



We Make Rhode Island Happen

AFSCME Rhode Island Council 94

American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

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PRESS RELEASE

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URI Part Time Faculty United Vote to Join Rhode Island Council 94, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

North Providence– Rhode Island Council 94, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO announced that the URI Part-Time Faculty United union overwhelmingly voted in a secret ballot election to join Council 94. The election, which was ordered and supervised by the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board, was held on April 14, 2021.

J. Michael Downey, President of Council 94, explained, “Council 94 is excited to welcome over 400 URI Part-Time Faculty as our newest members. The URI Part-Time Faculty have now joined forces with over 770 classified/non classified employees at URI represented by AFSCME. This victory calls to mind fond memories of Dorothy Donnelly, PhD, a tireless champion for all workers at URI, who unfortunately recently passed away. Dorothy was my friend and she worked hard to support the effort to join Council 94.”

Patricia Maguire, Executive Director of the URI Part-Time Faculty United union, stated, “The PTFU members wanted to join a strong, democratic union that will allow our voice to be heard more clearly in the workplace. Council 94’s assistance in negotiation, contract administration, and legal representation will make our union a stronger advocate to improve the quality of instructional services and the wages/benefits of adjunct faculty at URI. We look forward to negotiating a fair and equitable contract that benefits the students, URI, and our members.”

John Burns, Senior Staff Representative for Council 94, stated, “We are very happy to work with Patricia Maguire and the dedicated members of PTFU.”

Council 94, Rhode Island’s largest public employee union, represents over 4,000 state employees, 4,000 municipal employees, and 2,500 retirees.

Alexis Santoro, Executive Director of Council 94, concluded, “I know how hard the Part Time Faculty United members work for URI. Council 94 will work hard for PTFU members at and away from the bargaining table. Council 94 is always ready to help workers exercise their democratic right to form a union.”

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