



# Adjunct News

## February 2014

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### ***The AFA***

What is the AFA? The AFA is *your* union, protecting and fighting for the rights of all adjuncts covered under the bargaining agreement between the college and the AFA (anyone teaching at least six LHE's in any three previous terms).

### ***Deadline is Feb. 15 for Applicants for 2014-15 Affiliate Positions***

If you are interested in being an affiliate during the 2014-15 academic year, you must apply. Applications for these affiliate positions are posted on Banner. To locate the application go to the *HR, payroll and CPD* tab on banner, then to *Employment Information*, then openings for *Internal Applicants Only*. Once you are there, click on your subject area. Although the on-line job posting states that required documents are a completed faculty application, cover letter, resume or CV, official transcripts and two original signed recommendation letters or college credential file, when an adjunct faculty member already has a complete faculty employee file, no additional transcripts or letters of recommendation of credential files are needed. Only the application, cover letter, and resume are needed.

Any adjunct who has taught at least 6 semesters may apply. Existing affiliates must also

*apply. Deadline for applying is February 15.*

### ***This is the process:***

***Feb. 15*** – Applicants' files will be reviewed.

***Feb. 28 - March 15*** – Applicants will be interviewed.

***By March 22*** – Deans will forward the names of faculty selected for affiliate positions to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

***March 31*** – Commitment letters will be sent out to those chosen.

### ***Submit Adjunct Scheduling Preference Forms by Feb. 26***

According to our contract, Adjunct Scheduling Preference Forms need to be submitted one month prior to registration for the next term. This form is Attachment A of the AFA contract which

can be found on the AFA website, [afaoakton.org](http://afaoakton.org). Even if you do not intend to teach during the summer, please indicate that on the form and submit it anyway. Send it to your chair as soon as possible.

**Annual Adjunct  
Commitment Letter  
Required**

If you have taught 22 or more fall and spring semesters at Oakton, you need to submit an Adjunct Commitment Contract each year. This contract is a request to “be assigned and assured of” at least six LHE’s during fall and spring semesters and is also a commitment on the adjunct’s part to teach those courses. The contract is Attachment B of the AFA 2013-2017 contract found on the AFA website, [afaoakton.org](http://afaoakton.org).

**Spring  
Membership/Dinner  
March 30**

The Spring membership dinner meeting will be held at Fairway Banquets at 6676 Howard St. in Niles on Sunday, March 30. Dinner is free to all AFA members, and you can bring a guest for \$25. This is a great time to meet up with friends and colleagues.

**AFA Board Positions**

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions on the AFA board are elected positions according to the AFA Constitution, and are up for election next month. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please give your name to John Spaletto in Division 4 ([spaletto@oakton.edu](mailto:spaletto@oakton.edu)) by *March 15*. In the case of a contested election, voting will take place at the March 30 AFA membership meeting at Fairway Banquets.

**Join AFA and Save**

You’re right. Besides supporting the union that is responsible for your raises and the benefits that we at Oakton enjoy, there are many other everyday benefits to membership in IEA/NEA. The membership card will bring you discounts at over 100,000 locations, saving you up to 50%. Participating merchants include Target, Costco, HP, Best Buy and Fandango. There’s a 15% discount on AT&T cell phone service. There is an auto buying program and a Vehicle Protection link program. Don’t have a car yet? The major rent-a-car companies all have discounts for members. Tax season is around the corner - HR Block has

special pricing on software and on-line programs.

Applications for AFA membership are available in DP in Room 2757, or e-mail anyone on the board.

**“Adjunctivitis” in the  
News**

The House Committee on Education and the Workforce Democratic Staff has issued a 36 page staff report on “Working Conditions of Contingent Faculty in Higher Education” entitled *The Just-in-Time Professor*. Google the title for the full report. The Feb. 3 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* provides some background to the report. Also on Feb. 3, NPR broadcast a program, *Part-Time Professors Demand Higher Pay; Will Colleges Listen?*, and on Feb. 6, PBS Newshour featured *Is Academia Suffering from ‘Adjunctivitis’? Low Paid Adjunct Professors Struggle to Make Ends Meet*.