

## **Faculty Need Your Support**

AFT Local 1789, the teachers' union for the faculty, is bargaining a new contract with the Seattle Colleges District. After eight months of discussions, it is obvious that the two sides are very far apart. We are unsatisfied with the current offer and believe that it is time for the Seattle Colleges to rethink priorities and do better by the faculty. When the faculty have good pay and working conditions, they can better serve students and help them to reach their goals.

The faculty want:

- Good salaries. We haven't received raises since 2008, and voter approved Cost of Living Adjustments have been sporadic and small. It gets more and more difficult for teachers to afford life in Seattle.
- 75% of courses to be taught by full-time faculty. With a stable full-time faculty, students will have more access to their teachers, getting more support when they need it. Full-time faculty contribute to the programs and colleges in many ways. Part-time faculty may have to rush to other jobs in order to make ends meet.
- Better opportunities and working conditions for part-time faculty. Either they are not able to be involved in meetings or program work, or they are contributing without being paid for all that they do. Part-time faculty are hired one quarter at a time. It is stressful to not know if they will continue to be employed. Administrators are interested in offering longer-term contracts, and we hope that there will be a significant number of them, helping faculty to have more job stability.
- Workload equity in programs where some faculty have to teach more hours than others. Teachers who teach English have a 20-hour full-time workload, but those who teach Spanish, Chinese, Arabic and other languages have a 15-hour full-time workload. Those who teach labs also have a higher number of hours per week. Professional/Technical faculty lecture and work in labs with their students. They don't get credit for lecturing, even though they must prepare these lessons, the same way that 15-hour faculty do.

How can you help? Sign our petition or write a message of support on a postcard that AFT Seattle can deliver to our Board of Trustees and Chancellor. Thank you for your support!