



COUNCIL of NEW JERSEY STATE COLLEGE LOCALS
AFT/AFL-CIO

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Nicholas Yovnello
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Students, faculty and staff rally for a fair contract at schools throughout state
Faculty, librarians, professional staff call on Governor to deliver on higher education promises

UNION...Governor Christie's promise to increase support for higher education should include fair contracts for workers, according to Donna M. Chiera, President of the American Federation of Teachers New Jersey (AFTNJ), the state's largest higher education union federation. "The full and part-time faculty, librarians and professional staff of the state's public colleges and universities want working conditions to keep up with those in private schools," said Chiera. "True support for higher education means investing in both the structural capacity to house and educate students as well as the working conditions to attract, recruit and retain colleagues who will maintain high standards of excellence."

The Council of New Jersey State College Locals collectively bargains contracts for faculty, librarians, professional staff and adjunct faculty at all nine state colleges and universities. Lead negotiator College Council President Nick Yovnello, the Assistant Director of Library Services at Rowan University, characterizes discussions as the most difficult in his 40 years of bargaining with the state. "While we are making some progress, the state's proposals threaten to undermine the basics of working conditions we have established over the past several decades."

College Council members at The College of New Jersey, Kean University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University, Ramapo College, Richard Stockton College, Rowan University, Thomas Edison State College and William Paterson University are demonstrating Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26 on their respective campuses. According to Yovnello, they are gathering with students, community supporters and other unions to call for fairness.

Although negotiations are conducted centrally through the Governor's Office of Employee Relations, representatives of the college and university presidents participate in the negotiations and are responsible for formulating demands. So the local demonstrations are calls for respect from the local college and university presidents and the Governor.

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City	School	Time	Rally location
25-Apr			
Union	Kean University	12:00 noon	Morris Avenue, at main entrance
Montclair	Montclair State University	12:00 noon	Amphitheater
Jersey City	New Jersey City University	12:00 noon	Between Science building and Student Union Building
Mahwah	Ramapo College	12:00 noon	The Arch
Galloway	Richard Stockton College	11:00 to 2:00 pm	Behind the Student Center
Glassboro	Rowan University	11:00 AM	Rowan Hall & Bunce Hall
Wayne	William Paterson University	12:00 noon	Near Watch Tower, outside Cheng Library
26-Apr			
Ewing	The College of New Jersey	11:30 to 1:00 pm	Main Steps at Green Hall

[END]

The Council of New Jersey State College Locals, AFT, AFL-CIO is comprised of 11 locals and represents more than 8,700 faculty, adjunct faculty, librarians and professional staff at: The College of New Jersey, Kean University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University and the A. Harry Moore School, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Richard Stockton College, Rowan University, Thomas Edison State College and William Paterson University. Our mission is to protect the rights and privileges of the employees we represent, to help provide a quality, affordable and accessible education to students attending our State colleges and universities, to advance the interests of public employees and to act in solidarity with the labor movement.