

VANGUARD

Official Newsletter of the Adjunct Faculty Association at Nassau Community College
One Education Drive, T Building, Room 520, Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 572-7294 | www.myafaonline.org

**SPECIAL
EDITION**

*WE CARE
About Our Students,
Our Members,
Our College!*

PRESSING ISSUES CON- TINUE TO MOUNT AS TIME RUNS OUT

The administration announced via an email and follow-up statements at two Re-invent Committee meetings that for the upcoming Spring semester they will require full-time and adjunct faculty to teach remote courses from their on-campus offices. On page 1 is President Krompiewski's communication to Dr. Mark Lausch, Vice President of Academic Affairs on the matter.

From the President's Desk



Stefan Krompier

To us, the AFA, the question is: will the requirement that all faculty teach remote courses from NCC offices positively or negatively affect student learning? We believe it will have a negative impact for the following reasons:

Currently, most departments have a single office designated for adjunct use. Therefore, hundreds of offices will have to be created, assigned, and maintained. Additionally, many of these same offices, having been unoccupied for almost two years, are likely to have mold issues as well as inoperable HVAC systems requiring repair and remediation prior to them being occupied.

- The process of purchasing new computers, the refurbishing/repair of existing computers and related equipment will take time, be very costly to the college, and will certainly be less than 100% effective.
- The hundreds of offices that will need to be created (and maintained) with computers, related equipment, software and supplies at significant expense to the college will be inferior to the home offices that our adjuncts currently teach from, thus negatively impacting the teaching and learning process.
- Help Desk hours will have to be increased as well as the number of individuals who are on call to respond to computer and computer related problems. Moreover, with this great increase in internet usage coupled with the return of many students to campus, has there been a bandwidth study to see if the current “tunnels” can handle this usage?
- If the plan is to have adjuncts share offices with full-time faculty members, what plans are being made for daytime adjuncts who teach when full-timers are in their offices? How will these offices be accessed in the evenings? Will each office have the necessary equipment for the full-timers and adjuncts to secure their materials?

...continued on page 2

...continued from page 1

From the President's Desk

I applaud the Administration for their willingness to spend a great deal of time and money to accomplish what they believe will improve student learning. Precious time and money will be spent inventorying offices that are available to adjunct instructors. The assigning of adjuncts to offices with workable computers and related equipment that are available on the days and times they are scheduled to teach will be difficult at best. Last but certainly not least - the time, effort, and expense needed to locate and then replace broken and slow-moving computers and related equipment will add to the depletion of the funds needed to keep the college afloat.

In closing, the decision to require NCC adjuncts to teach from on campus offices will result in a decline in student learning/student achievement, the further depletion of faculty morale, and most importantly, a student body who are disillusioned and disgusted with those who have undermined their education.

Stefan Krompfer
President
Adjunct Faculty Association

The Inside Scoop

I have been at NCC for over 37 years. In my time here, I have witnessed many issues concerning health and safety. Sadly, today we continue to confront the same issues that we confronted in 1984. These include poor to non-existent lighting on walkways and tunnels, extraordinarily high indoor humidity levels, temperatures either far lower or far higher than acceptable levels to work, teach, and learn, leaking roofs, leaking pipes, standing water on carpets, severe mold and mildew issues and on and on. I have personally witnessed all of these issues in and around the building that I have been assigned to, the library. This is not to blame our CSEA staff who work diligently attempting to maintain and repair equipment that in many cases is 40 years old and have long surpassed their lifespans.



Richard D. Erben

Over the past several weeks, I have been invited to see first-hand what other departments are experiencing on campus. What should not come as a surprise is that we are all experiencing these same issues. In a visit to our Marketing, Retailing, Fashion Buying & Merchandising, Fashion Design & Interior Design department, I was shocked to see temperature and humidity readings that were recorded and photographed. Moreover, rooms housing expensive fabrics and dress forms that were subject to humidity levels were conducive to the formation of mold on these items.

I viewed photos from the Art department that vividly depict the growth of mold beneath air vents. Clearly, this presents a major health issue if the air supply is blowing air through what appears to be clumps of growing mold.

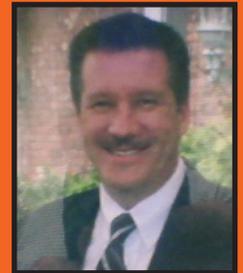
With our enrollment free falling and retention continuing to be a major problem, isn't

...continued on page 4

...continued from page 3

The Inside Scoop

it time that the college addresses these issues? What is the image that we are giving our students, prospective students, and their parents? Rooms that are 55 degrees in the winter and 85 degrees in the summer; broken pipes behind the clusters with steam emanating from them for years; leaking ceilings; broken lights; unlit areas on campus; mold formation on surfaces; no hot water; carpeting worn to the cement; poor fenestration throughout the buildings.



Richard D. Erben

Perhaps, the COVID monies that we received would have been better spent on improving our HVAC systems than purchasing tens of thousands of units of masks and hand sanitizer that are sitting unused in shipping containers in the parking lot. Unfortunately, this is the culmination of decades of a reactive response by the college as opposed to a proactive response.

The state of NCC's infrastructure is crumbling. The faculty, staff, and students on this campus deserve at minimum a safe environment.

Richard D. Erben
Chief Information Officer
Adjunct Faculty Association

