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The Fight Against Privatization Heats Up At UIC

UIC building service workers have been fighting against privatization for months. With the approval of the Board of Trustees, UIC has been outsourcing food service and some building service positions to private companies. Budget season is upon us, meaning the Board of Trustees is discussing and voting on the U of I budget for the upcoming school year. This spurred BSWs and their coworkers to take action in defense of good union jobs and the public good as a whole.

On May 17, dozens of UIC workers and their allies rallied together against privatization across the University of Illinois system. This rally featured workers sharing their testimonies about the impact of existing privatization efforts on their workplace standards – in front of special “guests” Board of Trustees President Donald J Edwards and University President Timothy Killeen.

The following day, on May 18, Local 73 members and UIUC workers rallied before the Board of Trustees meeting sending a clear message that workers all

across the UI system were united against privatization. Members delivered letters from UIC workers against privatization and a letter signed by six elected officials urging the BoT to “protect the integrity of Illinois public jobs and public services.”

The BoT ultimately approved a business as usual budget, continuing to invest in private-public partnerships on campus. One of our core principles for bargaining is a UIC that works for the public good. That means pushing the University to prioritize the well-being of workers over the pursuit of profits. The fight against privatization will continue at the bargaining table and beyond.

[Read more about May 17 and May 18 actions.](#)

UIC Bargaining Membership Townhalls

Your union submitted our demand to bargain to the University on May 1 and we've scheduled our first bargaining session for June 13. **Do you want to learn more about what your bargaining team will be fighting for at the table?** Attend one of the four upcoming member town halls! The presentation and content in each meeting will be the same, any member is welcome to attend any of the following meetings. Each meeting will feature a panel of bargaining team members from a specific work area. We encourage you to attend the meeting with speakers from your own work area, but any member is welcome to attend any meeting.

- May 30, 6-7 PM: Chicago West Campus/College of Medicine/Rockford/Peoria
- May 31, 6-7 PM: Chicago East Campus/Law School
- June 1, 6-7 PM: UI Health/Miles Square
- June 7, 6-7 PM: Division of Specialized Care for Children

[Click here](#) to RSVP for a Townhall.

Did you know?



Did you know that being an SEIU member gives you access to discounts and other deals?

SEIU Member Benefits connects members to discounted travel, tickets, home and auto insurance, and more. Members also gain access to home, personal, and student loans. As union members, we work hard every day to service the UIC campus community. We should have something special for us, too!

If you're planning a summer getaway, or looking for fun activities to do with your friends and family, be sure to check out [SEIU Member Benefits](#).



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