



[www.newcaucus.org](http://www.newcaucus.org)

**Our lobbying  
and organizing  
efforts reversed  
devastating  
budget cuts at  
the city and  
state levels**

**NEW CAUCUS CANDIDATES  
PRINCIPAL OFFICERS**

**Barbara Bowen**  
President

**Steve London**  
First Vice President

**Arthurine DeSola**  
Secretary

**Mike Fabricant**  
Treasurer

**COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE VP**

**Anne Friedman**

**COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE OFFICERS**

**Lorraine Cohen  
Penny Lewis  
Felipe Pimentel**

Go to [www.newcaucus.org](http://www.newcaucus.org)  
For our full slate of 27  
Executive Council Officers and  
100 convention delegates to  
the AFT and NYSUT  
(our national and state affiliates)

# Dear Community College Faculty:

We write today to ask that you cast your vote for the New Caucus slate in this April's PSC election. Over the past nine years, chapter-by- chapter, activist-by-activist, the New Caucus vision of a revitalized, democratic, fighting union has taken hold. Our caucus' commitment to community college issues is demonstrated in its roster of candidates representing full and part-time faculty, Higher Education Officers, Librarians, Counselors and College Laboratory Technicians.

Community college New Caucus/PSC leaders have been at the forefront of struggles on behalf of community college faculty, staff and students. We are dedicated to the CUNY mission of open access and have led the union's fight to ensure a quality education for all New Yorkers. Thanks largely to our leadership's political engagement, the City Council restored potentially devastating budget cuts at the city level. This term, the PSC was victorious in its campaign to avert the proposed 10 percent mid-year cut in state funding for CUNY's community colleges. Our union continues to press the City Council for funds to increase the number of faculty counselors at the community colleges where our students' needs are so great. New Caucus PSC community college chapter leaders played a significant role in organizing our members to get a good contract that includes new provisions for a sick bank and paid parental leave.

What's important to remember is that we are part of a larger New Caucus team that has a visible record of accomplishment based on a record of hard work and creative negotiating. By October of this year, top step full-time faculty will see a 34% increase since the first contract we negotiated in 2000. Other titles and steps will increase from 30% to 60%. This is in addition to other economic advances such as 80% sabbatical leaves, 24-hour release time for untenured faculty, paid parental leave, paid office hours for adjuncts teaching over six hours, 200 adjunct conversion lines and increased professional funds for our part-time colleagues.

On the ground our chapters have organized and won advances in health and safety issues, opened access to college email, and secured the re-building of BMCC's Fiterman Hall. In the most difficult of economic times we continue to resist administrative pressures for "speed-up," requiring us to do more with less. We are playing a leading role in raising the issue of demands for increased service, more publications, and an ever-growing basket of administrative duties that significantly increase our workload and cut into time that should be spent meeting with students.

Community college contract enforcement committees vigilantly pushed our presidents to grant sabbaticals and to acknowledge and respect our contributions as scholars, researchers and educators. We continue to fight for more full-time jobs while simultaneously insisting on parity for part-timers and providing adjuncts with access to those full-time positions.

New Caucus chapter leaders have played a crucial part in working with our constituency's leaders on the PSC Executive Council. At monthly meetings we discuss local and common concerns and address policy and strategy issues. Most recently we have been focusing on (1) the workload of full-time faculty, (2) the increasing demands for tenure and promotion and (3) CUNY's proposal for a new community college. A major concern is the two-tier labor system with its exploitation of increasing numbers of adjuncts. As the percentage of full-timers diminishes in relation to adjuncts, there is more pressure on full-timers for committee work. All of this undermines faculty governance.



[www.newcaucus.org](http://www.newcaucus.org)

The CUNY community college faculty and staff is remarkable for its commitment to social unionism, to our students, their families and their communities while preserving excellence in teaching and research. Our union derives much of its energy from this dedication on the part of community college leaders and activists.

In contrast to the New Caucus' work on behalf of the PSC community college constituency, our opponents have been missing in action. They have not advocated in Albany or City Hall for community college funding. When we have convened meetings and events to address full-time community college issues (workload, tenure and promotion) and part-time community college concerns (related to seniority, reasons for non-reappointment and general equity issues), they have been consistently absent. Candidates from the so-called "CUNY Alliance" have no record of accomplishments and they have no positive vision or specific plan for addressing the economic and political struggles ahead. When there is real advocacy work to be done, they simply hide in the shadows and, then, at election time, emerge to criticize.

In closing, we thank you for your past support and ask you to vote in April to endorse the New Caucus vision and to affirm our record of success.

In solidarity,

**ANNE FRIEDMAN/ BMCC**

Candidate for Vice President, Community Colleges

**LORRAINE COHEN/LAGCC**

Candidate for Community College Officer

**PENNY LEWIS/BMCC**

Candidate for Community College Officer

**FELIPE PIMENTEL/ HOSTOS**

Candidate for Community College Officer



**New Caucus**

Park West Finance  
P.O. Box 20678  
New York, NY 10025



[www.newcaucus.org](http://www.newcaucus.org)