

The next general membership meeting will be held on
Thursday, May 14th at Noon – Memorial Union, Room 360
Sandwiches and soda will be available.

Collective Bargaining Leadership meets with the Presidential Candidates

The leadership from all URI Unions was invited to meet with and interview the final three candidates for the positions of President of the University of Rhode Island. During the month of April, Unions met with **Dr. Sona Andrews**, from Boise State University in Boise, Idaho, **Dr. Robert Newman**, from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah, and **Dr. David M. Dooley**, from Montana State University, in Bozeman, Montana.

The Unions leaders interviewed all candidates on issues of privatization, governance transparency, advancement of research, experience and involvement with Unions, dry-campus policy, and representation of URI on State and legislative level. The Board of Governors will vote on May 11th to choose our next President. There will be discussions about their findings at the May 14th, General Membership meeting.

Contributions to the PTAA Shared Sick Leave pool

Due to PTAA membership's generosity PTAA donated 57 shared sick leave days in 2009 to a member with a catastrophic illness or disease. Thank you to all who have already contributed. **Our Shared Sick Leave pool is empty** and we will not be able to donate to another member in need if the situation arises. We are 169 members strong and 57 members have already donated for 2009. We appeal to those members who have NOT already given 1 sick day to step forward and contribute 1 sick day into our Shared Sick Leave pool.

Information about our Shared Sick Leave can be found at:
The donation form is located at:

www.uri.edu/ptaa/index.php?page=sickleave.php

The form can be found there and can be submitted to PTAA@etal.uri.edu with your name typed instead of signed.



Charitable Contributions:

On March 8, Erica Vieira, a Sergeant and Canine Search Specialist in the URI Police, Department of Public Safety, received a \$50 contribution from the Union for the SORI (Special Olympic) Torch Run Plunge at Eastons Beach in Middletown. She and her search dog Maxwell participated. Karol Leuzarder, PTAA Treasurer, participated in the RBAC (Riverbend Athletic Club) Charitable Fund fundraising event on May 2. A \$50 donation was given by PTAA to benefit Bradford Johnny Cake Center, the RBAC Scholarship Fund, and a 2 year old heart transplant patient.

Donation to honor Robert L. Carothers

PTAA membership will be discussing and voting on making a contribution in honor of President Robert L. Carothers. The PTAA Executive Board has discussed several proposals. The Board was of the opinion that we would not make a contribution at all, but determined that Membership should make the final decision. Other Unions have given between \$500 and \$1000. From the proposals discussed, the best seems to be a \$250 donation to the Bill O'Malley Book Fund" at the Robert L. Carother's Library and \$250 contribution to the PTAA Teddy Zubrinski Scholarship Fund.

Please mark your calendar to attend the May 14 General Membership meeting to vote on this important issue.

Teddy Zubrinski Scholarship Fund:

Good news first! **William M Campbell**, a URI Alumni from 1967, living in East Greenwich RI made a **donation** of \$95 to the Teddy Zubrinski Scholarship Fund in December 2008. Mr. Campbell, thank you so much for your generosity.

The other news: There will be **no distribution of Teddy Zubrinski Scholarship awards** worth \$250 each this year. The Teddy Zubrinski Scholarship Fund serves dependents of PTAA members who are full-time students at a higher education institution. This is the first time in the history of the URI endowment that distributions had to be suspended. The total of the URI endowment has been hard hit by the global and national financial situation.

New Hires:

. Two Research Assistant I's, BIO/CELS, at 7.8% through pay grade 1.

. A Technical Programmer, Computer Science, at 3.5% through pay grade 12.

If you are a Technical Programmer in the College of Arts and Sciences or a Research Assistant I in the College of Environment and Life Sciences and your base salary is below the one listed above, consider filing a **Request for Salary Review according to PTAA Letter of Agreement, Re: Hiring, page 37 of the PTAA 2007-2010 contract.** For further information refer to our contract, the January 2009 newsletter, or call Hilde at 4-4478.

The newsletter will also be posted on the PTAA website at www.uri.edu/ptaa.

PTAA Officers on the Executive Board:

President: Hilde Gesch, 4-4478

Treasurer: Karol Leuzarder, 4-4965

Corresp. Sec.: Jackie Hughes, 4-5542

Vice President: Kathy Faella, 4-4469

Recording Sec.: Alfred Spederelozzi, 4-2452

Chief Steward: Tom Theisen, 4-7870

Members-at-Large:

Doug Johnson, 4-9222; Deb Bergner, 4-2027; Jane Suvajian, 4-4783

Trustees:

Mark Fester, Paulette Greene, Nam Kim-Meong