

5/16/2017

Dear United Academics Colleague,

As we communicated to you in late March, your United Academics negotiation team and the University of Alaska negotiation team reached impasse in negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement on March 25, 2017. Since then, UNAC and UA have had our negotiations certified by the Alaska Labor Relations Agency as being at impasse, and we have also worked with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) to determine a federal mediator to help us finalize a new CBA. For more information about this process, and previous updates and supporting materials for UA/UNAC negotiations, visit <http://unitedacademics.net/academic-year-16-17/> which is part of the UNAC website at www.unitedacademics.net.

Last week, the FMCS assigned a mediator for UA/UNAC negotiations. Both negotiation teams are now scheduled to meet with the federal mediator in Anchorage June 26-27 with the goal of finalizing a new CBA. While a federal mediator does not have the power to compel parties to reach an agreement, the assistance of an informed and objective third party can often facilitate compromise and creative solutions to difficult negotiations such as ours.

We will keep the UNAC membership updated about negotiations throughout the summer, including the outcome of the mediation on June 26-27.

As always, thank you for your support of your union, United Academics AAUP/AFT Local 4996, and UA/UNAC negotiations,

In solidarity,

Tony Rickard, UAF.