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## **Fordham University faculty strike averted after administrators reach agreement with non-tenure faculty**

**The Bronx, NEW YORK** – Fordham University has avoided a faculty strike after reaching a tentative agreement with more than 600 part-time and full-time non-tenure track faculty members represented by Fordham Faculty United / SEIU Local 200United.

The contract proposal includes at least \$1,500 per course pay increase for all adjunct faculty, more than a 40% raise for the lowest paid members (who are in the department Graduate School of Social Service), and establishes an employer-funded FSA account for members' medical expenses. Full details of the tentative agreement are currently being shared with Fordham faculty who will vote on the contract proposal next week.

The agreement was reached between faculty members and school administrators late Wednesday evening as Fordham Faculty United members continued to take action to gather public support for their contract fight including distributing flyers at a school alumni event. Fordham faculty members, who teach the majority of the courses offered at the Bronx- and Lincoln Center-located university, announced in December that they would launch a January 30 strike after being in negotiations with school administrators since March. Union members previously agreed to two contract extensions during COVID—viewing that as a down payment of goodwill for recent negotiations.

“We are pleased that the administration met our demands and that we can continue to focus on providing a quality education for our students. While there is still more to be done to improve working conditions at Fordham University, this contract is an important steppingstone towards our goal of addressing pay parity and providing access to healthcare for adjunct instructors. We will continue to work towards these goals,” **said Diane George, Union Co-Chair and adjunct faculty member in Anthropology.**

**Joshua Jordan, Union Chief Steward and Senior Lecturer of French, said,** “The tentative agreement we have reached is a testament to the collective effort of FFU members, Fordham students and tenured faculty, as well as the larger community, who again and again have called on the Fordham administration to live up to its mission of social justice and do what's right for the most vulnerable of its faculty. Together we have shown the strength of solidarity! While the agreement falls short of fulfilling all that we'd envisioned for this second contract, it will improve the lives of FFU members and the learning conditions of our students. It also provides a path to a fairer and more equitable university community in future contracts. This is one important step in our collective fight for a better Fordham.”