

JOHN BROWN

CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

NOMINEE FOR RE-ELECTION

I have proudly served as a representative to the MSP Executive Board for the School of Education since 2017, working to defend our contract, bargaining appropriate compensation and negotiating the fair working conditions to which we as faculty are entitled. Going forward I will continue to advance and defend faculty rights, privileges and project our professional autonomy, as we grapple in new times with authoritarian powers who want to reduce our academic freedom, shared-governance and scholarly independence. As a member of five Core Bargaining Teams and more than ten other MSP Committees, I understand negotiation strategy, bargaining tactics and the art of compromise. I believe that collective bargaining is the cornerstone of faculty governance here at UML and the most important mechanism for maintaining fair compensation, sensible working conditions and for reducing workplace inequity.

I know that having a strong and sensible union prevents both acute and protracted conflicts and misunderstandings between management and faculty, and it provides each of us with a defense against abuses of power that limit our academic freedom, job security and working conditions. My belief is that a respectful and progressive dialogue among our members as well as *good faith* negotiations with management can mitigate animosity and conflict with administration, and I am committed to representing all faculty, including: tenured, tenure-track, teaching and clinical faculty.

My experience as a E-Board Member and union leader, bargaining successor agreements, impact bargaining, defending against the contract violations, filing grievances and collaborating with management to avoid grievances and arbitration extends back to my experience at the K-12 when I was chair of our negotiating team and president of the Teachers' Association. I have chaired the UML College of Education Workload Committee twice, been a delegate to the MTA convention and am one of the longest serving members of the MSP Executive Board. I have served on more than 10 MSP Committees, trained in negotiation strategy at MTA, spearheaded our first MSP newsletter and originated, developed and authored the Deans' survey.

Our union and its contract must ensure fair employment relations and needs to be the source of workplace security. I will continue to protect the rights enshrined in our contract and work to clarify, strengthen and expand faculty autonomy, benefits and compensation going forward as we work to make the University of Massachusetts Lowell a powerful force for education, leadership and the scholarly pursuit of truth well

into the future. To that end, I am running as part of the MSP Solidarity Coalition, which is a broader slate of candidates, all running for MSP board positions. For more information about myself and the other candidates on the slate, go to MSPSolidarity.org