/Community Member

University Council/American Federation of Teachers
A National Professional Association
Best Public Relations: More than 500 members

FIRST
United Educators of San Francisco
Keeping San Francisco Teachers and Paras in San Francisco
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director
Judges’ comments: A really good job of putting a human face to the problem of skyrocketing housing costs in San Francisco. UESF is holding to its values and encouraging city leaders to do the right thing by workers. Earned excellent placement in local media for educators’ stories of displacement.

SECOND
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
November 2015 Board of Trustees Election Campaign
By Maurice Goodman, Candidate; Katharine Harer, Co-Vice President, SCIO Lead Organizer; Sam Sanchez, Skyline Photography Instructor; Michelle Kern, CSM Part Timer Representative and SCIO Organizer

THIRD
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers
Workers’ Rights Board Hearing: Future of Higher Ed in San Francisco
By AFT 2121 Faculty, leaders, organizers; California Faculty Association; SEIU 1021; Jobs with Justice-San Francisco

HONORABLE MENTION
San Jose/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
Enhancing Opportunities One Book at a Time
By Frank Espinoza, Vice President
SPECIAL AWARD

Jim Herndon Award

United Teachers Los Angeles

Video: Fighting Back Against National and International Attacks on Unions
By Tammy Lyn Gann, Communications Specialist
Website

Judges’ comments: Insightful video that illustrates the global extent of this problem yet does not have an ideological feel. One judge said, “The overarching goal of these people — who seem to have nothing better to do with all their money but dismantle public education — is to build a “gig economy” for educators that dismantles pension security and workplace rights.” Another said, “I found this moving and scary, but am encouraged that an international movement is building. It shows that the quest for dignity and fair labor is part of who we are as humans – and it extends beyond all borders.”