

Charles Cunningham, Professor, English

I am running at-large as a member of the democratic slate with Judy, Ken, Mahmud, and Tricia. We stand for a democratic union, the expanding and deepening of shared governance, and the return to “local control,” meaning department/school control of curricula and workloads. I have been a staunch union member throughout my career at Eastern, having served as department steward every year but one since 2006. I have also served on every Bargaining Council in that period, including as a member of the Compensation, Benefits, and Right-to-Work committees. I co-chaired the Input committee in 2010, the same year I was on the contract Negotiating Team. My department colleagues have since entrusted me with chairing both a major DID revision and our PFC. Thus, I have extensive experience working with the contract and its unique language, but also in cooperating with others.

It is precisely these cooperative endeavors that have been most fulfilling for me, the power of many minds working collectively, transcending the limits of any one person. Yet, when power concentrates in the hands of a few, as it has in our union, everyone is disempowered. Worse, it stifles the flow of knowledge that comes from faculty thinking and working together. In a climate of top-down corporatization and with the “right-to-work” attack, we need democracy more than ever, beginning with our union. EMU can be so much more than it is now, and I want to be a part of the reform process.

Relevant Service (Selected)

EMU-AAUP

2016 Chair, Faculty Senate Presidential Election Committee
2014 Bargaining Council (“Right-to-Work” Committee)
2014 EMU-AAUP Elections Committee
2010, 2013 Level Three Grievance Boards
2012 EMU-AAUP Elections Committee
2012 Bargaining Council (Benefits Committee)
2010 Contract Negotiating Team
2010 Bargaining Council (Co-Chair, Input Committee)
2009-10 Security Advisory Committee, AAUP representative
2009 Participant, AAUP Summer Institute, Contract Negotiations Seminar
2008 EMU-AAUP Elections Committee
2006-7 AAUP Outreach Committee
2006 Bargaining Council (Compensation Committee)
2006 EMU-AAUP Elections Committee

Department

Chair, Personnel and Finance Committee, 2013-14, 2014-15
Member, Personnel and Finance Committee, 2012-13
AAUP Steward, Dept. of English, 2006 to 2014-15; 2016-17
AAUP Steward Alternate, 2015-16
Chair, 2010-11 DID Revision Committee
Member 2007-8 DID Revision Committee
2005-8, 2010-17 Literature Committee
2016- Curriculum Committee
2008-11 Graduate Committee