



WCCFT

Westchester Community College Federation of Teachers
Local 2431 American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO)
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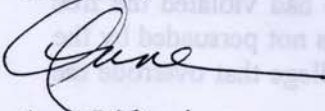
Over the summer the Union continued to represent unit members in many different ways grievances, court cases, labor-management agreements, legislation, political action and College concerns. We will discuss these and other issues facing the Union in the 2006-2007 school year at the first general membership meeting on **Wednesday, September 6 at 11:00 a.m. in Science 102**. We will also introduce new unit members Melissa Acevedo, Desi Colon, Robert Collis, Allison Coyne, Phyllis Primus, Jody Reifenberg, Patricia Sehulster, James Stiehl, and Kim Walsh. Please make it a point to be there. Lunch is served promptly at 11 and the meeting is over at exactly 12 to allow individuals to attend other events. Here are some highlights from the summer's work:

- In a major victory for faculty freedom of expression, a federal trial jury sitting in Westchester County found that the College Administration had violated the free speech rights of a former ESL adjunct faculty. The jury was not persuaded by the Administration's argument that there was a threat to the College that overrode the civil right of free speech.
- As part of the 60th College Anniversary celebrations, the Union Executive Board has proposed dedicating a place on campus to honor faculty members for their extended service to the College and has suggested that the December membership meeting be devoted to a history of the College and the Union
- A minor crisis development when the Union learned that the two new faculty line approved by the Board of Legislatures last year had been removed from the 2006 College budget. We immediately contacted legislators, spoke to both the Democratic and Republican caucuses and addressed the Board on the night of the vote. As a result we were able to reinstate the two lines.
- The on-going fight for due process rights came to a head at the Step II grievance hearing concerning overload assignments for a full-time tenured faculty member removed from teaching responsibilities. Although the Union opposed the hearing as unnecessary since it was integral to the original complaint, it came at the scheduled time to argue its case. The Administration, however, failed to show up.

- The Union is pursuing grievances in the areas of denial of major medical benefits, refusal of the Administration to allow a unit member from using accrued sick leave, and rejection of a request for overload.
- After an important training session in mold detection, the Health and Safety Watchdogs submitted a follow-up survey to the Administration of places not yet remediated. Since then, even more examples of mold have been found in the Classroom Building. This is a serious problem and the Union will keep up its vigilance in reporting all citations of excessive dirt and mold which can lead to detrimental indoor air quality on campus.

These are just some of the areas in which your Union is involved. Again, please don't miss the Union meeting on Wednesday. Your participation is vital to our success in representing you.

Until then,



Anne D'Orazio