



**KEAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS**  
**An Association of Professors, Professional Staff and Librarians**

Local 2187, American Federation of Teachers  
Kean University, Union, N.J. 07083  
Phone 908 737-3925 Fax 908 737-3929

KFT General Meeting  
22 October 2003 3:30 pm  
New Academic Building 113

**I. President's Report**

\*D. Casale reported that key issues were discovered with the University Bond Rating conducted by Standard and Poors which downgraded the bonds' rating from "A" stable to "A" negative unstable.

\*Report made by attendee at the Curriculum Committee meeting re: the New Jersey Center for Science and Technology. Many questions were raised about the new degree program: to whom the staff would be reporting; the question as to whether the Center will have an Institute structure; how issues of tenure would come into play; how scholarship monies are being appropriated and where the divisions are in teaching assignments were discussed. There appeared to be a lot of unresolved issues with this program, but the Farahi Administration is intent on its approval, and has placed it on the "super fast track"

\*Attention was brought to the expenditures on the fiscal year 2004 budget that appears on the University web site. Monies have already been allocated towards the Science and Technology Education, which are different from the Science and Technology Scholarships and Technology improvements.

\*The AFT National has been contacted regarding the seriousness of the misrepresentation of budget surpluses that the University has seen over the past 3 fiscal years. Additional action will be forthcoming, including an audit.

**II. Department/Program Liaisons**

\*New coordinators have been appointed to the KFT Executive Council to help with departmental issues.

\*An alert was made to the KFT President about the removal of air conditioners in Townsend Hall and the Science building. D. Casale communicated with P. Connelly about OSHA regulations, and the removal was temporarily halted.

### **III. Future Directions**

\*Future directions of the KFT were discussed including: more social events; increase/better communication among members; more activism; expanding links with labor; web site use (now that it is up); increased use of list server; linking the Union with more students. Thus far the KFT has mainly been in a reactive mode as it has concentrated on beating back measures taken by the new Farahi Administration, but a future goal is for the KFT to be more proactive and pursue its own initiatives.

### **IV. Treasurer's Report**

\*Ellen Comerford explained to the members a plan to initiate a 50K scholarship endowment in KFT'S name, to be funded by the KFT's reserve.

\*An explanation of a KFT endowment fund, in terms of specifics, will be researched by the Treasurer and an ad hoc committee. Issues were discussed about the fund, especially administrative control, general handling, etc. All matters and suggestions need to be referred to the Treasurer and the ad hoc committee.

### **V. Political Action**

\*J. Erickson reported that several candidates were endorsed by the State Council. Some were Democrats and others were Republicans.

\*The Commission on Higher Education has released their master draft. It can be viewed online.

\*Domestic partners legislation was introduced at committee level. Additional action will be taken on it.

### **VI. Open Forum**

\*The next General Membership meeting of the KFT will be held in Downs Hall on November 19 at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Damaio and Nicole Rodriguez during the absence of Linda Bradbury, Secretary of the KFT.