**United Campus Workers of Wisconsin (UCW-WI)**

<https://ucwwisconsin.org/>

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**NTT FACULTY UNION ORGANIZES SLOWDOWN AT MARQUETTE U**

Milwaukee, WI - At 12 noon Tuesday, March 11, full-time, non-tenure-track (NTT) faculty together with tenure-track faculty colleagues in the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences at Marquette University will slowdown submitting midterm grades to protest university leadership’s decision to not recognize the [local campus union UCW-WI](https://ucwwisconsin.org/) to collectively bargain for full-time NTT faculty in the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences.

Last fall, [more than 65 percent of full-time, non-tenure track faculty](https://www.wpr.org/news/marquette-non-tenure-track-faculty-union-bargaining-rights) in the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences signed union authorization cards expressing their desire to collectively bargain their contracts with the university. Union card signers identify unfair wages, short-term contracts, and increasing workloads as the primary concerns that motivated them to unionize.

University leadership chose to not accept an invitation from the local campus union UCW-WI to negotiate together to publicly announce a process to recognize the union. Instead, university leadership [chose to invoke the university’s legal right](https://today.marquette.edu/2024/10/a-message-about-collaborating-with-our-participating-faculty/) for a [religious exemption from an NLRB election to recognize the union](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2024/11/26/marquette-university-claims-religious-exemption-to-unionization-effort/75892731007/). Meanwhile, more than 800 students signed an online petition supporting the local campus union’s right to collectively bargain.

Other Catholic, Jesuit universities have made the alternative choice to negotiate with unions and stipulate to NLRB elections to recognize unions. Last fall, Saint Louis University [stipulated to an NLRB election](https://www.nlrb.gov/case/14-RC-353007) to recognize a union of graduate student workers. Saint Louis University, Fordham University, Loyola University Chicago, Georgetown University, and Santa Clara University all collectively bargain with faculty unions.

Students, faculty, and staff are [asking university leadership](https://www.ncronline.org/news/marquette-university-uses-religious-exemption-squash-unionizing-efforts) to follow the examples of these other Catholic, Jesuit universities and stipulate to a free and fair election administered by the NLRB or another third party. Both Pope Francis and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have made clear that Catholic social teaching [strongly supports the right of workers](https://religionnews.com/2025/02/11/catholics-argue-university-anti-union-efforts-go-against-religious-teachings/) to unionize. The local campus union UCW-WI is [calling on university leadership](https://marquettewire.org/4126758/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-union-asks-mu-to-live-our-shared-values/) to live the university’s shared values.

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