

For Immediate Release November 2, 2021

Full-time faculty union, Point Park University reach tentative deal on a three-year contract

PITTSBURGH, PA – Point Park University's full-time faculty union, The Newspaper Guild Local 38061, has reached a tentative agreement with the university's administration on a new three-year contract. When ratified, the new contract will dramatically improve the faculty's overall compensation and working conditions.

Features include:

- Salary increases of 3.5%, 3.75% and 4.25% over the next three years;
- a new parental leave policy;
- new policies on leaves for Juneteenth and previously unrecognized religious observances;
- increases in faculty development funding;
- increases in the minimum salaries at each rank.

The contract also preserves health care, benefits, and retirement.

"We are thrilled to finally have reached an agreement," said Bob Ross, Professor of Social Justice Studies and Community Engagement, and a member of the union's bargaining team. "This contract reflects the value our faculty members contribute to the University and will put us in a better position to continue teaching and advising students, developing creative and scholarly projects, and serving our community."

"Every member of the Point Park community is focused on the mission of providing our students with a world-class education, and this agreement is a clear symbol of that," said Don Green, president of Point Park University. "From my first day on campus, I have been impressed with our full-time faculty, and I look forward to continue working with each one of them to grow our distinctive, innovative University in the heart of Downtown."

Bargaining teams from the University's administration and the faculty met remotely 25 times since June. The final tentative agreement was reached during a rare Saturday session on October 30. The faculty will hold a vote from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 10 on campus to ratify the new agreement.

"We are looking forward to working with the administration to implement a new CBA as a means to continue to strengthen Point Park University's commitment not just to its full-time faculty but also to

the community as a whole, especially our students and their educational experience," said Professor and Faculty Union Chair Dwight Hines.

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Point Park University, immersed in the heart of Downtown Pittsburgh, focuses on student success through innovative experiential learning opportunities. Point Park enrolls nearly 4,000 students in over 100 undergraduate, master's and doctoral programs offered through its Conservatory of Performing Arts, Rowland School of Business, and schools of Arts and Sciences, Communication, and Education. The University's alumni and students represent all 50 states and 34 countries around the world. Visit <u>PointPark.edu</u> to learn more.