

TU Bargaining Unit Weighed

Faculty Members, Unions To Meet

A move to organize University of Toledo faculty members for bargaining purposes will be discussed at a meeting Tuesday.

Representatives of the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association, the American Association of University Professors, and the Teamsters union will meet with the faculty Tuesday to discuss procedures for representation and collective bargaining.

Dr. Norman Blume, professor of political science, said Thursday that there is "great sentiment" for organizing a bargaining unit on the TU campus.

"The legislature is talking about taking away our fringe benefits — like sabbaticals and family fee waivers. They're challenging tenure and salaries," Dr. Blume said.

He asserted that an organization is needed to represent the faculty both at the state level and within the university.

"We have absolutely no power bargaining as individuals," he said. "We have to go to a new structure."

There was a unit of the AFT at the university in the mid-1940s, and again briefly in the mid-60s.

"But the circumstances weren't right then. It wasn't needed," Dr. Blume said.