

December 2012

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### ***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 one of the three most recent semesters).

### ***The Work We Do***

The Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education reports that a community college degree often smooths the path to a B.A. We hear of worries about a low college completion rate at both 2 year and 4 year colleges, but a report from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center found that almost three-quarters of students who completed an associate degree and then transferred to a 4 year school earned a B.A. within 4 years of transferring.

The director of the Center for the Study of Community Colleges in Los Angeles stated that this clearly shows that students reach "greater baccalaureate attainment having" first earned an associate degree. It should be gratifying that our work counts.

### ***Come to a Board Meeting!***

We part-timers represent the majority of the faculty here at Oakton. Your presence at a board meeting will make the administration more aware of our presence. The next one will be on the evening of Tuesday, December 11, at 7:30 in the Board Room, Room 1506. Union president Barbara

Dayton will introduce you to the board, so check in with her when you arrive.

### ***Did you know?***

Over 20 of your adjunct colleagues already serve on college wide committees. This is a way in which we adjuncts can have a voice at the college level. Please consider lending your voice by representing AFA by serving on a committee. Let Barbara Dayton know if you are interested. She is frequently asked by the administration for suggestions.

### ***Bravo!***

The photography of Adjunct Faculty member Renee Marks has been shown at juried art shows at Northbrook Library, the Frederick Graue House in Oak Brook, and at Emily Oaks Nature Center in Skokie. Congratulations on her work and recognition!



New Year's Resolution: join your union!