

Hello,

Welcome to Southern Oregon University and to our Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 503, Sublocal 084 union. My name is David Raco. I am our local union chapter President, and I speak for our entire local union leadership team when I say that we are excited to meet you and share with you what we do for our members with SEIU 503's help.

SEIU 503 represents more than 72,000 workers across 500 different jobs in 85 state, local government, and non-profit agencies and care facilities throughout Oregon. SEIU 503 is a member-run union, meaning that our members elect representatives who direct the activities of the union at a statewide level and who serve their colleagues at the worksite level as local leaders, as stewards, and as contract negotiators. The statewide union provides us with the support we need to be successful in the form of organizers, the Member Resource Center, legal counsel, and political activists. Without that support, it would be prohibitively difficult, if not impossible, for us to continue to negotiate the quality contracts, wages, and benefits that we currently enjoy.

Additionally, all SEIU 503 members have access to special discounts on a variety of outside services: AT&T plans, legal counsel, dental services, life insurance, Aflac, legal insurance, scholarships, and more. You can learn more about these deals at <http://seiu503.org/members/member-rewards>.

At the end of your trial period, which lasts for six months, you will become fully covered by our collective bargaining agreement and the protections therein. That means that you can and should exercise your Weingarten rights (<http://seiu503.org/members/my-rights-at-work/weingarten-rights>) by involving a union steward whenever you are the subject of an investigation or discipline. Your union stewards are there for you to ensure that management treats you fairly in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement (available online at <http://seiu503.org/member/higher-ed/contract>), the principles of just cause, and the law. They are also your best resource for any questions you may have about your rights and benefits under the collective bargaining agreement. You can reach your Chief Steward at soulocal84stewards@seiu503.org, and you will always find an up-to-date list of contact information for your local leadership team and stewards at <https://inside.sou.edu/hrs/policies-and-procedures.html>.

Currently we hold general membership meetings on the first Wednesday of every month during the noon lunch hour. We typically provide food, so come hungry! You do not have to be a registered member to attend the meetings, and you certainly do not have to wait for the end of your trial period. We hope that you will attend the next general membership meeting because the meetings are a great way to meet people and to stay apprised of what is happening on campus and in the union. Consider yourself cordially invited.

Thank you for this bit of your time. We look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Your Local Union Leadership Team

David Raco
President

Bob Sexton
Interim Vice President
and Alternate
Bargaining Delegate

Kay Swader
Treasurer

Sophie Beck
Secretary

**Colleen Martin-
Low**
Bargaining
Delegate

Stephen Lanning
Chief Steward /
General Council
Delegate