

SEIU Local 503, OPEU District Elections

District Director and Assistant District Director Candidates

Casting your ballot in the upcoming Union election for District Directors and Assistant District Directors who serve on SEIU Local 503, OPEU's Board of Directors is one of the most important steps you can take to preserve and promote democratic trade unionism. When the rank-and-file members take the time to cast informed votes for district officers (and statewide officers and representatives for our Union's General Council, coming up this August), efforts to ensure that power within SEIU Local 503, OPEU flows from the grassroots upward remains intact.

When you receive your ballot for district officers in the mail later this month, consider the candidate statements on the following pages as your guide before completing and returning your ballot. And don't stop there. Talk to your co-workers and encourage them to take part in their Union's elections as well. Collective action, whether at the ballot box, the worksite, the bargaining table, or in the community, means greater power for working people.

Terms of office run 2 years from August 25, 2002 through General Council, 2004.

Positions to be filled in District Elections are as follows:

District 1 Director:	3 positions
District 1 Assistant Director:	3 positions
District 2 Director:	4 positions
District 2 Assistant Director:	4 positions
District 3N Director:	1 position
District 3N Assistant Director:	2 positions
District 3S Director:	2 positions
District 3S Assistant Director:	1 position
District 4 Director:	2 positions
District 4 Assistant Director:	2 positions
District 5 Director:	2 positions
District 5 Assistant Director:	2 positions
District 6 Director:	2 positions
District 6 Assistant Director:	2 positions

About the Candidate Statements in this Guide...

All photos were supplied by the candidates. The following appears on all candidate nomination forms/questionnaires for District Directors:

Answers to these questions will be printed in The Oregon Public Employee (TOPE) to assist members in making their selection. (325 words or less)

District 1 District Director



Mary L. Lang
SDSD, Local 411

WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE? Shop Steward 1995-present, have served as an assistant district director and district director and on the OPEU Board of Directors 2000-present, member organizer FEB-Aug. 2000 on the homecare campaign, currently serving on the executive Board committee

UNION EXPERIENCE NOT ITEMIZED ABOVE: Case Manager Selective Salary increase committee, petition signature gathering, phone banking, SDSD Adult Protective Services Reclass effort, Chief Steward SDA 16, DHS Stewards meetings for SDA 16, candidate forums.

WHY ARE YOU SEEKING THIS OFFICE AND WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR SEIU LOCAL 503, OPEU DURING YOUR TERM? It would be an honor to continue serving as District Director. My goals are to further negotiation of a contract for homecare workers, strengthen support for Stewards in all locals, enlist members in becoming bold activists, provide members with the staff and resources to enforce the contract(s) and win grievances, and to build the membership through external organizing.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR DISTRICT? My goals are to diversify participation at our district meetings by bringing in members from private non profits, local governments, higher ed & homecare. I want our district 1 events to become like family gatherings, welcoming everyone to participate.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE THE UNION WILL FACE DURING YOUR TERM AND HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO RESOLVE IT? One of the largest issues will be the reorganization of DHS and the merger of many sub-locals into one. We must be proactive in deciding what the best structure for the new union local will be, and we must remain unified in our goals. Layoffs will be another serious possibility. We must offer win-win solutions to avoid this happening. We must remind the state of the ballot measures we have defeated & how much money we have saved them. If it was not for our bold action the state budget crisis would be much worse than it is right now.



Curt Mader
Department of Administrative Services, Local 125

WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS OFFICE? My QUALIFICATIONS include serving as President of DAS Local 125, shop steward and President of trades council. I was trained as an economist, and worked for the Department of Economic Development for four years.

UNION EXPERIENCE NOT ITEMIZED ABOVE: My UNION EXPERIENCE includes serving as a member of the teamsters union for 10 years and member of the advisory committee to bargaining delegates and serving on the organizing committee for certification election in my previous worksite for ATU.

WHY ARE YOU SEEKING THIS OFFICE AND WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR SEIU LOCAL 503, OPEU DURING YOUR TERM? My PRINCIPLE GOALS for 503 are maintaining our current benefit structure and examining alternatives to our health insurance packages. Secondly, I believe we must resist any efforts to "privatize" our jobs and programs.

I believe my training as a professional economist, my union activist background and varied work experiences will be particularly useful in these depressed and difficult economic times.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR YOUR DISTRICT?

GOALS FOR DISTRICT ONE:

1. Increase communication with members of district locals.
2. Solicit input on strategic plans from district locals and make them responsible and accountable for constructing, approving and implementing those strategic plans.
3. Continue the education efforts and plans for increasing member's participation in leadership training classes.

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST SINGLE ISSUE THE UNION WILL FACE DURING YOUR TERM AND HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO RESOLVE IT? The BIGGEST ISSUE facing our union is health care benefits. The continuing rise of health care costs must be aggressively addressed. I believe we have a responsibility to exhaustively research any and all alternatives to stabilize and enhance member's health insurance.

If elected, I intend to be an activist director. I feel passionately about the issues facing the union and promise to clearly and forcefully present out views at all levels of the Union

I will be available every lunch hour at the Portland State Office Building (PSOB) to answer any of your questions and I plan to attend as many local meetings as possible to listen to member concerns. My home phone number is 503-284-2009 and I am available most evenings until 9:00 pm to discuss any issues affecting our union.

I would appreciate your vote.