

we
are the reason you fly

19 March 2013
www.qld.asu.net.au

What is a Bargaining Agent?

A bargaining agent is someone who has been appointed to exclusively represent someone in the course of bargaining with their employer.

All ASU members are automatically represented at the negotiating table by your Union and your colleagues who are a part of the ASU National Negotiating Team (NNT).

Together this team represent ASU members who join as a collective strength to reach a common goal to retain existing or improve working conditions and in this EBA more than ever **JOB SECURITY!**

You do not need to do anything to confirm that the ASU and your Delegates will be representing you during these negotiations.

However, if you sign a bargaining representative form for an individual to represent you, this will exclude the ASU from representing you during these negotiations. You will not be entitled to be briefed, or have your feedback taken into account by the union, nor included in any ballots or polls instructing the union how to proceed. It will also mean that you cannot undertake protected industrial action should members authorise this.

Please also note that signing up to an individual bargaining agent means this form has to be provided to Qantas management. If you subsequently wish to withdraw the bargaining nomination you made to an individual you will also have to put that in writing to management.

Warning:

Be aware, that ASU members have advised us that a small interest group has emerged at Brisbane airport who say they represent the majority of Part time staff and are asking for staff to sign a sheet of paper to nominate them as bargaining agents. It has become apparent at our recent meetings that some staff had signed this sheet of paper with no real

understanding of what they were signing up for and/or what it really means for them.

ASU members at recent EBA 10 reportback meetings expressed their concern to the ASU that they were unaware or did not understand EBA processes and the Fair Work Act and did not understand the effects of what they signed. They also felt that the act of dividing staff, at a time that job security was most important, was a concern to them, particularly given they could not participate in union industrial action if it became necessary.

Where to from here:

ASU members receive up to date information on the negotiations as they progress, have a direct and expert negotiating team to feed back to throughout the negotiations, information provision under the Fair Work Act and the EBA processes.

If you have recently authorised someone else to bargain on your behalf but have now changed your mind, you will need to withdraw that authorisation in writing.

Remember, only ASU members represented by the union can vote in industrial action ballots.

If members are still unsure of any of the details of the EBA processes please do not hesitate to call Jenny Sleba at the ASU Office on 1800 177 244.

Be Part of the Solution:

If you are not a Union member then phone 1800 177 244 or go online at: www.together.org.au/join/ to join and stand together to fight for your working conditions and job security.

**Remember united we stand –
divided we beg!**



YOUR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT – YOUR SAY