

# The Place for Part-Timers

“A creative man is motivated by the desire to achieve, not by the desire to beat others.” —Ayn Rand

Editor’s Comment: Fair Treatment is the goal of Local 6286 at Victor Valley College. We especially want the fairness of Equal Pay for Equal Work.

## Think About It



PTFU 6286

“In the end, it’s a question of what kind of country we want. Do we want a country in which individuals are powerless, and hard-working people are denied the ability to earn decent wages and benefits? Americans resoundingly say “no.” Yet attacks on workers, their unions and their rights continue to spread. “

Source: AFT President Randi Weingarten (2011)

“We work and live at a time when the American cultural and economic politics are pushing against labor equity and quality education; when colleges and universities operate according to corporate logics that consistently work to dehumanize faculty and students. While these forces come to bear on contingent faculty, open-admissions campuses, and non-mainstream students in unique ways, we also believe that careful analysis of such conditions presents significant possibilities for positive changes across levels and types of institutions. At the risk of sounding cliché, even managerial, difficult situations really do sometimes present unique opportunities.”

Source: The New Faculty Majority (2011)

Thank you for your time and support of our Union!

## Ethics in Education?

Higher education’s own hiring practices are undermining one of its chief selling points: that a college education fosters upward mobility.

1%

What does this 1% represent?

In particular, it is the condition of adjunct faculty members, which was the subject of several sessions of the annual meeting of the National Center for Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions, that casts the harshest light on the gap between academe’s aspirations and its actual conduct.

“In order to maintain faith with higher education, you have to be able to confront the idea that a high proportion of the most educated portion of the population is having trouble making ends meet,” said Alan Trevithick, founding member of *The New Faculty Majority* and an adjunct who teaches sociology at Fordham University and Westchester Community College, during a session entitled “Contingent Faculty: Issues at the Table.”



Adjunct faculty make up an estimated two-thirds of the professoriate, and they typically earn far less than their tenured and tenure-track counterparts, often for doing similar work. Hard data or statistics on adjuncts can be hard to come by, many speakers said, in part because the term refers to different kinds of jobs and situations. Some adjuncts hold doctorates, have the same qualifications as their tenured and tenure-track colleagues, and teach full time (labels include full-time temporary faculty, per-course teachers, contingent labor or “precarious” faculty -- or more evocative terms like academic proletariat or sweatshop workers). Source: The New APPS Blog (2011)

## Check Out

- Your VVC campus e-mail for Fall 2011 offers of employment
- Cheryl Elsmore’s *Keeping In Touch* for the nitty-gritty unemployment language you will need if you apply this summer
- Each College that you teach for—what is the ratio of Adjunct to Full-Time? What is the relationship between Adjunct and Full-Time?

Editor’s Note:

Look for our last **Faculty Voice** Newsbyte this semester on Wednesday, June 22nd, 2011. **Faculty Voice** will resume in mid-August just prior to our upcoming Fall 2011 semester @ Victor Valley College. Have a great summer!