



Final Contract Ratification Bulletin

Contract Ratified by 87%!

June 2, 2006

Dear PSC Members,

I am delighted to announce that the membership of the union has ratified the proposed contract by a margin of 87%. More than 56% of those who were eligible voted; of the 6788 votes cast, 5902 were in favor of approving the contract; 886 were opposed.

A margin of 87% is an exceptional expression of support. I want to thank you for that support and also for the questions and concerns you raised in the meetings we held on every CUNY campus. The PSC bargaining team and other members of the leadership learned from those exchanges; your ideas will inform the discussion of the next contract campaign.

This was a tough contract. Every one of you who fought for it knows that. But the vote shows that members overwhelmingly recognized the architecture of the agreement—it's a contract that contains some surprising breakthroughs even within the sharp economic constraints. A strong ratification vote allows us to consolidate what we gained in this agreement, and move forward. Once the contract is approved by the CUNY Trustees and funded (both expected shortly), we will receive our long-overdue raises, begin the improvement of the dental plan, and start benefiting from the new provisions like increased sabbatical pay and professional development funds. With these gains in place and the capacity for mobilization we developed in this contract fight, the PSC is in a position to contribute to the broader movement it will take to change the climate for collective bargaining in New York.

I would like to thank every faculty and professional staff member who worked to achieve this contract, and especially the members of the PSC negotiating team, whose labor is visible in every line of the agreement. You will be notified as soon as we have a date for implementation of the new salary schedules and payment of retroactive salary increases. In the meantime, best wishes for the summer.

In solidarity,
Barbara Bowen
President