

July/August APA Newsletter sent August 3, 2018

The screenshot shows an Outlook window with the following details:

- Subject:** APA July/August 2018 Newsletter
- From:** Koffman, Maurice <koffman@msu.edu>
- Date:** Fri 8/3/2018 1:27 PM
- To:** (Empty)

The main body of the email contains several sections:

- Calendar:**
 - APA Executive Board**
August 14 | 2:00 pm
MEA Headquarters
 - APA Executive Board**
September 11 | 2:00 pm
MEA Headquarters
- APA Legislative Committee Update**
The Legislative Committee serves as a liaison between the APA Executive Board and the Michigan Education Association-Political Action Committee (MEA-PAC). Find out about past and upcoming events!
- The Second Time Around**
City of East Lansing again proposes an income tax for residents and non-residents. Vote August 7th!
- Meet a Fellow APA Member**
Meet Bob Hoffman, Public Relations Manager at the Wharton Center.
- MSU Trivia - with Prizes!**
This month's question is about residence halls. Find out who won last time!
- Area Representative (AR) Spotlight**
Meet Tonya Jamison, Institutional Review Board (IRB) Administrator III at the Office of Regulatory Affairs/Collins Road Complex and Research Services Administrator at MSU Extension.
- Community Based Events**
Did you enjoy the Homecoming Parade? Excited about the Winter Coat Drive? Come and get involved with the APA's CBE Committee!

APA Legislative Committee Update

The purpose of the Legislative Committee is to serve as a liaison between the APA Executive Board and the Michigan Education Association-Political Action Committee (MEA-PAC). Additionally, the Legislative Committee aims to connect our APA Members with the federal, state and local issues that may affect them and their employment at MSU.

July 24th was APA's Meet the Candidates Event. Thank you to all of the members who came for this event! In total, we had 12 Board of Trustees Candidates come to discuss the future of MSU. We want to thank all of the members and candidates who attended this event.



August 7th is primary day in the State of Michigan! For a complete list of candidates in the 2018 Primary, please visit the Secretary of State Website or this [link](#). In East Lansing, voters will decide on an Income Tax Proposal. This proposal will impact our membership by imposing a 1% income tax on residents and 0.5% income tax on non-residents. For more information on this proposal, visit this [Link](#). Get out and vote!

Did you know that your dues dollars cannot be contributed to political candidates? APA members wishing to support can do so through a voluntary contribution to the [MEA Political Action Committee \(MEA-PAC\)](#).

Interested in getting involved with the APA Legislative Committee? Please contact Erik Maillard (maillar2@msu.edu) for more information.

The Second Time Around: City of East Lansing Again Proposes an Income Tax for Residents and Non-Residents

East Lansing voters will again vote whether to implement a city income tax on the August 7, 2018, primary ballot.

Back in June 2017, the East Lansing City Council voted to put a measure on the November 2017 ballot that would tax city residents 1% of their income and non-residents who work in the city 0.5%. The proposal was voted on by East Lansing residents in November 2017 and was defeated.

On the same November 2017 ballot was a second proposal to lower East Lansing property taxes from roughly 17.5 mills to a new maximum of 13 mills. That measure prevailed in November 2017 but was never enacted because the income tax proposal failed. If the August 2018 income tax proposal is adopted, it will trigger implementation of the previously adopted property tax reduction.

After much deliberation and community input, the 1% and 0.5% income tax proposal is once again being put to the voters on August 7, 2018, but this time with some slight modifications:

1. The current proposal is a City Charter amendment meaning it cannot be changed without another vote of the people.
2. The tax would be time-limited to 12 years.
3. Funding generated by the income tax would be dedicated for specific purposes: 20% to police and fire protection, 20% to infrastructure, and 60% to supplemental payments for unfunded pension liabilities for retired City employees.

If adopted by the voters, the city income tax would generate \$10 million in revenue. The city would then rebate roughly \$5 million in property taxes, leaving a net revenue of \$5 million for the city.

While there was much negotiation between MSU and the City of East Lansing regarding the November 2017 proposed city income tax, it is clear that MSU is not interested in similar talks regarding the August 7, 2018, ballot proposal.

The same arguments put forward by some in opposition of the previously proposed income tax remain relevant for this August 2018 iteration: some assert this is a result of city mismanagement and others are concerned that enactment of the November 2017 property tax rebate proposal is a functional give back to the wealthiest and largest property owners within the city limits.

While the proposed city income tax would impact anyone living and/or working in East Lansing, the income tax proposal will be decided only by registered East Lansing voters on August 7, 2018. As always, we encourage every member to make their voice heard at the voting booth.

Meet a Fellow APA: Bob Hoffman

What is your job title?

Public relations manager

How long have you been at MSU?

Eighteen years

Have you been a member of the APA the whole time?

Yes

What department do you work in, and can you tell me a little bit about what you do?

I work in the public relations department of Wharton Center. My job is to make sure local, state, and national media know all about the amazing events we have at Wharton. I also coordinate many of Wharton's marketing and promotional events. I am the face and voice of Wharton. That description makes it sound easy, but there are so many events taking place every week. At times I am balancing six to seven shows at once.

What brought you to your job at MSU?

I was recruited by the former executive director of Wharton Center, Bill Wright. After completing my undergraduate degree at MSU, I was working full time at local CBS television station WLNS-TV 6. I had filed several entertainment reports on acts coming to Wharton and I had developed a relationship with Bill. Wharton's PR person was leaving, and Bill asked to meet with me. He told me all about the position and described the person that he wanted to hire. I realized he was talking about me. Before that, I did not really think I wanted to do anything other than be a reporter/anchor.

I have been here for almost 19 years, and I love it. It is a fabulous and exciting job. I get to work on so many shows that come through Wharton Center and meet amazing people. Disney's The Lion King opens this week, so I am working on that, but I am also working on shows taking place next season. It is tricky, but fun.

What do you love about working at MSU?

MSU has been such a big part of my life. I am a Spartan through and through. Wherever you go in the world there is an MSU connection. You can walk through the airport in London and see someone wearing an MSU shirt. And if you say, "Go green," they will say, "Go white." It is like having a family connection wherever you go. It provides a feeling of safety in a sense. There is an incredible sense of pride as a Spartan too. MSU is one of the top universities in the world. To know that I work in the middle of all of that is really exciting.

What do you like to do when you are not at work?

I am a water baby. I love to be on a boat and enjoy swimming too. Michigan summers are the best; I enjoy just being outside - even if it is on my patio at home, relaxing and reading. Reading is another

passion of mine and so is traveling. When I was younger I loved to travel to Europe and other far-away places, but now I realize all the amazing things this country has to offer. I love to travel out West, down South, and around Michigan. We have so many great places to visit right here. In the summer I try to stay around Michigan and go to Traverse City, Saugatuck, Grand Rapids, Detroit ... I just had the week off work, and I was in all those places.

In 2009 I founded the non-profit ePIFanyNow pass-it-forward with a mission to create a revolution of positive, transformational experiences. We have had over 5,000 people attend our yearly events which gather people together to share their pass-it-forward stories. Five years ago we started the Y-PIF (youth passing it forward) Award which honors youth who are making a difference in their community.



Trivia

This month's question: **Name a residence hall at MSU.**

Email your answer to Sue Brandt at brandts@msu.edu by August 15, 2018. Limit of one guess per person. Two members* who correctly answer the trivia question will be randomly drawn to win various prizes. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Congratulations to the last newsletter winners randomly drawn from those who answered correctly that you can buy a 4-pack of AA batteries for personal use at a cost of 94¢ plus tax from University Stores located on Service Road:

Mary Kimball, APA Cookies from MSU Bakers, \$10 Meijer gift card, APA Bag

Brian Hoort – APA Cookies from MSU Bakers, \$10 Meijer gift card

* Must be an APA member in good standing to win. *Board Members, APA Area Representatives and Communications Committee Members are not eligible to win.*

Area Representative (AR) Spotlight

Tonya Jamison

What is your job title?

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Administrator III

What area of campus, building and department do you work in?

Office of Regulatory Affairs/Collins Road Complex

How long have you been at MSU?

Nine Years

How long have you been an Area Representative?

Since September 2015

Why is being a member of the Union important to you and what value does it bring?

I am union member because it is important to have a work advocate that can provide me with accurate information regarding my responsibilities, rights and ways to positively and effectively collaborate with others to make MSU an outstanding place to work! I value the union because it provides me with knowledge and a fair working wage.

What words of advice do you have for the new hires at MSU? My advice to new hires is to keep a positive attitude (my motto "attitude determines your altitude"), enroll in professional development courses to improve your skill set/knowledge, find a mentor to help you professionally navigate and everyday try to learn something new either about your position, department or MSU.

What do you love about working at MSU? I love the campus atmosphere and the institution of higher learning.

What do you like to do when you are not at work? *I enjoy working out, reading and traveling.*

What Is an AR and How Can a Member Find One? The AR's are appointed by the Executive Board and their role is to assist with distributing APA materials and information and to serve as a resource for members. AR's are assigned to a geographic area of campus, so if there is not an AR in your immediate building, you can find one nearby. For a list of AR's go to <http://www.msuapa.org/about/area-representatives-2/>

Community Based Events

APA has a long-standing tradition of being involved in community based events and 2018-19 planning for events is in the early stages. At this point, we anticipate holding the winter coat drive again this year and will let you know the dates once those are determined. Also, save the date of October, 5th as we hope to have an APA entry in the MSU Homecoming Parade again this year and invite APA members and their families to join us. More details will follow. In the meantime, if you are interested in helping with either of these events or planning of other events for the year, please email Sue Brandt, brandts@msu.edu.