



Clerical-Technical Union of Michigan State University

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50 YEARS!

Dear CT,

Congratulations on our 50th Anniversary! We are so happy to share this milestone with you.

You will find a few highlights below to refresh your memory if you have been with us a while or showcase our history if you haven't been members for all 50 years!

- 1969** Michigan State University Employees Association (MSUEA) is born.
- 1974** **MSUEA is certified by MERC as official bargaining representative for CTs at MSU.**
The first contract is negotiated and ratified by the Membership.
- 1975** MSUEA elects first officers, hires staff, and rents its first office (Trowbridge Rd, East Lansing).
- 1976** MSUEA office moves to Frandor. CT classifications are established through collective bargaining.
- 1979** MSUEA recognized as largest clerical-technical bargaining unit at a public university in the U.S.
- 1981** MSU unilaterally closes for 2.5 days between Christmas and New Year's making everyone use their own time to get paid. MSUEA protests and wins backpay through the courts, the only union to do so. (In 2022, campus unions secure this as paid time, now known as "Winter Break.")
- 1982** The Membership votes to change name to Clerical-Technical Union of MSU (CTU of MSU).
- 1988** CTU goes on a two-week strike involving 2000 CTs resulting from MSU's refusal to implement the classification study. It was the first, and only, successful strike at MSU!
- 1995** CTU office moves to Brookfield Plaza, East Lansing. The new (current) logo gets adopted showcasing the inverted business pyramid with the workers on top!
- 1996** Coalition of Labor Organizations (CLO) and MSU agree to groundbreaking joint bargaining on health care which keeps a premium-free health care option available.
- 1999** CTU celebrates its 25th anniversary.
- 2000** CTU office moves to Lake Lansing/Abbott Roads, East Lansing. Major changes to the CTU constitution are approved.
- 2002** New CLO-MSU health care agreement becomes first in nation to link wage increases to savings in health care costs ensuring MSU public employees keep getting raises and a premium-free health care option.
- 2005 & 2006** The Membership approves buying a building and CTU moves into a permanent home at 2990 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing.
- 2007** Long-time legal counsel, Brad Raymond, leaves to become General Counsel for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in Washington D.C. Attorneys Nancy Harris Pearce and Mike Weissman take over as CTU's general counsel.
- 2010** CTU welcomes new members in the Detroit Medical Center, Grand Rapids and Macomb Community College. Flint members join us a few years later.
- 2012** Michigan enacts Right to Work laws. (They were repealed in 2023 but not for public employees.)

Organized and Independent since 1974
Proud Member of the Coalition of Labor Organizations at Michigan State University



- 2014** CTU is a partner in the University's celebration of the Civil Rights Act, Project 60/50.
- 2015** CTU provides many volunteers for the University's employee recognition celebration, The Big Event.
- 2017** Long-time MSU Director of Employee Relations Jim Nash retires, allowing him to work for CTU a few years later!
- 2020 & 2021** CTU survives the pandemic, furloughs, and mask mandates while mastering zoom meetings and outdoor Membership meetings in our parking lot.
- 2022** Another health care Memorandum of Understanding is ratified under the turmoil of the pandemic, a tough bargaining climate and restless unions. A fully-funded health care option is maintained.
- 2023** CTU secures paid parental leave for bargaining unit members in another successful bargain for a new (current) contract.
- 2024** **CTU Celebrates Being 50.**

Those are just some of the highlights but, as you can tell, it has been a fascinating and successful 50 years. CTU is forging ahead using our sturdy mission statement as our foundation:

"The Clerical-Technical Union of Michigan State University (CTU) is committed to the empowerment and dignity of the individual; democracy; diversity; and social justice through pursuit of fair wages, safe and humane working conditions; and the right to have a voice in decisions that affect CTs' lives.

CTU's mission is to empower its members to exert control and choice over their own lives. To do so, it develops leaders who direct CTs' collective resources and power to achieve the aims of the membership.

These aims are based on a foundation of values which include the affirmation of human dignity, respect for diversity, and promotion of social justice."

We continue to serve our members and their families, the MSU and local community, as well as the labor movement as a whole. We still believe "Unions are the vehicles by which ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things."

On behalf of the CTU Leadership Team (Executive Board, Union Representatives and Staff), thank you for your support and valuable assistance in helping us reach this milestone. Your partnership helps make CTU and our employer, MSU, great!

Cheers to the next 50 years!

In solidarity,



Debra J. Bittner, President