

## News Release

# UMC Faculty Vote for Union Representation

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Friday, February 11, 2005

Faculty members at the University of Minnesota, Crookston opted for union representation as a result of a vote tabulated on February 1. The vote in favor of unionization was 24-22, with three abstentions, according to Education Minnesota, the statewide educators' union that includes the University Education Association (UEA). With this decision, UMC faculty members join UEA, which also represents faculty members at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. UEA and the University are currently working to determine the process for negotiating terms and conditions of employment.

In a February 1 letter to Crookston faculty, UMC interim CEO Joe Massey wrote, "With this decision comes many questions about how we move forward, and we will be working together with UEA to answer those questions in the coming weeks. We will continue to make every effort to communicate information to you as decisions are made.

On a personal note, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for your participation in this vote. This process can be polarizing, and your fairness and professionalism, especially on a campus that has endured so much transition, has been appreciated. Now that the vote is over, I ask you to join me in putting this process behind us and working together to move our campus forward in a positive direction."

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