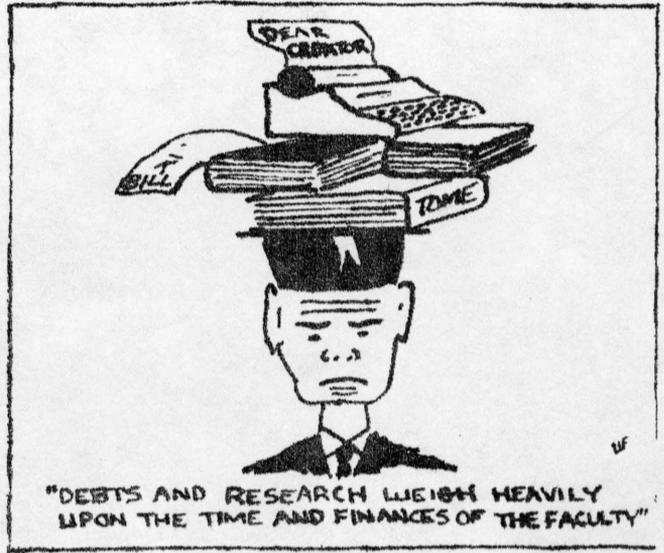


THE OADFLY

Vol 1, No 3 United Federation of College Teachers - BMCC Chapter Nov 14, 1966

INFORMATION NEEDED

The Chapter has directed Ralph Katz, the attorney for the UFCT, to petition the Board of Higher Education on the behalf of Chapter members for monies due them as a result of the transition to the semester system. He plans to document the case of each individual union member concerned. Hence it is imperative that members tabulate the time and money owed them and present this information to an officer of the union no later than Thursday, November 16. The UFCT will not utilize its legal resources on behalf of non-members.



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

To: President Block

From: Executive Committee, BMCC Chapter, United Federation of College Teachers

Subject: Compensation Due Faculty as a Result of the Transition to the Semester System

At a meeting on November 2, our chapter expressed reservations about the administration's proposed plan of compensation. The members directed the Executive Committee to press the matter further and to draft an open letter explaining our position.

The administration tentatively offered those owed more than one month a reduction in class load or assignment to academic advisement for part of a term and a vacation for the remainder. The union found the plan unsatisfactory because it was too indefinite. Even if the College does implement the proposal, it will cost money. In effect, it will relieve faculty of their teaching and departmental duties; the school will be required to hire someone else to take up the slack. If the administration can make this expenditure, why can it not compensate faculty members directly? By this simple expedient, the Board could resolve the issue and, at the same time, efficiently employ the talents of the faculty within their respective departments, rather than in academic advisement, a duty for which they were not hired in the first place.

For those due a month or less, an intersession free of college commitments does not compensate for time owed them. Academic courtesy dictates that where possible the administration should spare the faculty of extra obligations between semesters. The fact that the college summoned the faculty for only limited duties between Labor Day and the start of classes does not compensate for vacation time lost. Instructors and staff were on call for the entire period. One day of proctoring is sufficient to disrupt travel plans, whether the trip be for vacation or research. Certainly the administration does not deem this just remuneration.

The Union does not feel that it is acting in bad faith. While the Deans and your office did alert the faculty to possible hardships as a result of the changeover to a semester system, the administration did not specify that the transition would cut into vacation time until Dean James issued a memorandum to that effect on May 19, 1966. That memorandum stated that just compensation would be forthcoming.

Debts and unfinished research weigh heavily upon the time and finances of our faculty. Hence, we would like to see the question of compensation pushed to a satisfactory conclusion as soon as possible. Since we cannot accept the administration's proposals as they are presently stated, we have directed the attorney for the UFCT to petition the Board of Higher Education on behalf of those union members due remuneration.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

United Federation of College Teachers
Borough of Manhattan Community College Chapter

November 2, 1966

ATTENDANCE

The BMCC Chapter of the UFCT met in Room 392 with Bill Friedheim, Chairman, presiding. The meeting began at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 1:50 p.m. There were approximately 30 persons present.

OLD BUSINESS

Due to confusion in mailing, the returns on the questionnaire concerning the Multiple Positions Regulations were sparse. The Multiple Positions Regulation is a policy set by the Board of Higher Education. Therefore, after considerable discussion of policy as it is set down by the Board and the policy as it is handled by the Administration at BMCC, the following motion was made by Jesse Pavis, seconded by Leonard Allison, and passed unanimously by the members present:

Move that the problem be referred to the Executive Committee of the Union to be taken up at their next meeting.

The following people, proposed by the Executive Committee or nominated from the floor, were unanimously elected to serve on the Grievance Committee:

Charlotte Croman
Verdelle Garnett

Jesse Pavis
Mayer Rossabi

The Chairman again urged present members to be active in recruiting new members. To avoid duplication of effort and the needless wasting of an individual's time, the members agreed to an assignment schedule as outlined by the Chairman.

The following points and suggestions evolved during discussion of the issue concerning compensation for vacation time lost due to the transition from the quarter to the semester system:

1. Members, in general, felt that the President's reasons for not seeking compensation from the Board of Higher Education in the form of money were spurious. They questioned whether or not the Board would really object to and refuse the proposal.
2. It was brought to light that the Chancellor had a "kitty" available to meet expenditures outside the actual budget.

(continued on next page)

Members who wish to contribute items to the next regular issue of THE GADFLY are reminded that they should submit their copy to Joe Conlin, in Room 318, no later than November 23.

FACULTY PARTY

The BMCC Chapter is throwing a party for all faculty members on Saturday Evening, December 3rd. RSVP to Leigh Marlowe, hostess pro tem (Room 319) is requested but no reservations are necessary. No soliciting, organizing, business, etc. This is designed to be a strictly social function for faculty unloading.

CHEZ LEIGH MARLOWE

789 West End Avenue
(at 99th Street)

\$3.00 single - \$5.00 couple

Food and Drink

December 3rd

November 2, 1966

3. It was suggested that the Union draft a letter to the Board stating our grievances against the city.
4. It was suggested that an open letter should be written to the President rejecting his proposal for settlement of the issue and stating our contemplated action.

As a result of this discussion, the following motion was made by Leonard Allison, seconded by Charlotte Croman and passed unanimously by the members present:

Move that we empower the Executive Committee of the Chapter to act in behalf of the entire Chapter on the issue of compensation for vacation time owed.

Members of the Executive Committee will be meeting with a union lawyer in the near future. Until that time the minutes of this meeting will be withheld in order to bring members up to date and indicate to all at BMCC the line of action we plan to take.

NEW BUSINESS

Members discussed the advantages of having a small treasury of their own. In order to start this fund, members voted to have a party which would be open to members and nonmembers alike. The following members volunteered to be participants of the Committee to plan the party:

Roger Dooley
Arlene Halperin
Leigh Marlowe

Members of the noninstructional faculty, hired on the basis of a faculty line, have a present work week of 40 hours at BMCC. Investigation has shown that of the four community colleges in the city, two have a work week of 30 hours and two have a work week of 40 hours.

After discussion, the following motion was made by Jesse Pavis, seconded by Charlotte Croman and passed unanimously by the members present:

Move that this Chapter convey to the President that the noninstructional personnel working in counseling be granted a work week not to exceed 30 hours.

The agenda for the next meeting will include discussion of the following issues:

Status of lecturers
Status of College Center Faculty
Overloads

Respectfully submitted

Anna E. Porter, Secretary

Distribution:

Members of the Union
Permanent File