

1). In the past five years have you had to work a second job while working at the University? If yes, why?

*yes, because as a single mother, with ever increasing medical co-pays and premiums, and a son attending a U of MN institution with many tuition increases, I need a second income to meet my financial obligations.*

2). While working here have you needed to borrow money or use a credit card to make ends meet?

*I've had to use credit cards to cover normal expenses, or drug co-pays, and then try to catch up with tax refunds, and those two months each year when we get three checks instead of two.*

3). If you made a livable wage, what would you be able to do that you can't do now? (In 2003 the Jobs Now Coalition estimated that the hourly wage needed to meet monthly basic needs for a family consisting of one adult with 2 children was \$19.46)

*Pay off credit cards, and resume work on my masters. I have put that off, as I cannot afford the books, additional fees now charged that are not covered by the Regents Scholarship, and still help my son get his bachelors.*

4). At your present salary, what do you go without?

*Luckily I'm from the generation that learned to sew. I patch, mend and alter my clothes until they are no longer serviceable for work. I've only replaced clothing when it is no longer repairable.*

*I could no longer afford the medication that my golden retriever needed, and had her put down.*

*I only use the minimum maintenance medications for asthma and allergies because the copays were hard last year – they're 50% higher this year. This has meant that I've had more infections. Also, because of the change in medications, I've had to alter my lifestyle during summer months to avoid stressing my system. I cannot afford private gym fees, and do not live in a metro area where I could possibly use the U facilities or mersc discounts for private gyms. My weight is up as a result.*