

UPI IFT / AFT Convention Delegates

(Vote for 31 of 43 Candidates)

Ann Fritz (EIU)

PAGE 2 to see statement, photo

Janna Dietz (WIU)

No statement

John Miller (WIU)

No statement

William Thompson (WIU)

No statement

Mary Bruce (GSU)

No statement

Ben Liu (CSU)

No statement

Brian Clark (WIU)

No statement

Jeff Hancks (WIU)

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Phil Weiss (WIU)

No statement

Charles Delman (EIU)

PAGE 2 to see statement, photo

Sace Elder (EIU)

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Linnae Bryant (CSU)

No statement

David Carpenter (EIU)

PAGE 3 to see statement, photo

Audrey Natcone (NEIU)

No statement

Maribeth Kasik (GSU)

No statement

Deborah Lynch (CSU)

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Steve Rowe (CSU)

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Susan Czechowski (WIU)

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John Allison (EIU)

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Rob Porter (WIU)

No statement

Elizabeth Essex (GSU)

No statement

Paul Blobaum (GSU)

No statement

Gabriel Gomez (CSU)

No statement

Carol Jean Dudley (EIU)

No statement

Steve Rock (WIU)

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Janet Carpenter (EIU)

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Jennifer Grimm (WIU)

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Jonathan Coit (EIU)

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Richard Grossman (NEIU)

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Stacey Short (NIU)

No statement

Robert Bionaz (CSU)

No statement

Gary Fritz (EIU)

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Lorette Oden (WIU)

No statement

Walter Henne (GSU)

No statement

Dean Zoerink (WIU)

No statement

Stacey Macchi (WIU)

See statement

Anthony Andrews (GSU)

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Christopher Mitchell (EIU)

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Romona Raymond (CSU)

No statement

Barbara Lawrence (EIU)

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Carlos Ferran (GSU)

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Carnice Hill (CSU)

No statement

Devi Potluri (CSU)

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**Ann Fritz
(EIU)**



If re-elected as an IFT/AFT delegate, I'll continue to represent the diverse voices and perspectives of UPI members within the governance structures of the Illinois Federation of Teachers and American Federation of Teachers.

I am EIU-UPI's elected Executive Assistant, served as acting Vice President (fall 2009), and am currently serving a second term on EIU-UPI's negotiating team. I've trained in contractual and governance issues through UPI/IFT/AFT Leadership Institutes and a Chicago-Kent Law Conference, and have served many years as an elected delegate of UPI's House of Delegates and IFT/AFT Conferences, co-authoring a resolution on science teaching.

I will continue to represent UPI's concerns within the larger tapestry of unionism at IFT/AFT as we face the challenges to collective bargaining, and union rights.

**Charles
Delman
(EIU)**



President, EIU Chapter of UPI, 2003-2009. Vice-president, EIU Chapter, 2000-2003. Served on three negotiating teams, twice as chief negotiator. Professor of Mathematics (Ph.D., Cornell, 1992).

I believe in a democratic union grounded in the principles of solidarity and social justice. I believe in an assertive and politically engaged union that not only stands up for its members, but uses its organizational power to work for a better world for all. It is only right that we work with others to help them attain what we seek for ourselves; it is also the only way to succeed. The ultimate goal of the labor movement should be to take ownership of our work from those who seek to control and profit from our contributions, moving towards a truly democratic society in which work is directed towards fulfilling people's needs while living in harmony with the rest of the natural world.

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**David
Carpenter
(EIU)**



I seek re-election as UPI's Local Executive Vice President because, as a member of a successful grievance team (of Ellie Sullivan, grievance officers at seven universities and two IFT field representatives), I'm devoted to protecting UPI's contracts and members' contractual rights.

I've studied labor law, grievances, arbitration and civil-rights laws at Chicago-Kent College of Law, the Labor Arbitration Institute, and UIUC's School of Labor & Employment Relations.

Employed at EIU (English) since 1986 (as a professor since 1993), I've earned three Faculty Excellence Awards, two Achievement and Contribution Awards, a Distinguished Faculty Award, and the Luis Clay Mendez Distinguished Service Award. Having served as EIU's Faculty Senate Chair for four terms, as UPI/EIU Chapter Grievance Officer (2002-2008) and UPI's Local Associate Grievance Chair (2005-2007), I've been UPI's Local Grievance Chair since 2007. An elected delegate to UPI's House of Delegates since 1999, I'm currently also an elected IFT/AFT representative.

**Deborah
Lynch
(CSU)**



Deborah Lynch (Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago, Public Policy Analysis) is a Unit B Lecturer in CSU College of Education Graduate Programs in Education. She teaches courses Educational Leadership and Special Education. Deborah has been an AFT member for 35 years, an AFT-IFT Convention Delegate, AFT Executive Council member, IFT Executive Board Member, CTU Executive Board member, CTU President (2001-2004), and CTU Delegate (until August 2011 when she resigned from Chicago Public Schools). She is currently chair of CSU-UPI's new committee on the image of CSU.

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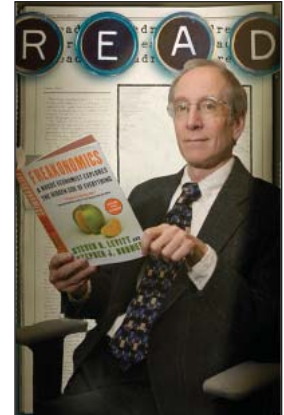
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**John
Allison
(EIU)**

As an IFT/AFT Delegate, I will seek to highlight issues and resolutions important to public higher education, as well as to support policies that promote excellence in public education at all levels. While there is always room for improvement, public education has served our country well. We must counter efforts to defund and dismantle public education systems and prevent for-profit industries and private organizations to just maximize profits and advance narrow ideologies.

**Steve
Rock
(WIU)**



I have served as Treasurer of the WIU UPI chapter since 1996. During my tenure, I closely scrutinized all chapter spending and compiled the regular financial reports required by the Local. I also prepare and update a list of members of the Collective Bargaining Unit who have not joined UPI, and distribute this regularly to departmental representatives and other UPI leaders. I was a member of the team that negotiated the 2001-2005 Contract. I have been a member of the House of Delegates since 1996 and a delegate to the IFT-AFT conventions the last three years. I have regularly participated in Lobby Day in Springfield. I am looking forward to this change in position.

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**Jonathan
Coit
(EIU)**

**Anthony
Andrews
(GSU)**



Jon Coit has been a member of UPI/EIU since 2005, has served on the House of Delegates 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2011. He also serves on the EIU/UPI Committee on Political and Legislative Action. Members across the bargaining unit are facing similar conditions and pressures—attacks on education, and on public institutions generally, clothed in false rhetoric of fiscal responsibility and organizational efficiency. Resisting these attacks means making affirmative cases for the value of public education.

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**Barbara
Lawrence
(EIU)**



I am running for election as AFT and IFT representative. The conventions of these organizations address important general education issues and issues specific to higher education as well as matters of general political and social importance. It is important that representatives from higher education be at the table and that diverse views are represented. I have actively represented UPI as an AFT and IFT representative in the past and if elected would continue to represent the membership of UPI to the best of my ability.

**Jeff
Hancks
(WIU)**



After having served on the UPI Local 4100 Executive Board for the past three years as the WIU Faculty Representative, I feel I have learned a great deal about the issues important to all of the UPI chapters, not just my own. I will be able to take this knowledge to the IFT/AFT conventions and represent all UPI chapters effectively. I have attended an IFT convention as a visitor, and I learned how the conventions operate and what is needed from an effective delegate. I ask for your vote because I have a passion for unionism, and I want to represent UPI Local 4100 to both the IFT and the AFT at convention.

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**Sace
Elder
(EIU)**



I have been a member of UPI (EIU, department of history) since 2003 and have served on the House of Delegates since 2007. In Fall 2010 I was appointed to the EIU advisory committee for the Higher Education Finance Commission. I also represented EIU/UPI at the AFT/ NEA Higher Education Conference in Spring 2010. We must not lose sight of the impact changes in funding have on our working conditions and the quality of higher education in Illinois. These challenges come not just in the form of numeric decreases in our bargaining units:

Traditional faculty now face competition (even from within their own institutions, as at EIU) from online courses and the pressure to offer online courses. Outcomes-based funding usually translates into "faculty accountability." And at the same time, we lose sight of important issues such as promoting diversity within the union.

**Steve
Rowe
(CSU)**



I am an Associate Professor of History at Chicago State University, where I teach courses in European history, Latin American history, and world history. Much of my research and teaching interests deal with labor and working-class history, which has, in part, led me to become involved with UPI. Starting in the current 2011-2012 academic year, I became the chapter grievance officer for the CSU/ UPI chapter, and this has given me the opportunity to interact with staff from the UPI Local and with UPI members across the CSU campus. This has been a tremendous learning experience, and I have been proud to represent UPI members on the CSU campus. I look forward to continuing to represent UPI if I am elected to this position.

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**Janet
Carpenter
(EIU)**

I am running for re-election as one of the At-Large Executive Board positions in the EIU/UPI Chapter so Unit-B constituents continue to have an experienced person representing them, giving this important unit a voice. I have been teaching in the College of Education for the past 17 years and have been active in the union, elected and serving as a delegate to IFT/AFT conventions at the national level and to UPI's House of Delegates. I have represented the Unit-B constituency of our campus at the Local, at a 2010 meeting designed to bring representatives from all seven campuses together to share common concerns and visions. I hosted a luncheon this past spring for the Unit-B faculty on EIU's campus and forwarded to our negotiating team the concerns expressed at that meeting. I will continue to listen to and be the voice representing my fellow annually –contracted colleagues.

**Richard
Grossmean
(NEIU)**



I have been an Instructor in the History Department since 1999 and have been an active UPI member ever since I was eligible to join. Currently I am the Instructor Representative from the CAS on the NEIU Executive Board. I was part of the Interest Based Bargaining team during the last negotiations and was very active in trying to keep our membership mobilized during our prolonged negotiations. Also, I am the elected CAS Instructor on the Faculty Senate. In all my duties, I have tried my best to represent not only the interests and concerns of my fellow instructors but of all our members. I hope to be able to continue to represent you in the future.

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**Gary
Fritz
(EIU)**



I've been active in UPI for many years, serving as elected delegate to the UPI House of Delegates/ American Federation of Teachers (AFT)/ Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT), our chapter's union representative on CUPB, the EIU-EPI Contract Campaign Committee, College of Sciences EIU-UPI Representative, and Department Representative. As a delegate to the HOD, I co-authored a resolution (with Ann Fritz) on the teaching of science, passed this resolution at the IFT, and submitted it to the AFT Annual Conference. I have participated in union protests on campus, Chicago, Springfield, and Wisconsin, and produced three short films on UPI and labor issues, one of which won a national award (AFT) in 2011. If elected, I will promote the democratic process of our union by listening to members, formulating resolutions, and participating in governance structures of HOD, IFT and AFT, thus providing direction for our union.

**Christopher
Mitchell
(EIU)**



Christopher Mitchell has been a member of EIU's faculty since 2001 (serving in Unit B at first and since 2004 in Unit A) and has been a proud and active UPI member from his first semester on campus. He has served as a House of Delegates member for three years (and is up for re-election), and also beginning this academic year he is the Department of Theatre Arts' representative to the EIU chapter.

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Carlos Ferran (GSU)

Dr. Carlos Ferran is a Unit A faculty in Accounting, Strategy, and Management Information Systems at the College of Business and Public Administration of Governors State University. Previously, he had similar positions at Pennsylvania State University and Rochester Institute of Technology. Dr. Ferran obtained his doctoral degree in Business Administration from Boston University. Before entering academia his last job was as a CIO at a major financial institution in Venezuela. Although his tenure at GSU is short he has been very active in many Division, College, and Campus-wide Committees. Dr. Ferran is an experienced professional who fights hard for ideals and asks the hard questions while at the same time understands the practical need for some compromises in order to get the job done.

Devi Poturi (CSU)

My involvement with a Faculty Union spans two universities operating under different systems – British and US. Before I joined CSU, I was at the University of West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica where union is very active. I had my share of organizational experience there. When I joined CSU, I was happy to see the presence of a Union and got involved with it from the beginning. Since I also represent CSU on the IBHE Faculty Advisory council, I get the benefit of knowing issues that have influence on education in Illinois in general and Higher education in particular. On the campus, I am involved with several areas including General Education, HLC self study, Personnel Committee to name a few which gives me a broad experience and insight in to issues related to faculty and staff. One of my main interests is to promote the union to younger faculty and get them involved.

I obtained my Ph.D. from Banaras Hindu University in India, moved to University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica. I joined CSU in 2002 and am currently a Professor of Plant Biology in the Department of Biological Sciences.

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**Susan
Czechowski
(WIU)**



Hello. I am Susan Czechowski and I am running for UPI local 4100 chapter Treasurer. I am a Professor in the Department of Art and have taught at WIU for almost 11 years. I teach Silkscreen, Design, Art Appreciation and an Art Symposium in New York City. I received my M.F.A. in printmaking from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York in 1999.

I am running for treasurer because I know I can do the job well and I would like to be more involved in the local chapter. I am extremely organized and personable. I enjoy attending UPI meetings and I do attend them all. I have served as my department representative for 6 years, House of Delegates representative for 3 years, and a delegate elected to the UPI executive board for 3 years. I believe in the Union here at WIU and would like to stay as active as my schedule allows.

Thank you.

**Jennifer
Grimm
(WIU)**

I am Jennifer Grimm and I am running for the ASP Representative. I have been an Academic Advisor at WIU for 8 years. During these 8 years I have been a member of UPI. In 2010 I became an active member of the UPI as an ASP area representative. I have worked in both union and non-union settings as an academic support professional and believe that my experience in both settings would be valuable as the ASP Representative. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve the union membership.