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A Provost's View

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A Provost's View

Margaret E. Winters

Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs

Wayne State University

April 7, 2014



Interaction of Provost & Labor Relations

- The Provost is Chief Academic Officer
- Interaction with faculty unions
 - Hiring
 - P&T
 - (Non-) retention of faculty & staff
 - Assorted personnel issues
- Approval for personnel actions



Issues in Michigan

- Right to work and contract length
 - Legislation passed on December 12 and became law 90 days later
 - Contracts to comply when reopened
 - Results at Wayne State
 - 8-year contract
 - Performance review (NOT post-tenure review)
 - 50% a-t-b and 50% merit in raises



- On-line instruction
 - How different is it from classroom teaching?
 - Should it be compensated differently
 - Who should decide?



Issues in Michigan

- Graduate research assistants and unionization
 - Differentiation between teaching and research assistants
 - University of Michigan challenge and Republican legislation
 - Appeal in progress



Issues in Michigan

- Status of part-time faculty
 - A growing concern nationally and in Michigan: note the bitterness in commentary
 - WSU part-timers already unionized
 - Limited seniority rights
 - No benefits
 - Better salary than before
 - Better participation in home unit than before
 - Elsewhere still being resolved



Questions?

