

Letters to the Editor

Retirement Credit for Adjunct Service

Ann Vasey, Chair Part-Time Faculty Professional Development Committee Quinsigamond C.C. 1988-1992, Adjunct at QCC 1978-92, Teacher Southbridge Public School 1993-present

A bill, #3819, Docket # 3925, allowing adjunct faculty who have taught at community colleges and universities and are now members of the retirement system to buy back "per diem" time served prior to becoming full time has been filed in the Massachusetts House of Representatives by Representative Carron of Southbridge.

There are many opportunities for buy-backs including veterans, employment for municipalities, folks employed in parochial schools and those on maternity leaves.

Until 1991 part-time faculty had absolutely no retirement benefits. Beginning at that time they could participate in the Deferred Compensation Plan of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The State may save funds by allowing a buy back while those in this situation are still working, rather than later having to support those with limited retirement incomes. Everyone gains. The Commonwealth needs to recognize the service that is provided by adjunct faculty the Massachusetts Higher Education system.

It is important that those in this position are aware of this bill, and that they contact their Representatives and Senators.

Text of #3819

Section I Subdivision (1) of section 4 of chapter 32 of the General Laws as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition is hereby amended by the following paragraph:

Any member of a retirement system who previously served in a position as per diem professors who have taught at state universities and community colleges may establish credit for such service by depositing in the annuity savings fund of the system of which he is a member the amount which would have been withheld as a regular deduction from his salary for such service, plus regular interest to date of such deposits.

Petitioners include Mark Carron 6th Worcester district, David P. Magnani, Norfolk District, and Michael Festa, 35th Middlesex district. ■



Professor Anne Bonemary, STCC

Delegate Assembly...

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| Chapter | Entitlement | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|
| | Min. | Target |
| Berkshire | 3 | 11 |
| Bristol | 6 | 20 |
| Bunker Hill | 7 | 23 |
| Cape Cod | 4 | 14 |
| Greenfield | 3 | 11 |
| Holyoke | 7 | 23 |
| Mass Bay | 5 | 16 |
| Massasoit | 7 | 25 |
| Middlesex | 7 | 25 |
| Mt. Wachusett | 4 | 12 |
| North Shore | 8 | 27 |
| North. Essex | 7 | 22 |
| Quinsigamond | 6 | 20 |
| Roxbury | 3 | 11 |
| Springfield | 8 | 26 |
| Totals | 85 | 286 |

Directions to the Best Western Royal Plaza

181 Boston Post Road West,
Marlboro, Massachusetts 01752
Tel: (508) 460-0700
FAX: (508) 480-8218

From Boston & Route 128:

Mass Pike West (I-90) to Route 495 North. Take exit 24B onto Route 20 West. The Royal Plaza is 1 mile on the right.

From Worcester:

Route 290 East to Route 495 South. Take exit 24B onto Route 20 West. The Royal Plaza is 1 mile on the right.

From Springfield & the west:

Mass Pike East (I-90) to Route 495 North. Take exit 24B onto Route 20 West. The Royal Plaza is 1 mile on the right.

From Cape Cod and South:

Route 495 North. Take exit 24B onto Route 20 West. The Royal Plaza is 1 mile on the right.

Chairs Awarded...

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1992, the college's 25th anniversary year. As co-founder of STCC, State Representative Scibelli was instrumental in passing legislation and approving the funding, thereby authorizing and enabling the Massachusetts Board of Regional Community Colleges to acquire the Springfield Armory, then scheduled it to be deactivated, and to establish the only technical community college in the Commonwealth.

Anne Bonemery has taught ESL at STCC since 1985. She has organized professional and peer tutorial services for ESL students and volunteer tutorial services in conjunction with the Springfield Literacy Network for ESL and U.S. citizenship studies. In 1999, she helped establish an ESL Academic Assistance Center on campus where ESL students can work with tutors, study, or work on computers to do assignments, research, or practice grammar, reading, writing, listening or speaking skills. The department portion of the endowed chair award was used to purchase an additional computer and software for the tutoring center.

She has developed multimedia lessons for use in the ESL classroom, and has, along with a colleague, planned and presented "Transforming the ESL Classroom", a full-day showcase at STCC attended by 100 area ESL instructors and administrators in 1994. She was the site coordinator for the Fall, 1995 MATSOL (Massachusetts Association of Teachers to Speakers of Other Languages) Conference held at STCC. In 1999, Bonemery created the French program at STCC, along with the French professional and volunteer tutoring program.

Professor McDonald, a 30 veteran of STCC, developed several mathematics courses and was largely responsible for establishing the individualized testing program center on campus. That system allows students to study audio-tutorial mathematics courses at their own pace, test when they feel they are ready and receive immediate feedback. He also developed the basis for the STCC math placement test and an alternative placement exam for students wishing to enter STCC through vocational schools.

Among other activities from McDonald's extensive resume, he has been active in developing internet math courses for the college. He has been involved with the NSF funded STEMTEC program involving seven area colleges and joint efforts to improve instruction in math, science, and technology.

McDonald plans to use the departmental portion of the award to purchase software packages Converge, Mathpert, and Mathematica for Linux to be installed on computers in the Student Success Center. ■

Applicants Sought for Program at the MTA Summer Conference Emerging Leaders Training

The Ninth Annual Emerging Leaders Training Program will be held at the MTA Summer Conference, August 5-9, 2001, in Williamstown, MA. The purpose of the training is to introduce potential leaders to the Association and to provide experiences and skill development to prepare them for future leadership roles in MTA.

Any current member who has not held a local, state, or national office, (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) is eligible for consideration.

Interested?

Please contact Michelle Gallagher, MTA Higher Education Consultant, at 1-800-392-6175 x 8236 or Phil Mahler, MCCC President 978 369 1972. ■



MCCC Central Office, Interior

Know Your Day Contract

April 2001

- April 6** Dean's leave of absence recommendations due
- April 15** Dean's tenure recommendations due
- April 15** Title changes announced
- April 30** Fall assignments to faculty with full-time schedules to chapter
- May 1** President's tenure Recommendations and sabbatical decisions due
- May 15** Faculty submit college service and student advisement forms
- May 20** Tenure decisions due
- May 30** Professional staff College service and student advisement forms due

N.B. Dates may vary depending on the first day of classes. Most of these dates are "last date" standards. In many instances the action can be accomplished before the date indicated. ■

MCCC News

<http://www.tiac.net/users/mccc>

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