

UNITED FACULTY

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United Faculty Wins Recertification by Huge Margin

More than 98% of voting faculty vote “yes” for UNI faculty union recertification

(CEDAR FALLS, Iowa) [The votes are in](#), and UNI faculty members again overwhelmingly supported United Faculty’s recertification: 98.3% of faculty votes supported United Faculty.

This year continues the extraordinarily high levels of support United Faculty has received from UNI faculty. In 2018, 97% of voting faculty supported UF with “yes” votes. In [2020](#), 97.5% of those voting again supported UF. Again in 2022, 97% of voting faculty supported United Faculty.

“The faculty at UNI clearly see the value of having a union and bargaining agent,” Christopher Martin, United Faculty president, said. “At a time when [campus climate surveys](#) indicate growing dissatisfaction with increasing workloads and insufficient institutional resources, and when our own research reveals [salaries significantly lagging](#) behind peer institutions, a union with such strong faculty support gives faculty a much larger voice at the table.”

In 2017, the legislature and governor pushed through a bill that eviscerated Chapter 20, the state code which sets the rules for public employee unions. The 2017 actions included adding the unnecessary red tape of requiring union recertification elections every two years.

“Our nearly unanimous support over four biennial votes since 2018 demonstrates the unneeded and punitive nature of the State of Iowa requiring public employee unions to conduct recertification elections every two years,” Martin said. “For people interested in getting rid of absurd and costly state regulations, rescinding these frequent recertifications elections should be at the top the list. They are a complete waste of taxpayer money.”

Chapter 20 was enacted in 1974 with bipartisan support, and signed by Republican Gov. Robert Ray. The law led to collaborative contracts and labor peace at Iowa’s schools, universities, and other public workplaces for more than 40 years. That fair and effective treatment of Iowa public employee unions was undermined in 2017.

United Faculty, established in 1976, is the chief negotiating agent for the University of Northern Iowa’s faculty, and is affiliated with the American Association of University Professors/American Federation of Teachers (AAUP/AFT).

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