

## Faculty Members at City University Pick Single Bargaining Agent

By LEONARD BUDER

The State Public Employment Relations Board announced yesterday that faculty members of the City University had chosen the Professional Staff Congress as their collective bargaining agent.

The congress was formed April 14 through merger of United Federation of College Teachers and the Legislative Conference.

The state board said that a tally of mail ballots showed that the instructional staff had voted 8,258 to 942 in favor of a single bargaining unit for all 16,000 members of the City University's professional staff and, by 8,759 to 538, had chosen the Professional Staff Congress to be the bargaining agent.

Officials of the congress said in a statement that the vote was "a stunning blow" to the City University Chancellor, Dr. Robert J. Kibbee. The statement declared:

"Voting for one unit, the faculty abolished the prevailing two-way division between full-time and part-time staff which was favored by Kibbee, and rejected a new segregation of nonclassroom personnel which was proposed by Kibbee."

An aide to Dr. Kibbee, asked if the Chancellor had any comment on the results of the election, said: "Dr. Kibbee offers his congratulations to leaders of the Professional Staff Congress."

The congress, after its formal

establishment in April, had charged that the university refused to recognize the congress, to accept a single bargaining unit or to negotiate a new contract.

### Pact Signed in 1969

Before the merger, which ended nine years of rivalry between the two groups, the Legislative Conference was the recognized bargaining agent for the City University's full-time instructional staff and "support" employes, with the exception of lecturers. The "support" staff includes librarians, counselors, registrars, laboratory assistants and others.

The federation was the

recognized bargaining agent for the part-time instructional staff and support employes, as well as lecturers.

The current contracts negotiated in 1969 by the Legislative Conference and the federation are scheduled to expire Aug. 31.

Dr. Belle Zeller, the president of the congress, and Dr. Israel Kupler, the deputy president, yesterday hailed the outcome of the election as "a victory for our students and a victory for the staff." They said that the results "augur a tough negotiating stance by the union."

The election conducted by the state board presented the question whether there should be a single bargaining unit to the three categories of profes-

sional employes: the full-time teaching staff, the part-time teaching staff, and the support staff. All three groups voted by overwhelming margins for the single unit.

The congress, which describes itself as the largest university union in the country, is affiliated with the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, which are rival groups. It will also be affiliated with the New York Congress of Teachers, a union being set up by a merger of the United Teachers of New York and the State Teachers Association.