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LACUNY Adjuncts and Substitutes Roundtable Meeting Minutes, May 2012

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Minutes of the LACUNY Adjunct & Substitute Roundtable Meeting
Friday, May 4, 2012

CUNY Graduate Center, Room C196.05, 10:00am

Present: Bruce Abrams (College of Staten Island), Matthew Harrick (Brooklyn College), Catherine Healey (College of Staten Island), Sarah Johnson (Hunter), Robin Potter (Brooklyn College)

Meeting called to order at 10:10am

New Business

• As a group, we discussed important information about non-teaching library adjuncts and substitutes. It became clear that this information should be made uniformly accessible. After much information sharing and swapping, it was generally agreed upon that we need to have further discussions about what adjuncts and substitutes should know, and that this information should go into a handbook or guide, created by the roundtable, and disseminated to current and future adjuncts and substitutes.

• We divided the discussion into two main themes: personnel, and personal/professional. The topics that arose are listed below. These are topics that will inform the creation of the handbook/guide, as well as future meetings of the roundtable.

Personnel:

Adjunct Insurance - how does one apply for it? Who pays for it? What are the benefits?
PSC - what is the union’s relationship to adjuncts/subs? What do we get for our dues? Can we have a representative attend a roundtable meeting?
Pension/Buyback - how can adjuncts/subs take advantage of pension plans?
Orientation for adjuncts/subs: is this something the roundtable can do, should the roundtable partner with another entity to co-orient new hires?
Rehire/Reappointments/Pay Scales - what are the rules for maximum hours worked, moving up pay scales, working at multiple CUNY libraries, etc.?
Unemployment.
Tuition remission for graduate classes for second masters degrees.
Specific rules for substitute lines - what are they? Can subs adjunct simultaneously? Can subs return to adjunct work when their appointments run out?

Personal/Professional:

Mentorship/Getting one’s foot in the door/Working on CV/Resume - can someone come to a roundtable meeting to talk about working on CVs, professional development, networking, etc.?
How long should we adjunct? Is there a point where working as an adjunct starts to look bad on a CV?
How can adjuncts get projects at their home libraries? How can they network better?
Grant-funded positions: do they exist? If so, how do they work?
List-servs/CULIBS and Metro/ACRL-NY - benefits to joining list-servs and professional organizations.

• The roundtable agreed that we should be represented on the CUNY Commons, and Matthew Harrick will create a Group page, to go live over the summer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35am.