

URI/AAUP/PTFU

Part-Time Faculty United



WELCOME BACK

We hope you had an enjoyable summer! As we move on to the challenges and rewards of the new academic year, we offer our best wishes and support.

URI PTFU Executive Committee

Edward Inman III, *President (Political Science)*

Marilyn Donahue, *Vice President (English)*

Olga de Ruiz Panciera, *Secretary-Treasurer (Languages)*

Robert Leuci, *At Large (English)*

Timothy Tierney, *Past President (AV/Production Services)*

Patricia Maguire, *Executive Assistant*

Dorothy F Donnelly, *Senior Consultant*

FALL 2014

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A SPECIAL WELCOME TO NEW PART-TIME FACULTY

We extend a warm welcome and best wishes to newly appointed Part-Time Faculty at URI. The mission of URI Part-Time Faculty United (URI/PTFU) is to promote and preserve the professional integrity and economic well being of all members of the URI PTFU group. Our Collective Bargaining Agreement, Constitution and By-Laws, Frequently Asked Questions, PTFU Fact Sheet, Level Advancement information along with the Application Form, Course Availability/Assignment Form, Grievance Procedure Time-Frame and Grievance Form, Membership Application form, and much more are available on the URI/PTFU Website at: www.uri.edu/ptfu/

We invite you to visit or call the URI/PTFU office located in Rodman Hall, Rm.119, Kingston campus--telephone number: 874-4481; email: uri.ptfu@uri.edu

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

As it is with full-time and part-time faculty contract negotiations across the country, the URI Part-Time Faculty United (URI/PTFU) negotiation team has been in contract negotiations with the Administration for more than 2 1/2 years. After months of delay and with no progress on the issues of significance to URI PTFU, the PTFU Negotiation Committee decided in August that the parties had reached an impasse and took steps to formally request the assistance of the office of Federal Mediation & Conciliation Services in working toward resolving our issues. Our 2nd meeting with the Federal mediator is scheduled for early October 2014. As always, the PTFU Negotiation Committee will present clear and substantial evidence to demonstrate that URI's PTF are without question, vastly underpaid; indeed, the salary rate for URI's part-time faculty continues to fall below poverty level wages.

The URI/PTFU Negotiation Committee asks for your continued support as we move forward to achieve a collective bargaining agreement that is fair and equitable for all part-time faculty colleagues at URI.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GOOD NEWS!

Two grievances submitted to arbitration by URI/PTFU claiming a violation of the provisions of the URI/PTFU and URI/BOG collective bargaining agreement were successfully resolved in favor of the PTF member with full restoration of salary and time in service credit.

SAVE THE DATE

The Fall 2014 General Membership Meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2014 (reading day) and will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick at 3:30pm. (Agenda to follow)

THE NATIONAL SCENE

The next issue of *E-NEWS!* will offer information on activities across the country that deal with the conditions of employment of adjunct/part-time faculty.

FYI, the number of adjunct/part-time faculty who vote to unionize in order to improve their employment status increases substantially on a weekly and monthly basis.

LINKS

The following are links to some recent articles on the status of Part-Time Faculty.

http://www.salon.com/2014/09/21/professors_on_food_stamps_the_shocking_true_story_of_academia_in_2014/

New Faculty Majority at:
www.newfacultymajority.info

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Much has been written about the intellectual property rights of adjunct/part-time faculty with regard to new courses they develop. Yet another article that addresses the problem appeared in this week's issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education. The article focuses on the experience of an adjunct professor who had spent two years on research and preparation in developing a new course. Within the year, the course was taken away and assigned to a full-time faculty colleague. The author of the new course challenged the administration's right to take the course away. In response to the challenge "the university agreed the course was wrongfully used": "It ought not to be the case that someone who has prepared a course should have their work taken over and distributed to other people." Chronicle of Higher Education (17 October 2014, p. A10)

The most frequent occurrences of intellectual property rights violations for part-time faculty happen when courses they have researched and developed are "distributed to other people," that is, immediately or soon after taken away and assigned to full-time faculty. Over the past two years, the URI administration has taken away, without the author's permission, new courses created by two URI part-time faculty members (courses developed with the full knowledge and approval of their department chair/director) and assigned these courses to full-time faculty. (These were not on-line courses.)

If you are thinking of developing a new course to be offered as part of the URI curriculum, we strongly recommend that you review the University's Intellectual Property policy described in the URI University Manual, Sections 10.40.10 through 10.44.10.

MISSION STATEMENT

The PTFU continuously works toward our mission and commitment of addressing matters that directly impact both individual and collective areas of concern to URI/Part-Time Faculty. The PTFU goals include giving a voice to URI's Part-Time Faculty, empowering them as equal members of URI's teaching community, ensuring that members' rights and entitlements gained from collective bargaining negotiations are respected and enforced. We will continuously work towards enhancing the work experience and environment for the Part-Time Faculty and continue to seek employment necessities, salary, equity and time in service rights. We strive to achieve these goals by leading and growing a sustainable and unified union group with a view towards advancing the status of URI's Part-Time Faculty.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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THE URI/PTFU NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT THROUGH CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
