PROPOSAL: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Labor Agreement

Background

In August 2021, Western Michigan University and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) reached a tentative agreement on a two-year contract. IATSE represents independent stage workers for major theatre productions. At Western Michigan University, the venue is Miller Auditorium. IATSE members fill the bulk of the need for part-time professional stage help beyond that provided by the University’s permanent staff.

The IATSE membership, consisting of approximately 200 stage workers, ratified the agreement on September 1, 2021. The agreement would be effective from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

IATSE members receive compensation from the University only when they perform services at University venues. The agreement provides for a 1% increase to compensation each year of the agreement. Given the part-time nature of the employment arrangement, IATSE members are not on the University’s health or retirement plan. Instead, the University contributes benefit payments directly to IATSE. There is a 0.21% increase to the benefit contributions in year one and a 0.25% increase in year two of the agreement.

Recommended Action

It is recommended the Board of Trustees approve the 2021-2023 agreement between Western Michigan University and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE).