

New Format Is in Place For SEIU Board Elections

A total of 49 candidates are running for 22 seats on the SEIU 503 Board of Directors under a new board format created by the 2006 General Council.

This Election Edition of the 503 Voice includes responses from the candidates to six questions. Nominations closed February 22, 2008 for board seats other than the statewide offices (President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director) and ballots will be mailed to members March 10. The deadline for receipt of ballots is 5 PM March 31 at Salem headquarters.

Nominations for four statewide offices—President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director—opened January 7 and will close at 5 PM August 22 at the General Council in Eugene. The election for those offices will be conducted in October.

Under the new Board structure, 12 members of the Board will be elected as Directors from geographic regions of the state and 10 additional members will be elected by employment sector. The change was made to assure diverse Board representation. Members will vote only for Directors in their region or sector.

There will be no separate election for Assistant Directors, or alternates. The next-highest vote recipient in a region or sector will be designated Assistant Director.

Nomination forms for those interested in running for Statewide office – President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Director – are available on the seiu503.org website or by calling your local field office.

Employment Sector Seat 1 (One member employed by OUS)



Star Holmberg
Springfield OR 97477

- 1 Currently a 3S District Director, past Executive Committee member, past Assistant District Director; Higher Ed Bargaining Team: UO Alternate Rep 2001, UO Rep 2003 and 2005, OUS Rep at Central Table 2005
- 2 General Council 2002, 2004, 2008; past Local 085 Secretary, Historian, Vice President, Resource Steward; LERC ULead certificate; Strategic Planning Conference 2005, 2007; Vision Committee; attended numerous committee meetings, including Finance and Member Representation; member of Communications and Restructure Committees; current member of ad hoc Committee to Recall the President of SEIU 503.
- 3 I wish to serve the membership with integrity, transparency and a commitment to fiduciary responsibility, always keeping in mind that this union's resources are owned collectively and must be protected. SEIU 503 must be internally healthy in order to maintain its position as a role model to other unions.
- 4 I seek to strengthen communication between schools in the OUS with particular emphasis on the role of

Community Action C we already have the makings of a CAC w given our established coalition with the Eugene Jolidarity Network. I would like to learn from other university leaders how they connect with their larger community around issues relevant to working families. I believe such grassroots networking will make us stronger and more respected as public employees.

- 5 In spite of the personal agenda-driven tactics of our president, SEIU 503 still thrives and strives to better the lives of all working people. However, once this president worthy of recall is no longer in power, the leadership core of our union will be in recovery and need to heal. Having lived under the cloud of this dysfunctional regime, I feel particularly qualified to help lead us back to internal health.
- 6 In 2006 I closed with my belief regarding power of the people. Now I would rephrase it: The power of one person shall not overshadow the power of the people.



Maggie Neel
Albany OR 97321

- 1 As Bargaining Table rep I've worked hard for six years to bargain strong contracts. I'm proud to have been part of winning three of our best contracts yet.

Together we weathered pay freezes, regained a retro step, secured a living wage, held the line on health care and won respectable raises. There's more to do and I'll continue to fight for dignity and respect on every campus. Together, we can win contracts that truly reward the work we do.

Feb 2008

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The 503 VOICE Election Edition

Candidates will be listed in randomized order on the ballots based on a formula developed by the Secretary of State. That order had not been determined as the 503 Voice went to press, thus they are listed here alphabetically. Answers to questions on the nomination form are printed as submitted by the candidate, with the exception of spelling corrections. Grammar and syntax are unchanged. Responses were limited to a cumulative total of 325 words. Candidates whose answers exceeded 325 words were given the chance to revise them.

All photos are supplied by the candidates. Each candidate was asked to respond to these six questions.

- 1 What are your qualifications for this office?
- 2 Union experience not itemized above.
- 3 Why are you seeking this office and what are your goals for SEIU Local 503, OPEU during your term?
- 4 What are your goals for your sector/region?
- 5 What is the biggest single issue the union will face during your term and how would you propose to resolve it?
- 6 Other information to support your candidacy.

- 2 Four years as local OSU president has shown me the trials facing our universities. I led the fight for an OSU office on campus and won. I led the higher ed office worker campaign and traveled to all seven campuses. I've been active in marches, picketing, and campus actions and serve as an elected Board of Directors member.
- 3 All university workers and our families deserve a chance for a better life. I'll work to help union membership grow and encourage members To work together as the incredible team I know we can be.
- 4 Higher Ed members must be treated fairly and win parity in our contract. I'm ready to fight for raises equal to DAS. It's time to bring every job into the 21st century. Oregon universities face the challenge of service centers and I plan to make sure that workers are trained and paid for the new skills to come instead of facing layoffs.
- 5 Health care should be a right not a privilege. University members on every campus have health care because we stood together. We must stay in this fight and hold our Legislators accountable.
- 6 We make sure every campus runs smoothly and stays safe for workers and students so Oregon can offer quality, world class education and a good future for every working family. University members deserve wage parity and respect for every worker. I've traveled the state and visited every campus. I've heard your issues. I'm working for you!