

APTF - CUNY

File Adjunct

Association of Part-Time Faculty

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238 E 14 ST
NY NY 10003
March 11, 1983

Mr. Arnold Cantor
Ms. Susan Prager
PSC-CUNY
25 W 43 ST
NY NY 10036

Dear Mr. Cantor and Ms. Prager:

First, I'd like to thank you for such an informative meeting, for your demonstration of receptivity to adjuncts, and for the atmosphere of openness and informality that was quickly established on Friday.

Although few adjuncts were able to attend the first meeting, I assure you that interest and commitment to the viability and future direction of the committee is high. My colleagues at work and fellow members of the numerous professional associations I belong to consistently express interest and concern for part-time issues. Since the number of adjuncts, "underemployed" or "latchkey" academics, is growing, associations of university educators are devoting more attention to adjuncts' problems. I am an active member the CUNY ESL Council, the New York State NYSESOLBEA and the international TESOL organizations, each of which has a committee set aside for examining the professional standards of adjunct employment.

I am also a member of APTF, as you know. Since you both, as well as I, are seasoned meeting-goers, you well understand the necessity of sticking to agendas and dealing with matters that are relevant to all meeting participants. Several of the participants at the Friday meeting are not APTF members and/or had not received the APTF flyer you referred to. Of course I and APTF in general are greatly concerned about the inaccuracies you spotted in the flyer, and if you have the time, could you please list and correct them for me? The flyer in question did have my name and office phone on it, and copies of the flyers could have been withdrawn from circulation and corrected if the errors had been pointed out in a timely fashion. Contract language is confusing, and the last thing APTF wants is to lose credibility!

I'd like to assure you of my hope that both APTF and the committee will continue to grow and to work cooperatively for the betterment of adjuncts' positions in CUNY. As was stated in the meeting, the PSC is known as a progressive union for educators--one that can set precedents for unions nationwide. I'm sure the PSC is eager to serve its growing constituency of adjuncts and to be in the forefront of these union issues.

A few ideas that Ms. Prager might consider putting on future agendas;

- a) an "adjunct news" column in the Clarion
- b) a committee newsletter to adjuncts (or one by and for adjuncts)
- c) a PSC mini-conference on part-time issues-the UUP is holding one in April
- d) an opinion survey of adjuncts' needs and their employment status

Thanks for all your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Nancy Erber

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