The one-year extension of our contract was ratified by a vote of 20 to 7. Since so few of the members decided to come out and vote, we've posted the Extension Agreement, a change to Article XXVI, and a link to our complete SEIU Contract at: http://www.csuohio.edu/organizations/seiu1199/contract.html

You will notice also that the end-date of the contract is no longer June 30 but rather September 30.

I want to thank the members of the Negotiating Team for all their work. They are: Tania Anochin, Lauren Davis, Dan Ivan, Orysia Markovic, Gail Marredeth, Stephanie Triplett, and George Walker along with Lisa Hetrick, SEIU Chief Negotiator.

However, our job is not finished. We will be back at the table in less than a year to negotiate the remaining two years of a new contract.

If you value the benefits and rights afforded to our bargaining unit by the SEIU Contract, I would encourage you to become more active by participating in any number of committees: Membership, Political Action, Communication, or as a Delegate/Steward. Please contact me if you are interested in keeping this contract strong.

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SEIU HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

SEIU is trying something new, a Holiday Craft Fair (see the flyer at http://www.seiu1199.org/splash/) on Saturday, December 5, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

There will be ethnic foods, homemade candy, bakery, handmade jewelry, cards, small paintings, and books. One of our members will be giving massages and selling gift certificates for them as well. There will be travel agents, financial services, holiday crafts, a hot dog vendor, handbags and lots more.

The event will be held in Cleveland at our SEIU 1199 Union Hall at 1771 E. 30th Street. Parking is available behind the building.

If you are thinking about buying for the upcoming holiday season, then the fair is the place to start.

Help make the fair a success. Join many of our members at the 2009 SEIU 1199 Holiday Fair.
Applications are now being accepted for the 2010 Staff Career Development Program which awards grants of up to $500 to SEIU bargaining unit employees for career development opportunities.

SEIU 1199 and Cleveland State University are proud to announce the 2010 Staff Career Development Program. The purpose of this program is to provide funds to support the career development of SEIU bargaining unit employees to enhance their effectiveness, expand their contribution and commitment to their jobs, and to directly benefit the University and its mission.

Requests must be directly related to professional development. Items funded include but are not limited to: travel to attend or present at workshops or conferences; professional education; research support; in-service training.

All funds must be expended by December 31, 2010. For information on how to apply, please read the program guidelines. To apply, please submit your completed application by February 12th to Orysia Markovic, RT 1821.

SEIU 1199 at Cleveland State University are reigniting their newsletter, “Union Eyes,” after a 10 year hiatus. If there is something that you would like to read here, please send your feedback to newsletter editor, Kif Francis, at k.a.francis10@csuohio.edu. In the future, we hope to include events and to report on the happenings of SEIU 1199 at CSU as well as including frequently asked questions, and highlighting members.