SEPT 29, 2023 NO. 2



A RESOURCE FOR GRADUATE CENTER WORKERS AND ADJUNCTS

GC PSC Chapter Meeting

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Upcoming Events

October 05- Next bargaining session

October 10- Next open bargaining training

October 11- CUNY indigenous event

October 16- Board of Trustees Hearing

November 15- Rally at the Graduate Center

November 18- Adjunct march on Felo's house

On the 22nd of September, the PSC GC Chapter had our first meeting of semester. We discussed the progress of bargaining, the difference in class sizes taught by Grad Teaching Fellows and Adjuncts, and the kind of training that students receive before they teach. We then held breakout rooms to talk about major issues on each campus in the chapter: the dominant problems were salary and remote work.

To show CUNY that we mean business about these demands, there will be a rally on **November 15th.** We want a big turnout, so talk to all your friends and professors about turning out!

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Bargaining Update

The PSC and CUNY met twice in September to bargain the new contract. On September 6th, the PSC put forward some demands for salary equity, including **step raises** for College Lab Technicians (\$10 000 per step) and Higher Education Officers (\$4000 per step). They also proposed that Adjunct Lecturers should receive no less than 1/8 of 80 percent of the median step of a full-time lecturer. At current rates, this would mean that adjunct lecturers earn **over \$10 000** per 3-credit course taught at a CUNY college. On September 20th, the PSC presented proposals on **remote work**: that non-teaching instructional staff and library faculty should have the right to work 40% of the time. We also put forward our demand to extend tenure programs for adjuncts, HEOs and lecturers, and to create 600 lecturer conversion lines for adjunct teachers.

Mass Meeting

On Thursday, September 28th, the Professional Staff Congress (PSC) hosted its "Contract for #APeoplesCUNY Mass Online Meeting" via zoom. With an estimated 1,000 (!!!) people in attendance across two separate zoom rooms, members heard updates from the PSC's principal officers and other union leadership about the contract negotiation process, followed by a community-wide Q&A session. Members received updates and information about the following:

- The 7 bargaining sessions that have been held thus far
- Some historical, political, and economic impacts on the negotiation process
- Campus and borough-wide actions coming up this fall semester
- Visions for the collective power of our union membership moving forward

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Gone Garrell- But Not Without a Fond Farewell!

On August 28th, students and employees of the Graduate Center received an email from Preisdent Garrell, announcing that she was stepping down. September 29th was her last day as President of the Center. Her presidency has been disastrous for the GC. From the refusal to reopen the cafeteria on campus, to the mismanagement of the Business Office, and the failure to distribute the yearly \$700 000 that was supposed to cover the extension of health care to unfunded students, she has proven herself to care more about buttressing executive privileges than serving the community. Referred to by UCLA students as the "Marketing Mannequin", her reign was marked by widespread discontent, to the point of a "no confidence" vote by faculty, staff and students. Before she left, Garrell shut down the Reclaimed Commons, which had become a symbol of discontent with her presidency. We wish her the best in her onward journey.

With the Tappan Workers

On Saturday Seotember 30th, of Adjunct members the Project, the GC PSC Chapter and Rank and File Action went up to Tappan, NY, to pay a visit to the striking UAW workers at the Stellantis factory. We heard from strikers and met with local and regional UAW reps. If you'd like to be included in the trip upstate, next adjunctproject@cunydsc.org



Coat Drive for Migrants

The Student Parent group and other Chartered Orgs are calling donations for migrants and asylum seekers who have arrived in the city since Spring 2022, and are living in shelters in the city. They are calling specifically for coats, winter clothes, gloves, new socks, underwear. products, sanitary pads, hygiene diapers and winter boots. You can deliver your donations to the Domincan Studies Group office in 5496 from Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm. If it's not open, you can leave donations in the DGSC lounge. For more info, or to get involved, email macostamatos@gradcenter.cuny.edu