



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Loyola University Chicago Non-Tenure Track Faculty to Strike on May Day

Chicago, IL – More than 300 non-tenure-track faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences at Loyola University Chicago will hold a one-day strike on Friday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in their fight for a fair contract.

After more than a year of contract negotiations, University management has refused to continue negotiations this week in order to avert a strike.

“Our working conditions are our students’ learning conditions. We are asking Loyola’s administration to invest in us so we can invest in our students. We know that faculty-student relationships are the key to student retention—and therefore the sustainability of Loyola. Shiny new buildings will do nothing for Loyola if the administration won’t support the school’s faculty,” **said Matthew S. Williams, PhD, Department of Sociology and Global Studies Program.**

The faculty have put forward reasonable demands: a quality raise for all, adequate parental leave for part-time faculty, and manageable workloads for full-time faculty. As unionized faculty have consistently emphasized, their working conditions are Loyola’s students’ learning conditions.

“Our colleagues see what Loyola University Chicago is doing to our community: buying buildings, tearing them down, leaving vacant lots around the neighborhood, investing in countless construction projects. And yet, management claims they have “no flexibility” when it comes to providing fair raises to faculty who helped bring in those tuition dollars in the first place. If the University can invest in rental properties, building new buildings, and paying upper administrators six to seven figure salaries, then they can at least invest in providing a decent wage to their professors who teach the majority of classes at this institution,” **said Dallas Krentzel, PhD, Department of Biology.**

For the first year of the contract, union faculty and Loyola administration are \$548,000 apart between the respective proposals, which is less than 8/100th of 1% of Loyola's \$715 million annual operating budget - this is a rounding error for Loyola but will have a meaningful impact on the lives of Loyola's non-tenure track faculty.

For years two and three, the faculty are proposing a minimum pay increase of approximately 2.5% per year depending on years of service. This is not an extreme or unreasonable proposal.

University management shows no interest in supporting adjunct faculty who teach upwards of 1,000 courses per year to Loyola students.

Faculty will be striking on Friday, May 1, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Lakeshore Campus on the corner of Sheridan and Kenmore.

The following faculty are available to speak with press prior to Friday's strike:

Dallas Krentzel Ph.D. (he/him)

Lecturer

Department of Biology

6 years at Loyola (3 as a one-year contract Instructor, also known as "Temporary Faculty")

318-840-1157

Matthew S. Williams, PhD (he/him)

Advanced Lecturer

Department of Sociology and Global Studies Program

13 years of service at Loyola

860-638-7891

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