

June 28, 2011

On June 22, 2011, Evergreen and the United Faculty of Evergreen (UFE) signed a tentative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that both parties agree will advance the academic mission of the college. Evergreen and the United Faculty of Evergreen began negotiating a new collective bargaining agreement on May 18, 2011. After discussing a number of issues, including the budget cuts facing the college and its plans to address them, the parties agreed to an MOU that has two key components:


- The current collective bargaining agreement will remain in force during the remaining contract negotiations. The current collective bargaining agreement was scheduled to expire on August 31, 2011, but this MOU extends the collective bargaining agreement during the negotiations and until a new contract is negotiated and ratified. Both parties are committed to completing bargaining by the end of Fall quarter 2011.
- Both parties agreed to maintain the current faculty salary grid and benefit agreements for the next two years. This means the current faculty salary grid will stay in place for the next two years, including experience year adjustments and employer matching contribution levels to the retirement plans of current employees.

"In an extraordinarily challenging economic environment, we remain committed to attracting and retaining our fine faculty in order to meet our commitments to our students, their families and the state of Washington," said President Purce. "Thanks to careful stewardship of the college's resources, we have reached a tentative agreement that maintains salary and benefit levels for faculty."

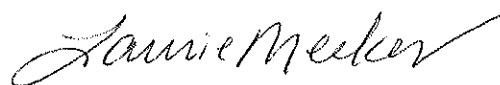
"On behalf of the United Faculty of Evergreen, I would like to thank the administration and the bargaining teams for their hard work and commitment to Evergreen's academic mission thus far during negotiations," said Rebecca Sunderman, UFE Bargaining Team Chair.

"I want to thank the UFE leadership and both bargaining teams for their hard work and willingness to come to a mutual agreement for the benefit of the college in these trying times," said President Purce.

The UFE Stewards Council voted to ratify the MOU on June 27, 2011 and Evergreen ratified the MOU earlier today. Both parties are committed to ongoing negotiations on all other provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.



Thomas L. Purce, President
The Evergreen State College



Laurie Meeker, Chair
United Faculty of Evergreen