



THE HARPER ADJUNCT ADVOCATE

HARPER COLLEGE ADJUNCT FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Harper adjuncts,

At this time of this newsletter, we are entering the midterm for the fall semester. Time has flown by but no doubt, all of us have been grinding away.

In the past six weeks, HCAFA has been monitoring the comings and goings at the college. In this edition, we wish to make you aware of larger projects at Harper while keeping adjuncts aware of the issues that affect them. Please reach out to HCAFA leadership if you have any questions or concerns.

Steven Titus
HCAFA President
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Online training through Vector Solutions

The college and the State Board of Education have required adjuncts and full-timers to complete multiple online training courses. If you have not taken these courses or have only partially completed them, they must be completed this fall. The annual DEI training is still being crafted by the college. HCAFA will inquire with the college about making the DEI training available sooner rather than later.

#1) -2024 Cybersecurity training: Please be sure to complete the Annual Security Awareness Training Session that was emailed to all employees on October 2. This year, we will continue our focus on social engineering. By understanding and safeguarding against social engineering tactics, we can collectively enhance our organization's overall cybersecurity readiness. This training is due by December 2, 2024.

#2) -Preventing Harassment & Discrimination & #3) -Child Abuse – Mandatory reporting: Please note these online training classes are due to be completed by October 31st.

Celebrating the 2024 Level II cohort

Let us give a round of applause for our newest 2024 Level II Adjunct Faculty!! All these participants completed the Level II program over summer, and each will be honored at the next Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday October 16th in the Wojcik Center.

CONGRADULATIONS to: Sara Jamal, Ribhi Salhi, Debbra Boness, Simona Bonica, Jenna Lindholm, Anastasia Sitnikova, Jamie Leinss-Doyle, and Anne Peterson.

Construction across campus

Much of Harper College is getting a makeover!

Primary goal: “The new facility shall provide an atmosphere to support and encourage collaboration with local businesses.” The project will be focused on sustainability and LEED certification with: Site development, optimized energy use, indoor environmental quality, and durable materials and resources.

A wide range of programs and departments will go into this building, along with a complete rebuild and redesign of the J theater. Tripling the green space that already exists between I and J. The new classrooms will now face the open courtyard. These redesigns are currently best reflective of current classrooms in the D-wing.

-Canning Center Construction: Connecting power and preparing the site has already begun this fall between the M and A buildings. The I building construction cannot start until the new Canning Center (build onto Building A) is completed. The Canning Center should be completed in fall of 2027, though with that being a capital project, it might take longer.

-Construction of new J building: Demolition of the older J building. Mixed use of I building.

For a clearer understanding, here is a timeline breakdown:

- Construction bids due (spring 2025)
- Board approval (May 2025)
- Move-out building J and theater (June 2025). Construction starts in July 2025.
- Completion, restoration, and installations (Feb 2027 to November 2027)
- Building opens (Jan 2028)

* Additional note: The I building construction cannot start until the new Canning Center (build onto Building A) is completed. The Canning Center should be completed in fall of 2027, though with that being a capital project, it might take longer.

- Any class that runs in the summer of 2025 will be operating fully online. The BUS/SS division office and staff will also be online. Career and Technical programs will also be affected in some small ways by what is in J, such as studio B.

- TBD for office space, storage, and classrooms for the fall of 2025. Dean Barnes is working with the college leadership this fall to find a future solution.

* Course scheduling: Other academic divisions across the college will have to share their rooms starting in fall of 2025. 17 rooms (roughly 119 seats) in J and the mega-lab in I building will have to find space across the college for the next two to three years.

Additional information

Updates from the Academy for Teaching Excellence

Blackboard Ultra Training

Please take advantage of the training sessions offered to aid in making the transition to Blackboard Ultra as easy as possible for every faculty member. An invitation to sign up for the training session was sent out via email, and registration for the training classes opened as of October 14th. Classes will fill up quickly!

You can find, and list, a few of the details from the Academy’s Blackboard Ultra signup page.

<https://www.harper-academy.net/blackboard-ultra-training/>

Problem? HCAFA is here to help!

WHAT ARE MY WEINGARTEN RIGHTS?

If you are ever in a situation that you believe could lead to any kind of disciplinary action, you have the right to have a union representative with you.

In a situation like that, to protect yourself, say, “If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my union representative be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions.” Under no circumstances should you lose your cool or walk out of the meeting.

www.harperadjuncts.org, the HCAFA website, has an in-depth explanation of these very important rights. Go to our site and click on “union representation” under the “documents” tab.

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Student Engagement

-VACANT