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SEIU Local 73 Bargaining Committee Reaches Tentative Agreement With UIUC

Champaign-Urbana - On Friday, August 19, the UIUC bargaining committee, which represents over 800 building service and food service workers at the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, came to a tentative agreement with management. According to members, it was their strength and willingness to take action that resulted in massive victories at the negotiations table.

The agreement must now go to membership, meaning SEIU Local 73 members at the university will vote on it throughout the week. However, the union is still delivering its 15-day notice regarding an intent to strike. If the members vote yes in a simple majority, the contract will be ratified. But if a majority is not met, the members have the ability to go on strike at some point after Monday, September 5.

"Some of the gains we see in this potential new contract are unprecedented. Wages have been the most important part of negotiations, and the bargaining committee is proud to say that across-the-board increases will be 7-8% for most workers," says Dena Gary, Union Chapter President and Food Service Worker. "Ultimately, however, it is up to our membership to ratify the contract. If they vote yes, they'll have a new contract for the next two years. If they vote against ratification, we'll be ready to hit the picket lines."

Voting on the potential contract will take place between August 24 and 29.

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SEIU Local 73 represents more than 31,000 workers, primarily in public service and publicly funded positions in school districts, municipalities, social service agencies, and many other job classifications in Illinois and Indiana.

We are dedicated to improving the lives of workers and their families.