

## Oregon's American Federation of Teachers taps Rives president

David Rives, an instructor at Portland Community College and an organizer for Portland Community College Federation of Faculty and Academic Professionals Local 2277, was elected president of American Federation of Teachers (AFT)-Oregon.

AFT-Oregon is an AFL-CIO affiliate comprised of 20 locals representing more than 12,500 education and health professionals in Oregon.

Rives defeated incumbent Mark Schwebke and a third candidate, Phil Gilmore, both from Portland Community College Federation of Classified Employees Local 3922.

Because of language in AFT's constitution relating to how many members from one local can serve on the Executive Council, Schwebke's loss allowed him to run for another position, which he did.

He was nominated and elected executive vice president.

Linda Eby of PCC's Federation of Faculty and Academic Professionals Local 2277 was elected secretary;

Mark Leymon of Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation Local 3544 at the University of Oregon was elected treasurer; and Louise Currin of Portland Federation of Teachers and Classified Employees Local 111 was elected vice president political action.

Elected as vice presidents were: Angela Brandt and B.J. Walker, Coalition of Graduate Employees Local 6069 at Oregon State University; Kelly Cowan, Portland State University Faculty Association Local 3571; Rodger Gambelin, Lane Community College Employees Federation Local 2417; Deborah Hall, Portland Community College Federation of Classified Employees Local 3922; Bernadette Kapocias, Southwestern Oregon Community College Federation of Teachers Local 3190; Emily Plec, Western Oregon University Federation of Teachers Local 2278; and Belinda Reagan, Portland Federation of Teachers and Classified Employees Local 111;

The new officers were installed May 30. Terms are for two years.

## Hunt re-elected president of ATU #757

In ballots counted June 5, Jon Hunt was elected to a second three-year term as president of Portland-headquartered Amalgamated Transit Union Local 757. Challenger Bruce Hansen received 1,010 votes to Hunt's 1,260.

The 4,300-member union represents employees of TriMet, C-TRAN and other transit agencies, plus units of school bus drivers and paratransit drivers. President is the local's top elected office, and functions also as full-time business manager.

Hunt, 38, said his goals for the second term include continuing to reduce the backlog in grievances; a new mediation and arbitration process is shortening the process.

He also said he hopes to get more young members involved. Hunt said



JON HUNT

he grew up in a family where the union was important: His father, Bill, spent 23 years on the job represented by Local 757. His brother, Jeff, is on the union's Executive Board and is married to Local 757 legal assistant Catharine Alexander.

"We need to engage and educate those among us that didn't learn union values growing up or in prior work ex-

periences," Hunt told the Labor Press.

Union values like solidarity and brother- and sisterhood are more important than ever, Hunt said, as global corporations try to drive down wages, benefits and working conditions.

"We need to share [union values] with our newest members so that they can understand the sacrifices that have gone into obtaining the wages and benefits we currently enjoy, but could lose at any time."

Members returned incumbents to Local 757's two other full-time elected positions. Vice President Sam Schwarz won re-election 1,573 to 677, defeating Steve Voigt. And Financial Secretary-Treasurer/Recording Secretary Evette D. Farra ran unopposed.

Members also elected stewards, bargaining unit chairs and liaison officers, and 14 members of the union Executive Board. Elected to the Executive Board were: Roy Jennings (C-TRAN); Anna Tompte (First Student Services); Brian C. Pasquali (Lane Transit District); Terry Howard (Portland Public Schools); Ken Richins (Salem Area Mass Transit District); Chad Mather (TriMet Center Maintenance); Sandra L. Guengerich (TriMet Center Transportation); Michael T. Oliver (TriMet Light Rail Transportation); Joe E. Ruffin III (TriMet Light Rail Maintenance); Jeffrey Ackerson (TriMet Merlo Transportation); Jeff Hunt (TriMet Merlo Maintenance); Bruce Duncan (TriMet Monthly Rated Employees); Khris Alexander (TriMet Powell Transportation); David R. Kay (TriMet Powell Maintenance).

## Caster, Frew in run-off for business manager of IBEW #280 in Tangent

TANGENT — Members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 280 chose their union's leadership in mail-in ballots counted June 9. The 1,265-member local, headquartered in Tangent, Oregon just south of Albany, represents construction electricians and sound and communications technicians in a jurisdiction that extends to nine counties in the Willamette Valley and Central Oregon: Linn, Benton, Lane, Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Deschutes, Jefferson and Crook.

Incumbent Business Manager Tim Nicol lost a bid for a second term, placing third out of three candidates. A runoff will be held between Dennis Caster and Tim Frew, with ballots to be counted June 30. Caster, who was business manager the term before Nicol, was the top vote-getter, with 157 votes to Frew's 152, and Nicol's 142.

In races for other offices, Andrew Lindsey outpolled John Close to win the election for president. Mike Spade

outpolled Eric Lulay for vice president. Eric Davis won a close race with Ralph Golf for recording secretary. And Tim Miller was unopposed for treasurer.

Elected to the Executive Board were Julie Emmett, Joe Evans, and Michael Murphy, the top three vote-getters in a field of six.

For Examining Board, the body which reviews applicants for membership, Larry Fisher, Susan Garstecki, and Thomas Mann won election out of five candidates.

And Thomas Bauman, Dan Campbell, Tim Miller, Mike Spade, and Wayne Lathrop were elected delegates to the international convention.

All offices have three-year terms. Business manager is the one elected office that is also a full-time paid position.

About 140 signatory contractors employ members of Local 280, but the local has been hit hard by the downturn in construction, with many members out of work.

## ...Labor bill

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federal law because it doesn't ban the meetings, as was proposed by a similar bill the Oregon AFL-CIO fought for in the 2007 legislative session.

"It's a significant bill," said State Sen. Diane Rosenbaum, SB 519's sponsor. "It will send a message to employers that if they want to hold these meetings, they can do so, but they need to be voluntary."



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