

PSC/CUNY

c/o Legislative Conference
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New York, New York 10036
212/354-1252

c/o United Federation of College Teachers
260 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
212/673-6310

May 15, 1972

Belle Zeller
President

Israel Kugler
Deputy President

Dear Colleague:

When the UFCT and the LC merged April 14 into the Professional Staff Congress, the Administration offered us this ultimatum: Either accept the Administration's division of the instructional staff into three separate units, or no negotiations will begin before the expiration of our present contracts August 31.

As reprehensible as this ultimatum was, it was legal: The Administration could hold out for a decision by the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), which is likely to be for one unit, not three, but is not likely to come before the end of this semester---too late for an election and too late for negotiations to begin until next semester.

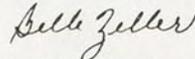
PSC rejected this ultimatum. But to avert the disaster of a no-contract crisis---and to give the instructional staff the opportunity to voice its will for staff unity---we suggested an election now. The Administration agreed, and PERB agreed to conduct the election. You will be asked to vote on two questions: whether you want one unit and whether you want PSC to represent you.

Ballots will be mailed May 17 and must be returned by May 31. They will be counted by PERB June 7. The fulltime faculty will receive ballots of one color; the parttime staff will receive ballots of another color; and nonclassroom professionals will receive ballots of a third color. If any one group votes NO on the first question---staff unity---it will be separated from the rest of the instructional staff for collective bargaining purposes.

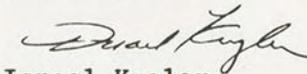
We hope you understand that such a NO vote would achieve exactly what the Administration has been fighting for---staff disunity, fragmentation and weakness---exactly what we overcame through our historic merger.

That is why we are urging you to vote YES for one unit---and YES for the PSC. Only by a resoundingly affirmative vote on both questions can we enter negotiations with the single voice and the bargaining strength that are indispensable to a strong contract.

Sincerely,



Belle Zeller



Israel Kugler

P.S. We need your support and membership. If you are not yet a member of PSC, please fill out the enclosed membership application and drop it in a mailbox. Your active support now is the best possible investment in your future.