

4C's Part-Timers Committee

Meeting of August 19, 2011

Attendance: Robyn Brooks, Tom Failla, Lorraine Li, Greg Hager, Chris Lepi, John Allen, Bill Searle (chair)

The chair called the meeting to order at 12:30.

The committee welcomed Robyn in her new role as VP for Part-Timers! We then discussed possible areas to concentrate on for this coming year, given the final agreement on concessions, which of course has dominated the discussion for the past several months. With this finally taken care of, we can begin to look at other issues.

Communicating effectively with part-timers. This is a crucial issue. We will work with Robyn and 4C's staff and leadership to make a major push to get part-timers preferred email addresses into the union's databank. Members expressed both frustration at reaching part-timers through their official college emails, and the need to have a system that communicates directly to part-timers. It is clear that we will need to pursue multiple avenues, from getting assistance from those department chairs/program coordinators who will help us to using electronic means to gather preferred email addresses. Bill and Robyn will follow up with this.

Recognizing the needs of part-timers. We had a general discussion concerning the needs of part-timers, especially part-time faculty. It is clear that no college has an ideal approach to helping part-time faculty with professional resources, office space, etc. There is a great deal to be done, and we will continue this issue for future meetings. We hope to be able to participate in a survey of part-timers that could occur within the general union survey being planned. Alternately we could conduct our own survey by using the union's contract with an online survey site.

Possible part-timers workshop. Bill mentioned that he had put plans to hold a fall conference on hold as the concessions discussions continued. However, he plans to discuss possibilities for a spring workshop, including possibly a joint workshop with the Center for Teaching. We discussed the advantages of doing this, and possible topics, and will continue this discussion in future meetings. There was general consensus that this is a useful idea to pursue.

Attracting more part-timers to become members

We talked very briefly about this, and will discuss continuing efforts in the future.

Contract Issues

There was a general discussion of the many issues that part-timers face, and how the union might assist with contract changes, discussions with management, or both. We will flesh out some ideas in the future to discuss with union leadership and the Delegate Assembly.

There being no more time before the Executive Board meeting, the committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Searle
Acting Secretary

August 22, 2011