

CAMPUS EQUITY WEEK 2001: October 28<sup>th</sup> –November 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Another step in an ongoing international campaign for parity  
in adjunct pay and working conditions

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It was the first time in history that every major faculty union and association in the U.S. and Canada has gotten together to promote faculty activism around the issue of contingency adjunct labor that constitutes 60-65% of the academic workforce. Coordinated activities took place at over 100 colleges listed on the Campus Equity Week website ([www.cewaction.org](http://www.cewaction.org)).

The PSC Roundtable, "Adjunct Equity in the University," on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Graduate Center, moderated by PSC Vice President for Part-time Personnel, Eric Marshall, included PSC's Barbara Bowen, Ingrid Hughes, Alex Vitale and guests Rich Moser of AAUP, Elaine Bobra, Executive Vice President of the Camden College Faculty College Faculty Association, Vincent Renzi, NYU Adjunct Assistant Professor of Classics, and Mobilization Director of the NYC Central Labor Council, Nick Unger.

Unger questioned whether the PSC move toward equity was counterproductive to developing careers. "Do you get rid of adjuncts or do you create new career paths? Bowen differed. "As a union you must address the needs of your most exploited workers. On the other hand, you have to make structural change. Improving conditions for part timers begins to effect structural change. If you bring part time work to equity, there is less incentive to use part timers." Moser said there have to be conversion lines for those who have served the university. Renzi and others cited models of craft/guild unionism offered by Actors Equity, the Musicians Union, the Writers Union, and the Boiler Makers Union. Marshall proposed a spring PSC-sponsored conference on The Ontology of the PSC: (RE) Envisioning the Union for the Future where we can explore (creatively and outside the lines) how the union of tomorrow may best engage, involve, and serve all its members. PSC Officer Cecila McCall pointed out the historical and current racial divide in the union movement.