

E-NEWS: URI/AAUP PART-TIME FACULTY UNITED!

MARCH 2007

SPECIAL ISSUE

RI Senate Legislation for Adjunct Faculty

Senator Susan Sosnowski has submitted two legislative bills in the RI Senate that address the economic exploitation of part-time/adjunct and other non-tenure track faculty and the decreasing number of full-time tenure track positions at our institutions of higher education.

S-0554, (<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText07/SenateText07/S0554.pdf>), The Faculty and College Excellence Act of 2007, while focusing on increasing the number of full-time tenure track positions, calls for the institutions to establish a process that ensures preferential treatment for part-time/adjunct faculty into those full-time tenure track positions. The process should be centered around seniority, notification of vacancy and preferential consideration.

S-0578, (<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText07/SenateText07/S0578.pdf>), has two sections. Section 1 is an amendment to Chapter 16-17.7 of the General Laws entitled "Alternate Provisions for Retirement of Teachers" that creates eligibility for adjunct/part-time faculty in the retirement programs of the institutions and Section 2 defines an adjunct faculty and establishes eligibility for medical benefits.

The next step is to get these bills to a hearing so that your voices can be heard and a dialogue can begin at the state level. **S-0554** has been referred to the Senate Education Committee and **S-0578** has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee. Below are the membership lists for those two committees. There are several ways to contact your Senator and communicate the scope of this issue and the necessity of a hearing. Below are the email addresses of the committee members, but a phone call, letter or face to face discussion are other ways.

If a hearing is scheduled, several faculty will be called upon for oral testimony and written testimony will be accepted also. We will notify everyone if a hearing is scheduled and coordinate the testimony.

Please contact your Senator, or the Senators on the committees, today.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Senator Leo R. Blais	Member	sen-blais@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator James E. Doyle II	Member	sen-doyle@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Hanna M. Gallo	Vice Chairperson	sen-gallo@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Daniel J. Issa	Chairperson	sen-issa@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Beatrice A. Lanzi	Member	sen-lanzi@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Christopher B. Maselli	Member	sen-maselli@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Harold M. Metts	Secretary	sen-metts@rilin.state.ri.us

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Senator Stephen D. Alves	Chairperson	sen-alves@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Frank A. Ciccone III	Member	sen-ciccone@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Walter S. Felag Jr.	1st Vice Chairperson	sen-felag@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Hanna M. Gallo	Secretary	sen-gallo@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator June N. Gibbs	Member	sen-gibbs@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Maryellen Goodwin	Member	sen-goodwin@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Beatrice A. Lanzi	2nd Vice Chairperson	sen-lanzi@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Paul E. Moura	Member	sen-moura@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Juan M. Pichardo	Member	sen-pichardo@rilin.state.ri.us
Senator Dominick J. Ruggerio	Member	sen-ruggerio@rilin.state.ri.us

Suggestions for Lobbying the Rhode Island General Assembly— The Key is to Make Connections with Senators and Representatives

Prepared by Ed Inman

The following is a list of ways to contact legislators from the most effective to the least effective means:

1. **A personal visit:** Visit the AAUP website for additional suggestions for meetings. <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/GR/lobbytools/How+to+Visit+a+Congressional+Office.htm>
2. **Phone call:** For a correct phone number of the representative you wish to speak with, call the Speaker's office at 401-222-2466 or for a correct phone number of the senator you wish to speak with, call the Senate President's office at 401-222-6655.
3. **Snail mail:** Please include a phone number and an address.
4. **E-mail:** Please include a phone number and an address.
5. **A group petition.**

The following is a list of suggestions to include in your contact:

1. Name and contact information with HOME VOTING ADDRESS. (If you have not registered to vote please do so) (Download application at <http://www.sec.state.ri.us/elections/voting/register/>; if you do not know who your senator or representative is, go to <http://www.sec.state.ri.us/vic/>).
2. List the bill and topic about which you are contacting.
3. Make it personal on how this bill will make a positive difference in your life and the life of every student you have.
4. Ask for the legislators' help and input.
5. Ask for a reply.

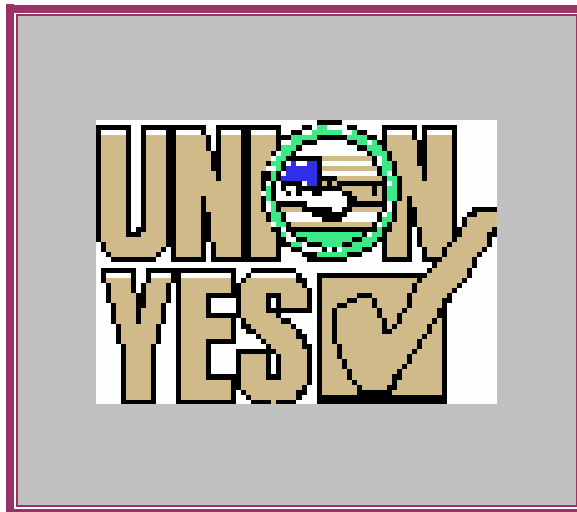
INVEST IN YOURSELF -- TODAY!!

If you have not yet filled out and mailed in your authorization form, please do so today. Download the attached copy of the form and send it to the address provided.

We need your on-going support to bring collective bargaining to URI for our Part-time/Adjunct faculty members.

Are you aware that almost ALL other groups at URI are represented by collective bargaining units. This includes tenured and tenure-track faculty, middle management, secretaries, support staff, janitorial and maintenance personnel, and all graduate students in all disciplines across the University. Part-time/Adjunct faculty make up the only large group of URI employees who are not unionized

This is not a question, it is a fact—***there is something wrong with this picture. Let's fix it now!*** If you haven't signed your authorization form, please sign and send it in right away.



Newsletter Committee

Jane Berard (Providence)
Noel-Anne Brennan (Kingston)
Robert Leuci (Kingston)
Deborah Perlman (Providence)

URI PART-TIME FACULTY
(KINGSTON & PROVIDENCE)

INVEST IN YOURSELF!!

As a part-time member of the University of Rhode Island Faculty, I declare my intention to join the American Association of University Professors. I further stipulate that I wish to establish a separate bargaining unit of the American Association of University Professors for part-time faculty at the University of Rhode Island.

NAME (PRINT) _____

UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

HOME ADDRESS:

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN AND DATE THIS FORM!

RETURN TO: Nancy A. Murphy, Administrative Associate
URI/AAUP
302 Roosevelt Hall
Kingston, RI 02881
Phone: 401/874-2532 E-mail: namurphy@uri.edu



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