

UNIVERSITY UNIONS UNITED

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University Unions Hold Public Forum on Budget After Regents Cancel Public Testimony

Thursday, June 8, 10:00 a.m. McNamara Plaza (near pool)

Each June, the University of Minnesota budget proposal is presented to the Board of Regents at a public hearing. It is the one time each year when faculty, staff, and students testify to advocate for their needs and the importance of investing a portion of the budget to benefit their campus community.

Cherrene Horazuk of AFSCME Local 3800 said, “This year, the one opportunity for University stakeholders to testify and speak directly to the Regents was eliminated. The current administration has been embroiled in scandal after scandal, spending University resources to clean up their mess. Now they’re shutting down an opportunity to hold them accountable.”

Horazuk continued, “Union workers at the U are currently in contract negotiations. We expect the administration to present the Regents a budget that does not include adequate cost of living increases for our members, at the same time they raise student tuition and increase debt to astronomical levels. We are not interested in the tired story that there is no money for the core institution while they find cash to pay high administrator salaries, lawsuit settlements and legal fees.”

U of M AFSCME, Teamsters Local 320, students, faculty, and other employee groups will pack the Regents meeting to hear the budget presentation from 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and follow it up with our own public hearing on McNamara Plaza.

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