

Signing a **MISSION STATEMENT** versus signing a **UNION CARD**



The Campus Faculty Association Organizing Committee has been talking with its colleagues about campus issues and collective bargaining. We'd like to address some questions you might have regarding what your signature on our Mission Statement means, and what it does not mean.

1. Is the mission statement the same as a union authorization card?

NO. A union card is unmistakable - when you see one, you'll know it! The Mission Statement is quite different - it is a non-binding show of support for the principles in the document, including collective bargaining for faculty at UIUC. Signing your name to the Mission Statement indicates a likelihood of supporting a union if an election is held later, but it does not mean you have voted in a card check election now.

A union card, to be valid under Illinois law, needs to have certain legal requirements. This includes a statement that this is, "authorization to be the exclusive bargaining representative," by the named organization. This language is not on the CFA Mission Statement but is present when there is a union card check election underway. The cards are then filed with the Illinois Education Labor Relations Board to be validated and counted in an election, while the Mission Statement is a sign of support for the CFA's principles and for collective bargaining.

2. Is there a union card drive on campus right now?

NO. There is no card drive election going on. We are talking with colleagues like you all across the university about campus issues and collective bargaining, but this is not the same as a card drive election.

3. How did faculty at UIC vote for the union?

Faculty who were visiting with their colleagues led the campaign at UIC. The card check election at UIC was an open, democratic process – faculty organizers, assisted by staff, collected cards authorizing UIC United Faculty/AFT/IFT/AAUP as the certified bargaining agents for the faculty as whole. Union cards, to be valid, must meet strict legal requirements. There were some faculty who opposed forming a faculty union but an absolute majority of all faculty eligible for membership in the collective bargaining unit signed the cards.

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