

February 6, 2008

Lawrence Frank, Provost
Mark Wilcockson, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs
David Jonaitis, Associate Vice President for Finance and Administrative Affairs
Vicki Roman-Lagunas, Associate Provost and Contract Administrator

Dear Administrative Team,


We were very encouraged to see in your letter of February 4 that you share our enthusiasm at bringing the work of the committee to discuss salary compression and equity to a successful conclusion. We hope that after four months, we should be ready to come to a mutual agreement on the distribution of these new dollars. The four of us stand ready to meet with the administrative team as soon as possible – on several successive days, if necessary – to bring closure to this process.

As evidenced by the question raised to President Hahs at the January Town Hall meeting, the status of this 40% of new money is very much on the minds of our members. Her response that the distribution of these funds is dependent upon the completion of the committee's work combined with the fact that we are well into the second semester of the academic year lend particular urgency to this matter.

The transmittal of our January 29 proposal prior to a meeting was intended to expedite the process by giving you an idea of the strategy we recommend and time to consider it. The proposal emphasizes the NEIU/UPI priority of addressing compression and equity across the bargaining unit.

Please know that the distribution of the January 29 proposal to President Hahs and our colleagues was intended as an update on the actions of the joint salary committee given the question posed at the Town Hall Meeting. As always NEIU/UPI desires that our discussions with the NEIU administration be collegial and possess the transparency achieved by mutual cooperation. We look forward to meeting with the administrative team when (weekends are an option) and as often as it takes to bring our work to a swift conclusion.

Sincerely,


Terry Schuepfer, Terry Puryear, Tim Scherman, Patrice Stearley
Members of the NEIU/UPI Salary Committee

C: Dr. Sharon Hahs, President