



TIME TO ORGANIZE!

PSC RF-CUNY Central Office Chapter

Issue 10

November 16, 2009

Contract Negotiations Update

Our continued demonstrations of solidarity—most recently through the strike drill on November 11—continue to bring us closer to our goal. At our bargaining session on 11/13/09, RF management increased their wage offer ¼% in the first year, which eliminated the last 2.75% from the table. They also withdrew their demand to increase the employee share of the health insurance premium to 19% and their proposal for a 4th year of the contract. Management's current economic package is 3.0, 3.0, and 3.0% per year with the employee contribution to the health insurance increasing to 18% in the 2nd year of the contract.

The Union's current proposal is 3.75, 3.75 and 4.0% per year with the employee contribution to the health insurance also increasing to 18% in the 2nd year. We continue to negotiate language that would commit RF management to consult with the PSC before implementing changes to health insurance benefits during the contract term.

While we are closer to an agreement, we have reached a point at which we cannot continue to match management's movement without going below what some members had indicated was their bottom line. The membership must give the bargaining team direction as to what, if any, further movement we can make at the table. To that end, we are conducting **departmental meetings** this week from **12:30-1:30pm** according to the following schedule:

- Tuesday: Client Services, OTPS and Administrative Services
- Wednesday: Grants & Contracts 1 and Finance
- Thursday: Grants & Contracts 2 and SIS

It is of the utmost importance for every member to attend one of these meetings. The most important factor for all of us to keep in mind is how to maintain solidarity. This could require some of us to go above our personal bottom line while others go below. As long as we continue to stand together, we will prevail.

The departmental meetings will be followed by a **pizza party** on **Friday, Nov. 20 from 12:00-2:00pm** and a **general membership meeting** on **Monday, Nov. 23 from 12:30-1:30pm**. It may seem like a lot of meetings, but there is no way around the hard work of building consensus. This too is part of the larger struggle.

To refresh your memory of how far we have come, go to:

<http://www.psc-cuny.org/RFstrike091409.htm#STRIKE_AUTHORIZATION>.