

# News from Your Union-- AFT Local 1493

by Joaquin Rivera and Katharine Harer,  
AFT 1493 Co-Presidents



Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. As all of us look forward to returning to our classes, our students and our many projects, we want to take a moment to update

you on some of the issues that the union will be working on this year. We also want to give you a preview of *The Advocate's* new look!

## 2001 Salary Campaign

We are all feeling the pinch of the high cost of living in the Bay Area — the highest in the nation. We are also painfully aware that despite some significant gains during the last few years, our salaries have not kept up with the rate of inflation. The top priority of the AFT in negotiations this year will be to make our salaries competitive with the other community college districts in our area. Our immediate goal is to negotiate an agreement that will bring our salaries

up to the top three Bay Area college districts. To help us in this endeavor, we will be launching a salary campaign with the goal of educating our members and the larger community about these issues. We will also be making our case to the District Administration and the Board of Trustees at the negotiating table. We will be working on a number of different approaches to this issue, including: analysis of comparative data and budget information and communication of this to faculty members, the administration, the Board of Trustees

and the community; forums and public presentations; joint activities with the Academic Senate; faculty presentations to the Board of Trustees; student involvement; media coverage, etc. We will need your help in one or more of these areas. Contact your AFT chapter chairs to see what you can do:

- Bess Chandler (Skyline x4286)
- John Searle (CSM x6607)
- Romy Thiele (Cañada x3211)

## News Flash: Davis Cuts College Funding

In the state budget Governor Davis just signed, the community college system suffered a serious financial hit when the Governor vetoed on-going funds to California community colleges.

The loss of money to the San Mateo Community College District is reported to be:

On-going Instructional Equipment and Library Materials: \$735,021

Scheduled Maintenance: \$396,675

The CFT and other community college organizations are currently lobbying to try to reinstate these cuts.

### IN UPCOMING ISSUES OF THE ADVOCATE

In-depth Analyses of the District Budget

Salary Comparisons with Comparable Districts

More Reports & Discussion on the Compressed Calendar

Coverage of "Campus Equity Week" Coming in October

San Mateo  
Community  
College  
Federation  
of Teachers  
AFT Local 1493  
AFL-CIO

Special Edition  
Opening Day 2001

**the Advocate**

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## Part-Time Equity Funding

The California Federation of Teachers has won a victory for part-time faculty! After years of education, advocacy and activism on the part of full and part-time faculty members and CFT leaders, the state legislature has passed and the Governor approved a bill totaling \$57 million for part-time faculty salaries. This represents an unprecedented and long overdue effort to close the gap

between part-time and full-time faculty salaries and to improve health benefits for our part-time colleagues. Our district should receive more than \$1 million earmarked for the part-time salary schedule. AFT negotiators will work with the district to apply these monies to the part time/hourly salary schedule in a fair and equitable manner.

## Sabbatical Program

As many of you know, your negotiating team was able to win back sabbaticals for 2001-2 as a provisional program with bare-bones funding. Despite the short timeline, there were many excellent proposals and not enough money to fund them all. The Professional Development Committees at the three colleges reviewed faculty leave applications in the spring and awarded a total of seven sabbatical leaves. A number of faculty members have indicated that due to time

constraints they were not able to submit a proposal in the last round but that they are already working on one for this coming year. This shows the strong interest among faculty for this program. Look for descriptions of each of the sabbatical leave projects awarded for 2001-2 in the fall issue of *The Advocate*. In this next round of negotiations we will work to reinstate sabbatical leaves as an ongoing program with full funding.



AFT 1493's Executive Committee at work