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FOR RELEASE AT 11 A.M. WEDNESDAY

Councilman Carol Greitzer today (wed) accused the Board of Higher Education of discriminating against thousands of women employees at a financial loss running into the millions of dollars.

She said that in one flagrant case of discrimination an exceptionally qualified woman professor had lost more than a quarter of a million dollars in salary during her career, and faces a sharply curtailed pension. She identified her as Priscilla Pollister of Brooklyn College.

Mrs. Greitzer said, "The Board's 19th-Century pattern of discrimination by sex is evident at every level throughout the system. For example there are only two women among more than 70 deans at 14 Board institutions. There is only one woman president (Jacqueline Wexler of Hunter) at the system's nine senior and eight community colleges. All 14 officers of the City University, from the chancellor on down, are male, and the Board itself has only four women among its 21 members. A woman educator, who has the 'misfortune' to become pregnant, faces additional and unconscionable discrimination."

The Manhattan legislator unleashed her newest charges of discrimination against women at a City Hall press conference in which a large group of women educators from seven City University institutions participated. She has issued reports periodically during the past year on such discrimination by banks, insurance companies, public utilities and other major companies doing business with the city, such as consultant firms.

Previously she had organized "a women's war" against restaurants refusing to serve women. The campaign resulted in passage of a City Council bill last year ending such discrimination and finally breaking the men-only policies of such establishments as the Plaza's Oak Room and McSorley's Old Ale House.

The women educators emphasized that they were participating in the press conference to dramatize the discriminatory policies of the Board. Some of the educators have been fired because of their sex, she said.

Some of those present are employed but have been passed over time and time again for promotion in favor of male educators, Mrs. Greitzer said, adding that "the Board is so callous in its male-chauvinist policies that it has even failed to comply with official directives to end obvious discrimination at Brooklyn College.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare found on April 30, after an investigation that "the weight of evidence...supports the complainant's allegation of sex discrimination...we were unable to find any reason for the complainant's slow promotional progress, other than her sex...(she) is a victim of the general pattern of sex discrimination."

The complainant was Dr. Anna M. Babey-Brooke of Brooklyn's English Department, who participated in the press conference. Her salary losses due to discrimination are estimated at \$97,461.

Mrs. Greitzer said, "Although this is the first such ruling in New York City, it by no means constitutes an isolated case. More such rulings are bound to follow. But, we understand that the Board has come to an astonishing decision: Instead of recognizing HEW's findings as clear evidence of 19th-Century discrimination, it plans to fight the ruling."

She pledged to carry her battle with the Board to Washington if necessary. She said there were a number of actions the women educators could take in order to force compliance, but she refused to reveal what they were.

She concluded: "In a male-dominated society, women are traditionally but erroneously considered to be talkative, but you will not learn of our next steps from any woman in this group."

Supporting Councilman Greitzer's charges of discrimination were the following women educators: Priscilla Pollister, Anna Babey-Brooke, Nina Levinson, Katharine M. Rogers, Anne Walsh, Zalmar Perlin, Shirley Harrison, Trudy Katzer, Susanne Paul, Renee Queen, Nicole D'Avanzo, Gertrude Ezorsky and Carolyn Hendricks, all of Brooklyn College; Jennie Wells, Ruth Harris, Evelyn Lerner, Marion Friedewald, Pearl Gasarch and Jean L. Geissler, all of New York City Community College; Ulla Dydo, of Bronx Community College; Paulette Roy, Mrs. Lesser and Mrs. Fagelbaum, of City College; Frances K. Barasch, of Bernard Baruch College; Despoina Ikaris, of Kingsboro Community College and Jane Joffe Young of Manhattan Community College.