



Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

It is with great satisfaction that I am able to report that last week CCFT and District amicably settled the union's unfair practice charge and complaint against the District.

As you may have been aware, last spring, the District announced a change to the calendar for the South County Centers from 18 to 15 weeks (although it did make this switch, the calendar for SCC has since been changed back by the District to an 18-week calendar for 2011-2012). The union's contention was that such a change is subject to bargaining and thus we requested to negotiate with the District - that request was refused. Consequently, CCFT filed an unfair practice charge against the District, alleging that it violated its duty to negotiate over its unilateral change to the calendar. PERB issued a complaint over CCFT's unfair practice charge, resulting in the parties meeting for a settlement conference over the issue.

This settlement conference was successful, with the parties agreeing to the following to fully resolve CCFT's charge and complaint:

1. The District has acknowledged that the elimination of all 18-week courses at a campus (such as SCC, the North County Centers or the SLO main campus) is subject to negotiations with CCFT.
2. The District has agreed to compensate those part-time faculty members who are eligible for office hour compensation under Article 4.16 of the CBA for the office hour compensation they lost as a result of the District's switch from the 18-week to 15-week schedule at SCC.
3. The parties have agreed to negotiate over Article 4.16 of the parties' CBA during upcoming contract negotiations, starting in July.

I will keep you posted on any further developments regarding this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you might have.

Go Cougars!

*Allison Merzon*

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