



HUCTW-Harvard Negotiations Update, 10/1/2015

Dear HUCTW Member,

As described in a [recent update](#) from HUCTW and in [news accounts](#), negotiations between Union leaders and University administrators are continuing and intensifying, but have not yet resulted in a new Agreement to take effect on October 1. This message is to assure you that – although the current contract expires on September 30 – all of the programs and policies in our Agreement will remain in place. Union leaders have officially agreed with Harvard administrators that the expiring Agreement will remain “in full force and effect while the parties continue to engage in productive negotiations” toward a new contract. In other words, all of the important benefits and policies in the negotiated Agreement and Personnel Manual (health care, education benefits, paid time off, child care assistance, etc.) are still in effect indefinitely while Union and University representatives continue to negotiate.

Meanwhile, HUCTW members and leaders are beginning this week to show our collective energy and concern about the issues in negotiation with posters and buttons. We have some bold new graphics with health care related slogans (“**Together we can build a better health plan**” and “**It shouldn’t hurt to pay for health care**”) printed on flyers and available for digital distribution. As negotiations move into a more intense phase this week, we’re hoping that Union members in all sections of the University will:

- Post the new health care-themed flyers in their work areas, facing outward toward the Harvard public
- Post the flyers in common areas (break rooms, elevators, prominent bulletin boards)
- Wear HUCTW buttons every day – for example, on jackets or bags/backpacks
- Use the new health care graphics in email signatures and desktop computer wallpaper

You can find the new materials here: http://www.huctw.org/health_care.html.

If you would like to get together with co-workers and take a photo showing your support with HUCTW visibility materials, you can send it to us at the email address below and we’ll post it on the Union’s [Facebook page](#) and in our [Twitter feed](#).

If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns, please write or call us at huctw.info@huctw.org or 617-661-8289.

Thanks for your help!

HUCTW Executive Board, Negotiating Team, and Organizers