



March 2023 Newsletter



Great Colleges to Work For

Every NIU employee should have received the invitation to complete the Great Colleges to Work For survey –sent to their NIU email address on March 4, 2023. You have until March 31 at midnight to complete the anonymous survey.

Let them know your mind today!

Announcement

NIU Working Papers

Salary Information for NIU Employees

Did you know you can look up any NIU employee salary utilizing the NIU Working papers?

We did just that, comparing salaries for key administrators from 2021 and 2022.

Information from the working papers available at the [Huskie Commons](#).

“I think it’s crazy how we fight yearly for 3-6 percent increase in our salaries. I understand admins are important, but how is it they have a six percent **floor**...aren’t we just as important?”

-Local 1890 members

| NIU Administration Salary | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| Name | Position | FY2022 | FY2021 | Diff | Increase | Percent |
| Freeman, Lisa | President | \$ 450,000.00 | \$ 396,000.00 | \$ 54,000.00 | 0.136 | 14% |
| Blazey, Gerald | Vice President | \$ 270,120.00 | \$ 236,796.00 | \$ 33,324.00 | 0.141 | 14% |
| Cotsones, Rena | Vice President, Assoc | \$ 214,296.00 | \$ 186,624.00 | \$ 27,672.00 | 0.148 | 15% |
| Frazier, Sean | Vice President, Assoc | \$ 334,320.00 | \$ 307,428.00 | \$ 26,892.00 | 0.087 | 9% |
| Perry, Bryan | Vice President | \$ 297,900.00 | \$ 241,800.00 | \$ 56,100.00 | 0.232 | 23% |
| Streb, Matt | Vice President, Assoc, Pres Ofc | \$ 99,396.00 | \$ 96,504.00 | \$ 2,892.00 | 0.030 | 3% |
| Streb, Matt | Vice President, Assoc, BoT | \$ 99,396.00 | \$ 96,504.00 | \$ 2,892.00 | 0.030 | 3% |

Huskie Commons

Last Chance to Join the Bargaining Team

Our Collective Bargaining Agreement expires on June 30, 2023. Staff Rep Rick Surber sent out the official "we plan to bargain our contract" letter to administration last week.

Union members will negotiate our entire contract from wage increases for everyone represented by our bargaining unit, to workload issues, to overtime language.

What's important to you? Join the team and tell us.

This means it is time for **you** to [become an official member](#) (if you're not already) so you can join the bargaining team.

Eligible Local 1890 members join the team by using the email link below.

Our bargaining team will begin meeting as soon as the first week of April, with negotiations at the table to follow. Some team members will participate in person ("at the table") with our AFSCME staff rep Rick Surber, others will serve as alternates. All team members will participate in planning/strategy meetings.

Join the Bargaining Team!

Next Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at Noon via Zoom

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent to eligible voting members on March 24.

- All members who attend Local 1890 membership meetings in 2023 are eligible to win in a Rolling \$25 Cash Drawing.
- Each month, the name of one winner is selected from all Local 1890 dues-paying members. A

member must be present at the meeting to win if their name was drawn.

- Any amounts not awarded roll over to the next monthly general meeting.
- The current prize amount is \$75.

Union Steward: What Is it? Should I Be One?

AFSCME members look to the steward as a leader in the workplace. They turn to the steward when they seek information or when they need some help in solving a problem. They want leaders who are honest, hard-working, and willing to stand up in the face of pressure.

To be a leader the steward must understand the diversity of the union's membership – cultural, racial, gender, sexual orientation, age differences – and promote unity to put a stop to management attempts to divide workers.

Stewards can examine grievances, discuss different approaches, strategize on how to present a case, etc. In addition, stewards can discuss alternative problem-solving methods that a) may be more effective in solving the problem; and b) involve more members in addressing the problem, and thereby strengthen the union. Stewards fight for everyone, one member at a time.

April 11-12, 2023
AFSCME Council 31, 21st Floor
205 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60601

May 4-5, 2023
Joliet Park District
Inwood Athletic Club Board Room
3000 W Jefferson Street
Joliet, IL 60435

8:30 am registration on first day
9:00 am - 5:00 pm class both days

DEADLINES TO REGISTER:

April 11-12 deadline is April 4th

May 4-5 deadline is April 27th

Registration forms must be signed or emailed by the local union President

Registration

One of NIU's own AFSCME Local 963 members, Manny Diaz, was featured in AFSCME Council 31's On-The-Move Newsletter.

[Check it out!](#)

Your Local 1890 officers and stewards remain accessible to help you with information and support.

Should you have questions or concerns, contact us at

afscmelocal1890niu@outlook.com

Local 1890 Officers

President

Rave Meyer*

Vice President

Sarah Lindell*

Recording-Secretary

Lesly Schoo

Secretary-Treasurer

Daksha Patel

Members-at-Large

Jacklyn Egolf

Krystyna Kamla

Bryan Lutes

Membership Chair

Sara Finnigan

Chief Steward

Heidi Carlson*

Trustees

Rebecca Rahe

Joe Gruber

*Certified Stewards

Contact List

Union Orientation and Member Info

Sara Finnigan

membership@afscmelocal1890niu.com

[Exclusive union member benefits](#)

Concerns about workplace issues

Heidi Carlson

steward@Afscmelocal1890niu.com

[Local 1890 Stewards](#)

General questions

afscmelocal1890niu@outlook.com

AFSCME Staff Representative

Rick Surber

rsurber@AFSCME31.org

You can easily join YOUR voice to
OUR Local 1890 voice today!

[Join NOW!](#)

[Local 1890 Website](#)

[Facebook Group](#)



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

I'm being disciplined? What do I do?

WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working condition, I respectfully request that my union representative or steward be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."



AFSCME Local 1890 NIU | P.O. Box 211, DeKalb, IL 60115

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