

November 14, 1986

Dear CUNY Part-Timer:

You've probably heard of the Part-Timers Union (PTU) by now. We're an organization of part-time instructional and research staff from all the CUNY colleges, and our goal is to improve the working conditions of part-timers by forming a new union that has our rights as its first priority.

To form this union, we've been asking you to sign union authorization cards. These cards **do not** commit you to membership in the union; they indicate that you want a chance to choose between the Professional Staff Congress (PSC), which is the current union, and the PTU. If one third of all part-timers sign the cards, there will be an election between these two unions. With ten days to go, we still need a few hundred cards. You can make the difference! If you want a choice, sign a card now and send it in before November 25! If we don't have an election now, we'll have to endure three more years of do-nothing representation before we can try again.

Recently, you may have received a letter from the PSC that makes certain misleading claims. Let's set the record straight.

- The PSC claim that** Our "poor working conditions" are due to reductions in student enrollment and federal aid -- in other words, they say our problems are beyond their control.
- The PTU responds:** It's a union's job to fight for the best gains it can, even under difficult circumstances. We contend that the PSC have not fulfilled their obligation to bargain in good faith for part-timers. Other New York City unions (DC-37 and District 1199, for example), during the same hard times, have won full and pro-rated benefits for their part-time members. And now, with huge state budget surpluses, the PSC have no excuse for neglecting our interests. The question you should ask yourself is, Have the PSC really done as much as they could have?
- The PSC claim that** Part-timers now receive health insurance, tuition waivers, and wages that exceed the average rate nationally.
- The PTU responds:** Health insurance and tuition waivers only became available during the most recent contract. The requirements for these benefits are so stringent that very few of us qualify. And besides, what were the PSC doing for the last seventeen years? It seems that the PSC only bargained for these benefits when they realized that the PTU was organizing to challenge them.
- As for pay, part-timers make a fraction of a full-timer's salary, even though many of us carry the same course load. The PSC's "hard-fought" raises have not even kept up with the rise in the cost of living.
- The PSC claim that** Part-timers are better served by an established union with a proven track record.
- The PTU responds:** There's not much of a track record. Seventeen years of PSC representation have achieved neither a living wage for part-timers nor any job security -- the two sine qua nons of any respectable union.

Part-timers have tried for years to work for change within the PSC, but we've been rebuffed at every turn. The issue, we believe, is simple: the PSC have had more than enough time to prove that they can adequately represent part-timers. Now the choice is yours: three more years of the same excuses, or a chance for change with the PTU?

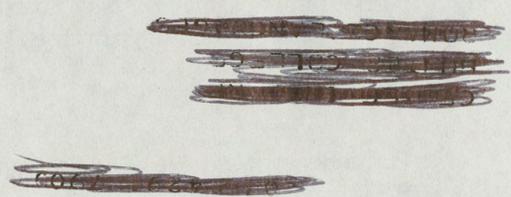
**PTU** (Part-Time Instructional and Research Staff Union)  
P.O. Box 2314, New York, N.Y. 10009 (212) 254-1094

GET MORE INFORMATION FROM SOMEONE ON YOUR CAMPUS . . .

Call any of the following people:

Staten Island	Wendy Hoefler	(718) 448-2549	Queens	Sally O'Driscoll	(212) 254-1094
City College	Jim Ciment	(212) 677-9147	Grad. Center	Jeff Gerson	(718) 763-0343
N.Y.C. Tech	Rocco Serini	(718) 624-5000	Brooklyn	Ron Lehrer	(718) 377-0631
Medgar Evers	Harry McArdle	(516) 744-5332	BMCC	Lorraine Riordan	(212) 995-0008
Bronx C.C.	Pam Ansaldi	(212) 543-2978	York	Paul Wagner	(718) 651-7047
Lehman	" "	" "	John Jay	Michael Seitz	(212) 645-7850
LaGuardia	Jim McCabe	(718) 768-1038	Baruch	Ron Hayduk	(212) 254-2258

\*\* PLEASE ENCLOSE A CONTRIBUTION WITH YOUR CARD \*\*



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PART-TIME INSTRUCTIONAL AND RESEARCH STAFF UNION

P.O. Box 2314, New York, N.Y. 10009

Application for Membership and Union Authorization

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SEX \_\_\_\_\_ SOC.SEC. # \_\_\_\_\_ JOB TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_ COLLEGE \_\_\_\_\_

MOST RECENT SEMESTER EMPLOYED \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby accept membership in the Part-Time Instructional and Research Staff Union and designate the Part-Time Instructional and Research Staff Union to act for me as a collective bargaining agent in all matters pertaining to conditions and terms of employment. I hereby pledge to abide by the constitution of the Part-Time Instructional and Research Staff Union.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_