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### **University of Hartford Adjunct Faculty Vote Yes to Join 4Cs-SEIU First Faculty to Form Union at a Private University in Connecticut**

Hartford, CT – Today the adjunct faculty at the University of Hartford voted to unionize with the Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges (4Cs). They are the first adjunct faculty at a private college or university in Connecticut to form their union. Fifty-five percent voted to unite in the 4Cs, affiliating with the Service Employees International (SEIU) and its Faculty Forward movement. Votes were counted at the offices of the National Labor Relations Board in Hartford.

“Today we voted to stand together and use our collective voice to begin reversing the trend of low pay, few benefits and no job security for part-time faculty,” said Robert Kagan, adjunct faculty member and spokesman for the unionization effort at UHart. “We look forward to working with our administration to create more suitable employment conditions that we strongly believe will improve the quality of our students’ educational experiences.” Kagan teaches communication at the University of Hartford.

“This is a victory for faculty self-determination,” said Bryan Bonina, President of the 4Cs. “With a voice in their work, faculty can improve both working conditions and student learning conditions.”

The 4Cs has united full-time faculty and staff at Connecticut's community colleges since 1973 and part-time faculty and staff since 1984.

The University of Hartford is the nineteenth higher education institution where contingent faculty have formed their union with SEIU in 2016. The other eighteen are: Wells College, Loyola University Chicago, University of Southern California, St. Charles Community College, Duke University, Boston University, Holy Names University, Saint Louis University, Ithaca College, Goucher College, Notre Dame de Namur University, St. Martin's University, McDaniel College, Seattle University, Minnesota College of Art and Design, Augsburg College, Hillsborough Community College, and Columbia College Chicago.

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