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from your union leadership team,  
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**MLK Day events**  
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**The Gliozzo Award goes to**  
CTs Tracy Abbott and Wendi Winston, p. 4.



# CT news

The voice of the Clerical-Technical Union of Michigan State University

December 2017

## Members set CTU direction

Sixty-eight CTs met on October 25 to affirm the placement of CTU officers, elect a secretary to the executive board, and transfer money to cover negotiation expenses for the health care contract we ratified over the summer.

President Deb Bittner, Treasurer Tracy Rich, Secretary Michelle Jenkins, and Directors Carmen Elliott, Pam Sloan, and Jan Wallace will join Vice President Rosie Garcia and Directors Pamela Brock, Liz Owen, Stacey Patton, and Stephen Stofflet on the executive board. [Jennifer Newport]

The two-year terms of the newly



October 25, 2017, Membership Meeting—Newly elected leaders (left to right): Director Pam Sloan, Audit Committee Member Stephanie Six, Treasurer Tracy Rich, President Deb Bittner, and Director Carmen Elliott. (Director Jan Wallace was unavailable for the photo, and our newly elected secretary Michelle Jenkins was sworn in later in the meeting.)

elected officers expire in October 2019, except for that of Michelle Jenkins. Jenkins stepped forward at the meeting and was unanimously elected to fill

the final year of Tracy Rich’s secretarial position when Rich became treasurer. Jenkins’ term expires in October 2018.

*Meeting continued on p. 3*



Judy Redding and Deb Bittner at last year’s MLK Commemorative March.

**January 15, 2018**

## CTs to participate on MLK Day 2018

Although classes will be canceled, staff at MSU will *not* enjoy the day off on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2018

However, as in past years, many of us will find ways to contribute and participate in activities commemorating

the life of Martin Luther King Jr. We will consider it a day “on” rather than a day “off.” [Ginger Cross]

Recognizing King’s status as a great leader who understood the essential role of organized labor in the fight for justice, equality, and civil rights, the CTU secured a

letter of agreement affirming the employer’s and CTU’s mutual commitment to diversity and inclusion and encouraging supervisors to be flexible in permitting employees to participate in events associated with commemorating Dr. King.

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The voice of the Clerical-Technical Union  
of Michigan State University

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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Organized and  
independent  
since 1974!

## CTU Executive Board

### President:

Deb Bittner [Deb@ctumsu.org](mailto:Deb@ctumsu.org)

### Vice President:

Rosario Garcia [garciar@msu.edu](mailto:garciar@msu.edu)

### Treasurer:

Tracy Rich [Tracy@ctumsu.org](mailto:Tracy@ctumsu.org)

### Secretary:

Michelle Jenkins [jenki285@msu.edu](mailto:jenki285@msu.edu)

### Directors:

Pamela Brock [brockp@msu.edu](mailto:brockp@msu.edu)  
Carmen Elliott [caguirre@msu.edu](mailto:caguirre@msu.edu)  
Liz Owen [owene@msu.edu](mailto:owene@msu.edu)  
Stacey Patton [pattons2@msu.edu](mailto:pattons2@msu.edu)  
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Stephen Stofflet [stoffle1@msu.edu](mailto:stoffle1@msu.edu)  
Jan Wallace [wallac12@msu.edu](mailto:wallac12@msu.edu)

## CTU Staff

### Communications Specialist

Cherylee Finney [Cheryl@ctumsu.org](mailto:Cheryl@ctumsu.org)

### Contract Administrator

Meredith Place [Meredith@ctumsu.org](mailto:Meredith@ctumsu.org)

### Financial Manager

Patricia Shackleton [Patricia@ctumsu.org](mailto:Patricia@ctumsu.org)

### Organizational Manager

Barb Harris [Barb@ctumsu.org](mailto:Barb@ctumsu.org)

## Editorial Policy:

The CT News is the voice of our union. It is our vehicle for communicating, on a regular basis, the issues that confront us as workers. Through this newsletter we explain union policies, show how dues are spent, and explain the views and actions of the elected leadership for evaluation by the members.

The CT News is the voice of the membership. We welcome articles from members and stories about members.

While contributions are welcome, they should be constructive and contribute positively to the welfare of our union.

We will accept no attacks on any union leader or member. We will accept thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letters section, and reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the union and its policies.

Direct ideas, letters, questions and comments to Cherylee Finney.

# CTclassifieds

## For sale:

▼ **Condo:** 2841 Kittansett Drive #50, Okemos, MI. For sale by owner. Three beds, four baths, 2,208 square feet. First floor features open floor plan, gas fireplace, stainless appliances, coffered ceilings, and more. Landscaped yard with nice patio/deck. Finished basement offers a nice family room and a second sitting area/TV/rec room. Master bedroom on second floor includes a three-head shower! \$329,000. Contact Hien Hopkins at [hopkinsbien@yahoo.com](mailto:hopkinsbien@yahoo.com).

## Services:

▼ **Quality Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners:** It is a great time now to get your carpets and upholstery cleaned before the holiday celebrations and have

your home warm, cozy, and sparkling just like the holiday season!!! Please give us a call for a free estimate and to schedule your cleaning appointment to beat the holiday rush. Owner operated, reasonable prices. Quality Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners, 517-694-0497.

▼ **Skills assessment software:** The CTU makes the software and a work station available to members to practice for the university's skills assessment tests. This is the same software that Human Resources uses to evaluate skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and more. Call 355-1903 to make an appointment.

## Free:

▼ **Advertise** to your colleagues in the *CT News*. Send the ad to [Cheryl@ctumsu.org](mailto:Cheryl@ctumsu.org). We accept ads from CTU members for items and/or services provided by CTU members and/or their household family members. See the guidelines at [www.ctumsu.org/news/ct-classifieds](http://www.ctumsu.org/news/ct-classifieds).

# URdistricts

The following members are seeking appointment as URs in their respective districts. If no other members from these districts express interest in the position by 5 p.m. on December 20, they will be appointed.

- ▼ **District 14: Jeniffer Robinson**
- ▼ **District 16: Angel Toth**
- ▼ **District 24: Lori Thomas**
- ▼ **District 31: Andrea K. Rafferty**
- ▼ **District 40: Shirley VanDorp**

What district are you in? Check out the UR list at [www.ctumsu.org/about-the-ctu/directory/union-representatives](http://www.ctumsu.org/about-the-ctu/directory/union-representatives).

## Interested in becoming a Union Rep?

Contact Vice President **Rosie Garcia** at 355-9672x7-7273 or [garciar@msu.edu](mailto:garciar@msu.edu) for additional information.

We are sad to announce the death of **Fran Fowler**, an early union representative. She passed away on Thursday, November 16, 2017. Fowler represented the Philosophy Department and Erickson Hall in the mid 1970s. In 1995, she was the first CT to win the MSU Excellence in Diversity Award.

## Membership Meetings

CTU Membership Meetings in 2018 will take place in Room 1310 Anthony Hall on **Wednesday, January 31**; Tuesday, April 24; Thursday, July 12; and Wednesday, October 24. Meetings start at 5:20 p.m., but doors open at 5 p.m. so come early to socialize. Membership meetings are for making decisions about the Union, asking questions and receiving updates about Union activities.

## Executive Board Meetings

Although the constitution requires at least one executive board meeting per month, they usually are held twice a month on first and third Tuesdays. Because of the upcoming holidays, the schedule has been altered for December and January. Meetings will be held December 5, January 9, and January 23.

**CTU Office**  
**5:15 p.m.**  
**Members welcome!**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**  
*from your CTU leadership team.*  
 Support union jobs — make it a union made holiday! Check out the 2017 Buy Union/Buy American Holiday Shopping Guide at:  
<https://uaw.org/app/uploads/2017/11/2017-Holiday-Shopping-Guide-Final.pdf>  
*Strength in solidarity!*

## Meeting continued from p. 1

The three-year term of new Audit Committee Member Stephanie Six will expire in October 2020.

Director Pamela Brock, a member of the Finance Committee presented information about our finances, and members then voted to transfer \$48,929.17 from the contingency account to operations in order to cover negotiation expenses.

Contract Administrator Meredith Place spoke about some of the new absentee policies being enacted across campus. She pointed out that departments aren't always informing CTs of the benefits available to them under the Family Medical Leave Act. Place stressed that it is very important for members to protect themselves by signing up for FMLA if they have qualifying medical conditions for either themselves or their families. [Jessica Lehman]



Michelle Jenkins was elected secretary after Tracy Rich vacated the position to become treasurer.



Jan Wallace was sworn in as director at the November 7 meeting of the executive board.

Place plans to publish an article on FMLA in a future newsletter.

President Deb Bittner discussed the importance of the MSU Community Charitable Campaign and United Way to our communities.

“Our members sometimes need to use some of these services,” she said, “and many of us have friends and family members who have needed them.” The group discussed a number of ways that we can contribute to the community. [Jacqueline Guyton]

A member raised an issue about a pregnant coworker in her area who has concerns about bicyclists on the sidewalks. Such complaints can be directed to the University Traffic and Transportation Committee ([auttc.msu.edu/comment](http://auttc.msu.edu/comment)). The CTU's representative to the AUTTC is Pam Sloan ([pamsloan@msu.edu](mailto:pamsloan@msu.edu)).

**Door prizes:** Melinda Kochenderfer won the \$100 quorum prize, \$50 of which she donated back for a second drawing that went to April Moore. Angel Toth won the \$50 drawing, and Sierra Matthews won the fall meeting prize. CTU prizes were won by Charlene Tarsa, Karen Spitz, Cindy Martin, Nancy Sherman, Kim Dyer, Stephanie Shepard, Mary Seeger, Angela Zamora, Lois Siefring, Courtney Meddaugh, Laraine Walton, Cynthia Collings, Tamara Hicks-Syron, and Mary Firdawsi.

## MLK continued from p. 1

If you are denied a reasonable request to participate in an event associated with MLK Day, contact your union for support in working out a mutually agreeable arrangement. [Gregory Steere]

## Remembering MLK

MSU offers several ways to participate in celebrating the legacy of Dr. King, many of which take place outside of regular work hours. For example, there is a popular jazz concert, and this year there will be a Social Justice Art Fair. For details and updates, see [www.inclusion.msu.edu/awards-programs/king](http://www.inclusion.msu.edu/awards-programs/king).

Several of the events are always popular with CTU members, including:

**The Commemorative March:** The CTU will participate in the annual Commemorative March for Justice at MSU at 3 p.m. on January 15. Meet us at the Union Building on campus and join us in the march if you can. We will provide more details in January, so check our website at [www.ctumsu.org](http://www.ctumsu.org).

**The Community Dinner:** After the march, MSU hosts a Community Dinner starting at 4:45. The dinner is free, and everyone is welcome, but you must register at [www.inclusion.msu.edu/awards-programs/king](http://www.inclusion.msu.edu/awards-programs/king). The site also offers the opportunity to contribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund. The CTU assists with registration at this event. To volunteer, contact Deb Bittner at [Deb@ctumsu.org](mailto:Deb@ctumsu.org) or 517-355-1903.

**2018 Lansing Holiday Commission MLK Luncheon:** Several CTs attend this annual Lansing event. Information and updates are available on the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/GLMLKCommission](http://www.facebook.com/GLMLKCommission). Ticket purchase and registration are required.



**CTU OF MSU**  
**2990 E. LAKE LANSING ROAD**  
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## CT Award ceremony

In honor of its fifteenth year, the annual MSU Clerical-Technical Recognition Award was presented to two CTU members at a ceremony on November 2.

Winner Tracy Abbott is a secretary in the Education Deans Office. Many of us at MSU interact with Abbott in her roles at Erickson Hall, where her duties include managing the Print and Copy Center and scheduling classrooms.

“Customer service is something I really enjoy doing,” Abbott said. “MSU, for me, has been a blessing, and my job has been a blessing.”

Wendi Winston, the other winner of this year’s award, is a library assistant at the Detroit Medical Center where she “connects resources to students, staff and faculty.” She said that part of the reason for her workplace success is due

to her ability to work in teams. Winston included a shoutout to CTU, where she serves as a union representative.

“You guys are so passionate and committed, and I am rejuvenated after every time we meet,” she said.

The award was established by MSU Professor Emeritus Charles Gliozzo and his wife, Marjorie, in honor of Dr. Gliozzo’s parents, Thomas and Concettina, immigrants who became U.S. citizens and recognized the importance of education.

Gliozzo said that, as a professor, he had a “tremendous staff” of CTs.

“The CTs are the backbone and infrastructure of the university who need formal recognition,” he said.

Winners of the award receive a plaque and \$1,000 in recognition of their



*Nov. 2, 2017—Wendi Winston and Tracy Abbott, winners of the 2017 MSU Clerical Technical Recognition Award.*

outstanding service. Selection criteria include respect and concern for all members of the campus community, diligence in daily work, significant contributions to the community or public service, and innovative thinking.