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ABSTRACT

Part-time instructors constitute a substantial proportion of the faculty at all levels of instruction. Community colleges in California are especially dependent on part-time instructors. Based on a survey of 243 (46%) part-time instructors at Santa Monica College, this study shows that most part-time instructors are committed to the profession of teaching but prohibited from full-time jobs by the employment crisis. Their qualifications compare well with those of full-time faculty and they invest a substantial amount of time in preparation for class. They depend on their small salary from the college for a large proportion of their total income; many support themselves by holding a number of part-time assignments at various educational institutions. Part-time instructors are aggrieved by their low salaries, lack of fringe benefits, and their low status. Most would accept a full-time job but half would prefer to remain part-time if their pay and status were improved. Part-time teachers are denied the opportunity to prove themselves and then penalized for failure to demonstrate their merit. Additionally, the disproportionate number of women on the part-time staff can be considered as an example of the discriminatory treatment of women in academia. The women are more qualified, invest more time in class preparation, and have fewer outside professional commitments. The survey instrument and tabulated responses are appended. (JDS)

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'Invisible and Indispensable:

Part-Time Teachers in California Community Colleges

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Abstract

Part-time instructors constitute a substantial proportion of the faculty at all levels of higher education. Community colleges in California are especially dependent on part-time instructors.

Based on a survey of the large part-time staff at one community college, this study shows that most part-time instructors are committed to the profession of teaching but prohibited by the employment crisis from finding full-time jobs. Their qualifications compare well with those of full-time teachers and they invest a substantial amount of time in class preparation. They depend on their small salary from the college for a large proportion of their total income. Many support themselves by holding a number of part-time assignments at various educational institutions. They are aggrieved by their low salary, lack of fringe benefits and insecure status. Most would accept a full-time job but half would prefer to remain part time if their pay and status were improved.

At all levels of academia, part-time teachers are denied the opportunity to prove themselves and then penalized for failure to demonstrate their merit. Part-time employment at community colleges is structured in such a way that the involvement of hourly instructors in the life of the college is hindered, and the second-class status of part-time teachers then defended on the basis of their lesser commitment to the school. In fact,



most part-time instructors desire further participation in campus affairs.

The disproportionate number of women on the part-time staff can be considered an example of the discriminatory treatment of women in academia. The women part-time instructors differ in background, motivation and expectations from the men. The women are more qualified, they invest more time in class preparation, they have fewer outside professional interests and they are angrier about their pay and conditions of employment.



Introduction

Part-time teachers constitute a substantial proportion of the faculty at all levels of higher education. Community colleges are especially dependent on part timers. These public, two-year colleges began to employ large numbers of part-time teachers during the 1960s in order to cope with the influx of students. The proportion of part-time faculty members increased even more sharply during the early 1970s (Lombardi, 1975:1); although the period of rapidly expanding enrollment was over, the employment of part timers continued to be viewed as a money-saving arrangement. 1

In California, the faculty of the community college system consisted of 14,273 full-time instructors and 20,027 part-time instructors by 1975. Thus, 58 percent of the teachers were employed only on an hourly basis. In addition, 7,505, or 53 percent of the full-time staff, also taught at their own institutions on an overload basis. Altogether, 38 percent of the graded classes were taught by employees who were being paid an hourly salary. Furthermore, 4,394, or 90 percent of the instructors of adult education classes, were part timers (Brydon et al, 1976:5,13,14).

Although part-time instructors² constituted the majority of the faculty in almost every community college district in the state (Ross, 1975), these teachers were not considered regular members of the college staff. Lists of the faculty generally omitted the names of part-time instructors; most studies of community college faculty focussed on full-time instructors (e.g., Cohen, 1969; Frankel, 1973; Garrison, 1967; Gleazer, 1958, 1972;



Kelley and Wilbur, 1970; Medsker and Tillery, 1970; Phair, 1972). The pay and conditions of part-time instructors reflected their low status. A part-time instructor is generally paid less than one half of the prorated salary of a full-time instructor and is denied all fringe benefits. Classified as "temporary employees," part-time instructors have no job security and are not entitled to due process hearings when they are dismissed (Lombardi, 1975:4). Thus, the institutions that claim to function as the democratizing agents in higher education are in fact run like profit-oriented businesses; they maintain a small staff of full-time workers and then, when business demands increase, hire supplementary part-time workers who can be paid at a lower rate and who can be dismissed at will.

I have taught for two years at Santa Monica College, a large community college in an affluent section of Los Angeles. This college demonstrates the economic advantages of employing a disproportionate number of part-time teachers. Table I shows that the part-time staff at this college grew rapidly during the academic years 1974-75 and 1975-76 when enrollment increased. [Place Table I here] It can be seen that, between the fall of 1974 and the spring of 1976, the administration increased the number of part-time instructors by more than 200 percent but increased the number of full-time teachers by less than 10 percent. This was sound economic policy. During the academic year 1975-76, all part-time instructors were paid a salary of \$14.75 for each classroom hour, regardless of prior teaching experience, educational



background or hours spent in preparation; like part-time instructors at most other academic institutions, they were denied fringe benefits. As a result, part-time instructors earned about 40 percent of the pro-rated salary of full-time teachers, despite the fact that they taught identical courses for which students received the same credit and for which the college district received the same amount of money from the state. 4

We can estimate the amount the college saved by hiring such a large proportion of these inexpensive, part-time teachers in the following way. A part-time teacher earns almost \$800. for teaching one course. Roughly half of the hourly instructors teach one course and the remainder teach two. We can thus estimate that during the fall semester of 1975, the total salaries paid to both part-time instructors and those full-timers who were teaching overload classes, was \$739,200. Since this sum represented 40 percent of what a staff of full-time teachers would have earned for the same courses, the cost of hiring full-time teachers to replace the part-time staff would have been \$1,948,000. During this one semester alone, the college thus saved \$1,109,000. During the spring semester, the college paid the 664 part-time teachers and 91 "overloading" teachers a combined salary of \$900,000 and saved \$1,359,000. Thus, during the academic year 1975-76, the college saved a total of \$2,467,000 as a result of the large differential between hourly and full-time salaries. 5 This represents a sizable sum for a college with a total yearly income of \$13,108,906.6

Where has this money gone? Between September 1974 and September 1976, six new administrative positions were created, a number of faculty members were declared management and substantial salary in-

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creases were granted to all administrators. As a result, the amount spent on administrators' salaries rose from \$427,980 to \$711,221, an increase of \$283,241, or 66 percent. A building program, including a new library, a new meeting room for the Board of Trustees and new offices for administrators, has absorbed additional funds. Despite demands from the part-time faculty for office space, no funds have been allocated for this purpose. Symbolically, a lounge formerly used by part-time teachers to prepare for class has been converted into an enlarged office for one administrator.

During the fall semester of 1975 I conducted a survey of the part-time staff at Santa Monica College. Two hundred and forty-three, or slightly more than 46 percent of the total part-time staff, returned the questionnaire which I placed in their campus mail boxes. A copy of the questionnaire is in the Appendix. Although all responses were anonymous, the respondents appear to have represented a broad sample of the part-time staff. Questionnaires were received from roughly 46 percent of the part-time members of each academic division.

It is important to obtain information about the background, motivation and aspirations of part-time teachers because community college administrators frequently justify their discriminatory treatment of this segment of their faculty in two ways. First, they claim that part-time instructors lack a substantial commitment to the institution. Second, they assert that these teachers do not need larger salaries. After all, the recurrent argument goes,



the typical part-time teacher is a real estate salesman who stops off at the college one night a week for the enjoyment of sharing his expertise with a few students. Underlying this statement are the assumptions that the average part-time faculty member is a man, that he invests virtually no time in class preparation, that he lacks the qualifications for a regular faculty appointment, that ne holds a full-time job elsewhere, that he does not regard himself primarily as an educator, and that he is satisfied with his salary and working conditions. On the basis of my survey, I will show first, that structural obstacles hamper the participation of part-time teachers in the life of the college and, second, that the stereotype of the part-timer held by the administration is wrong on virtually all counts.



Commitment

At all levels of academia part-time teachers are denied the opportunity to prove themselves and then penalized for failure to demonstrate their merit. Thus, although part-timers at universities are rarely awarded research grants, they are refused promotion on the grounds that they do not publish the requisite amount (Tobias & Rumbarger, 1974: 128). Part-time instructors at community colleges are placed in a similar bind. Part-time employment at these institutions is structured in such a way that the involvement of hourly instructors in the life of the college is hindered, and the second-class status of part-time teachers then defended on the basis of their lesser commitment to the school.

Commitment and loyalty are vague terms which cannot be easily quantified. At a community college they appear to be measured by visibility on campus. Although part-time instructors are castigated for their lack of commitment, they are specifically denied the means by which commitment is usually shown. Part-time faculty members are rarely provided with their own offices where. colleagues can observe them holding student conferences and preparing for class, nor are they paid for performing such functions. As the answers to question 14 show, less than 25 percent of the respondents to the survey stated that they had access to office space of any kind in which to meet with students and less than 20 percent had space in which to prepare for class. Similarly, large numbers of part-time instructors are not even invited to



the department meetings where concern with the affairs of a school is customarily demonstrated nor, if invited, are they paid for the time spent attending such meetings. Less than half of the respondents indicated that they were ever invited to department meetings and many of these specified that they were referring to a special fifteen minute meeting limited to part-time teachers which was held only once a semester. This meeting has since been eliminated.

The time and location of many part-time teaching assignments further restrict part-time teachers' opportunity to participate in campus affairs. Half of the hourly instructors teach at night, and a third meet their classes at such off-campus locations as the high school, churches, and a satellite campus thirty miles away. Because almost all full-time instructors teach during the day at the main campus, the majority of part-time teachers have virtually no opportunity for contact with "regular" faculty members. Part-time teachers are thus excluded from the informal collegial activities where many important decisions and contacts are made.

Part-time faculty members also lack the seniority of the full-time staff. It has been noted that between the spring and the fall of 1975, the part-time staff at the college grew from 365 to 528. Because some new part-time teachers were undoubtedly hired to replace those who resigned at the end of the spring semester, at least one-third of the part-time faculty were new during the fall of 1975. This figure is corroborated



by the answers to question 2 of the survey. This question further shows that only 24, or less than 10 percent of the respondents, had been teaching at the college nine years or more. By contrast, only 25 new full-time teachers, or 14 percent of the full-time staff, were hired at the beginning of the academic year, 1975-76, and one half of the full-time staff had been at the college at least nine years. The administration made virtually no attempt to encourage a sense of belonging among the large number of new part-time teachers. The college had no orientation program for new part-time instructors and did not even distribute copies of the faculty handbook to part-timers. Most part-time teachers thus assumed their responsibilities without being informed of the basic philosophy or goals of the college.

The insecure status of part-time teachers also inhibits their desire to participate actively in campus affairs. A comparison of the instructor lists for the fall of 1975 and the fall of 1976 shows that 187 people--35 percent of the part-time staff teaching in the fall of 1975 -- were no longer employed at the college the following By comparison, only 7 full-time teachers, or just 4 percent of the full-time staff in the fall of 1975, left the college during the same period. Administrative policies were primarily responsible for the high attrition rate of part-time instructors. During the spring of 1976, the administration sent dismissal notices to 140 part-time teachers, claiming that an enrollment decline was anticipated. However, just before the following fall semester began, 67 new part-time instructors were hired. Some part-time instructors also left voluntarily, for reasons that are readily comprehensible. A group of teachers considered expendable by their employers will have few compunctions about resigning their jobs as soon as some-



thing better appears. Moreover, because part-time teachers receive no salary increment for experience, they have no economic incentive to remain. We can assume that if administrators were concerned about the high turn-over and its consequent effect on the "commitment" of their hourly instructors, they would take steps to ameliorate the conditions of part-time employment.

The lack of involvement of part-time teachers in college affairs can thus be attributed to a variety of factors inherent in the structure of part-time employment. Most part-time teachers have not chosen to abstain from collegial activities. In fact, 50 percent of the respondents to the survey specified as "important" or "very important" their feelings of being outsiders, their lack of participation in departmental affairs and their denial of compensation for holding office hours. Such responses indicate that, far from shunning extra-curricular responsibilities, many part-time teachers feel that they have been deprived of an essential aspect of teaching at an academic institution.

Preparation Time

Is there any way of determining whether part-time teachers have in fact made a substantial investment in their institutions? A number of researchers have found that part-time employees in various fields work harder and are more productive than heir full-time counterparts. For example, a study of social workers employed on a half-time basis found that they handled 89 percent as many cases as the full-time social workers (Project on the Status and Education of Women, 1976:1). The same principle appears to hold true for part-time teachers in community colleges.

Comparisons of full-time and part-time work loads in community colleges usually stress the non-teaching responsibilities of fulltime instructors, such as serving on campus committees and participating in departmental affairs. However, recent studies have shown that full-timers spend no more than 10 percent of their time performing duties from which part-time teachers have been exempted (Lombardi, 1974:1). On the other hand, hourly instructors appear to spend a disproportionate amount of time in class preparation. As the answers to question 21 show, 129, or just over one half of the respondents to the survey claimed that they spend at least three hours preparing for each hour they teach. 10 It would be virtually impossible for full-time instructors, who are required to teach fifteen hours a week, to devote a comparable amount of time: they would have to spend 45 hours a week preparing their classes, and 60 hours either in the classroom or in course preparation. Those full-time instructors who teach additional courses on an overload basis (more than half the total) would have to spend



even more time. However, it is undoubtedly unnecessary for fulltime teachers to work so hard, because they generally repeat the
same course each semester. Part-time teachers rarely remain at
the college as long as their full-time counterparts and they are
thus less likely to reap the benefit of experience. One implication of the high turnover rate of part-time instructors is that
each semester a new group of teachers must spend a large amount
of time preparing their courses.

because all hourly instructors are reimbursed only for actual class time, their lengthy preparation time represents unpaid labor. Alternatively, we could say that those individuals who spend at least three hours preparing a one-hour class for which they are paid \$14.75 are actually working for a maximum salary of \$3.68. The few instructors who prepare over five hours for each class are working at a rate that is beneath the minimum wage. One definition of committed instructors should include those teachers who invest a substantial amount of time in classes for which they are paid a pittance.



Qualifications

It is commonly asserted that hourly instructors are selected in a random or haphazard manner and are thus not as well qualified as the full-time faculty who have been subjected to the full scrutiny of the regular hiring process. However, the part-time faculty members at Santa Monica College are well qualified according to the two criteria for assessing merit at a community college, academic credentials, and prior teaching experience.

One hundred and seventy-seven, or 73 percent of the respondents to the survey, reported that they had taught before their appointment at the college. Moreover, the majority had taught at the levels that would be considered appropriate background for community college teachers. Ninety-two had taught in secondary schools and 100 in colleges. These figures support a central contention of this paper, namely that part-time teachers have made a substantial professional commitment to the field of education.

The minimum requirement for certification as a community college instructor in California is a master's degree, except for those in occupational programs. Table II shows that the majority of part-time faculty members who lack an M.A. teach in the business and vocational divisions. [Place Table II here.] Furthermore, 15, or 26 percent, of the hourly instructors who have not completed an M.A. degree teach more than one course, whereas 92, or 47 percent, of those instructors who have earned this academic credential teach two or more courses. In terms of work load then, those part-time instructors without an M.A. degree represent a small fraction of



all hourly instruction.

The percentage of the part-time staff who hold doctorates compares well with the record of the full-time faculty members. 11 Eighteen, or 7 percent, of the respondents had earned either a Ph.D. or equivalent and 23, or 9 percent, were enrolled in doctoral programs. By contrast, 13 percent of the full-time faculty had received a doctorate. 12

Although many part-time teachers thus come to their jobs at the college with considerable training and experience, their pay reflects the administrators' assumption that they lack appropriate qualifications. Full-time teachers receive salary increases for teaching experience and for course work beyond the master's degree. All part-time instructors are paid at the same rate regardless of previous faculty appointments and educational attainments.



Outside Employment

The belief that the overwhelming majority of part-time teachers hold full-time jobs and that their primary professional interest lies outside the field of education is implicit in the stereotype of the part-time teacher as a moonlighting real-estate salesman. However, data from the survey contradict both assumptions. 13

The average part-time teacher is neither as securely nor as profitably employed as the stereotypical real-estate salesman. Of the 233 people who answered the question concerning outside employment, 156, or 66 percent, stated that they held a job in addition to their part-time teaching position at Santa Monica College. However, of these 156 respondents, 48 stated that their only additional job was a part-time or substitute teaching position at another educational institution. Thus, altogether 125, or 54 percent, of the respondents either have no outside job at all or have only another marginal teaching position. 14

The majority of part-time teachers, like the full-time staff, have made their primary professional commitment to education. An important question in the survey was the following: "Do you consider yourself primarily a teacher or educator?" Sixty-seven, or 73 percent, of the responsents answered affirmatively. Moreover, most of the other jobs held by members of the part-time faculty are teaching positions. Of the 108 part-timers who hold outside jobs other than part-time teaching, 44, or 40 percent, are full-time teachers at another educational institution. When we add



this number to the large group who either have no outside employment at all or hold only additional part-time teaching positions, we find that teaching constitutes the sole employment of a total of 169, or 73 percent of the part-time faculty.

This large proportion of part-time instructors with no employment outside the field of education can in turn be divided into two distinct groups: those who are fully employed at one school and those who commute between part-time jobs at various educational institutions. Seventy-five percent of the Santa Monica College part-time faculty with full-time teaching positions, or 18 percent of the total part-time staff, are high school teachers. This is the source from which a significant number of community college teachers throughout the nation traditionally have been recruited; in 1971, over one-third of all community college faculty had formerly taught in a secondary school (Cohen et al., 1971:180). Although precise figures are not available, it is known that a substantial proportion of the full-time staff at Santa Monica College began their careers as secondary school teachers.

Although secondary school teachers are familiar members on community college staffs, the large number of teachers who depend for their livelihood on part-time teaching at two or more educational institutions constitute a new and increasingly significant group. The existence of this group of teachers without any primary institutional affiliation is largely the result of the employment crisis in the field of education. Many teachers have found that their only means of pursuing their career in today's tight job market is to pick up whatever part-time teaching jobs are available (Scully, 1975:1). Even if they succeed in putting together a schedule



in which they teach a full-time load, they generally earn less than half the salary. Because the jobs are usually secured on a semester-to-semester basis, these itinerant teachers are almost constantly engaged in the process of job hunting. The costs of their jobs also include the expense and psychological strain of commuting between different campuses. Well-qualified and committed, they form a cheap labor reserve for the nation's post-secondary schools.

It has been seen that the community colleges are especially dependent on this pool of under-employed and under-paid teachers. Most hourly instructors with additional part-time assignments are teaching at other community colleges. A total of 53, or 22 percent of the respondents, are also on the part-time staffs of other community colleges. This group of commuters illustrates in the extreme the dilemma of most part-time teachers, who are prevented from participating fully in any one college and then penalized for that lack of participation. It is frequently asserted that part-time instructors who commute between various community college campuses dash from each class and devote only minimal attention to any one course. However, as Table III shows, these commuters appear to be among the most "committed" part-timers. [Place

Commuters tend to spend more time preparing their classes than other part-time faculty members. Their desire for more involvement in the college is demonstrated by their greater distress at their inability to participate in departmental affairs and at their lack of compensation for holding office hours. It should also be noted that the structure of their



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employment is the result of administrative policies, not of their own occupational choices. As we have seen, in some fields it has been virtually impossible to obtain a full-time teaching position but relatively easy to find a single course to teach. The dissatisfaction of the commuters with their job situation is demonstrated by the fact that 75 percent of them, as opposed to 25 percent of the rest of the part-time faculty, are looking for a full-time job at another educational institution. Not surprisingly, the hourly instructors who teach part-time at other community colleges are more aggrieved by their low salary and absence of fringe benefits than are other part-timers.

Income

The primary rationalization for the low salary of part-time teachers is that they do not need more money. A similar justification has been used to defend wage discrimination against female workers: women join the labor force for fun or self-fulfillment and their earnings are supplementary. Women have countered this familiar "pin-money" argument by claiming that it rests on a capricious application of socialism and a misapprehension of women's economic needs. In a capitalist economy, workers are paid according to the amount they work, not according to what they need (Tobias & Rumbarger, 1974:132). Moreover, the majority of women workers are motivated by economic necessity (Women's Bureau, 1974:1).

It should be noted that it is virtually impossible to rely totally on the salary from a part-time teaching position at Santa Monica College to support an individual, much less a family. The college has limited the teaching load of each part-time instructor to two courses; the maximum annual salary of a part-timer during the academic year 1975-76 was thus \$3,200, a sum far beneath the poverty level in the nation. A college administration that does not pay part-time employees a living wage cannot then justify a discriminatory salary on the ground that those teachers have other sources of income. Nevertheless, the answers to question 9 show that 73, or 32 percent, of the respondents, derive at least one half of their personal yearly income from their teaching positions



at the college. It could be argued that this is the only statistic we should consider to determine economic need; wages should be sufficient to allow every adult to be economically independent of other members of the household. Given the paltry part-time salary, it is to be expected that most hourly instructors who lack other jobs must be supported by someone else; and, in fact, as the answers to question 10 show, over half of the part-time teachers stated that less than 10 percent of their household income comes from their teaching job at the college. What is surprising is that as many as 25, or 10 percent, of the respondents claim that at least 50 percent of their household income comes from their college wage and that an additional 85, or 35 percent, of the respondents, estimated that they depend on the salary for between 11 and 49 percent of their total income.



Teaching Time

It has been seen that, in their academic qualifications, teaching experience and commitment to education as a career, the typical adjunct instructor closely resembles the "regular" contract teacher. However, the second-class status of part-timers is further justified by the argument that they teach only part-time, evening students, not the traditional, college-age student population.

It is not clear, however, what logic would dictate the assignment of part-time students to part-time instructors and of low status to the latter. Such a policy, in fact, runs counter to the rhetoric of community colleges, which characterizes these institutions as democratizing agents in higher education. The primary means by which community colleges further equality is through their policy of open enrollment. However, the important question is not whether groups in society previously excluded from higher education can gain admittance to a college, but what happens to them once they enroll. A college that relegates one group of students to poorly-paid instructors is not working to guarantee equal opportunity for its entire student body. Moreover, a number of recent studies have shown that an increasingly large proportion of the students who choose to enter the "open-door" of community colleges in the future will be the adult, part-time students who are currently assigned to hourly instructors (Cross, 1971; Gleazer, 1972; Medsker & Tillery, 1971).

Furthermore, there is no clear demarcation between full-time day students and part-time evening students, and part-time instructors are, in fact, responsible for both. Many of the day-time students



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work at least 40 hours during the week. Conversely, some evening students are unemployed and simply find it more convenient to attend classes that meet after 7 p.m. Because a large proportion of the evening courses are identical to those offered during the day, large numbers of "day" students take part of their load during the evening.

Although virtually all evening instructors are part-timers, almost half of the part-time faculty teach during the day. In fact, the assignment of day-time classes to hourly instructors is a fairly recent practice at community colleges; it began when the percentage of part-time teachers started to accelerate. Table IV shows that the evening part-timers conform to the administrators' stereotype more closely than do their day-time counterparts. [Place Table IV here.] As a group, the day-time hourly instructors teach more classes both at this college and at other community colleges. On the other hand, a smaller percentage of the day part-timers hold any other jobs and, as a result, they tend to rely on their salary from the college for a larger percentage of their total income. A higher proportion of the part-timers in the occupational fields teach at night. 17

Women

Women outnumber men on the part-time teaching staff at
Santa Monica College. In fact, the percentage of women on the
part-time faculty is almost twice that of women on the full-time
teaching staff. Women constitute 27 percent of the full-time
faculty and 53 percent of the part-time faculty at the college.
Moreover, because women part-timers tend to teach more courses
than the men, an even greater percentage of the actual class
load is taught by women than these figures suggest.

The large proportion of women holding these part-time positions can be considered an example of the exploitation of women in academia life. We have seen that large numbers of hourly instructors have accepted marginal positions not from preference but rather because these jobs represent their only opportunity for pursuing a teaching career in a tight job market; discrimination against women throughout academia is a second reason why many part-time teachers have been forced to accept low-level, low-paying jobs.

It has frequently been pointed out that the proportion of women in any academic position is inversely related to the status of that position (e.g., Bernard, 1966:85; Davis, 1971:593; Epstein, 1971:2; Sandler, 1972:569). Status in academia is customarily measured in two ways: by the prestige of an institution and by academic rank. Women are found overwhelmingly in smaller, non-elite colleges and they are concentrated in the lower ranks. The institutional distribution of female college teachers in the nation as a whole forms a



pyramid; women constitute 14.8 percent of the faculty at the universities, 22.7 percent at four-year colleges and 26.5 percent at twoyear colleges (Robinson, 1973:22). (The percentage of women on the full-time faculty at Santa Monica College thus approaches the national norm very closely.) An even steeper pyramid is found in the distribution of women among the faculty ranks, from the miniscule percentage of women among the full professors (9 percent), to the more respectable proportion of women among the lecturers (35 percent) (Hole & Levine, 1971:317). In community colleges, where academic rank has generally not been instituted, the primary distinction is between the full-time and part-time faculty. The large sex differential in academic achievement becomes glaringly apparent when we combine the two pyramids. Women constituted 4 percent of the full professors at the prestigious University of California in 1973 (Deckard, 1975:131); as we have seen, in the fall of 1975, they constituted 53 percent of the part-time teachers in at least one of the state's community colleges which is situated at the bottom of the academic hierarchy. A full courses each semester -- and professor at the university, teaching all but certain to be a man--earns roughly 8 times as much as a part-time teacher at a community college with the same teaching load-and more likely than not to be a woman.

The causes of the extreme dispari between the employment patterns of men and women in academia are currently the subject of a great deal of investigation and debate. Is discrimination by institutions of higher education against qualified women the only significant factor? What weight should be given to the ways in which women have been socialized to lower their own aspirations (e.g., Deckard, 1975:136-42; Roby, 1975:171-193)? Further research



is needed before we can answer such questions. Nevertheless, we can surmise that, if more women than men have been forced to accept part-time positions because their careers have been retarded, then the women part-time teachers will differ in expectations, motivation and attainments from their male colleagues. As Table V shows, data from the survey support this assumption. [Place Table V here.]

More women hourly instructors than male part-time teachers taught before joining the staff of the college. As we have seen, this is an important criterion by which community college faculty are evaluated. Women are also well qualified when assessed according to the second criterion, academic credentials. Fewer women than men lack the M.A. Because only 12 percent of all Ph.D. degrees are awarded to women (Roby, 1975:171), one would expect that 12 percent of those who both hold Ph.D. degrees and teach at Santa Monica College would be women. In fact, 38 percent of the Ph.D. holders among the part-time staff are women. Women at Santa Monica College are thus more highly qualified when compared with men than are women in the population at large.

Coming to their jobs with considerable experience and training behind them, women also invest more time in the college. As a group, the women claimed that they spend more time in class preparation than do the men and more women stated that they participated in departmental meetings. The much larger proportion of women who want to join a state teachers' association can be considered another example of their greater commitment.

The women part-timers also have fewer outside professional interests than do the men. A significantly higher proportion of



the female respondents considered themselves primarily educators.

Fewer women hold other jobs and those jobs tend to be less lucrative,

less secure and less prestigious than those held by the men. Of

the 20 part-time teachers who stated that they were either major

professionals or proprietors of large businesses, only 5 were

women. 18 On the other hand, of those part-time teachers with out
side employment, a much larger percentage of the women have only a

marginal teaching position at another educational institution. Not

surprisingly, women rely on their salary from the college for a

much larger proportion of their total income.

People who invest a great deal of time in a job generally expect to receive appropriate rewards and recognition. The women part-time teachers are clearly angrier than the men about their pay and conditions of employment. Despite the common belief that all women have husbands to support them and to provide them with the security of medical insurance, a slightly larger percentage of women resent the low salary and a much larger percentage of women are dissatisfied with the lack of medical benefits. The comparatively large proportion of women who are concerned about the lack of a credit union undoubtedly stems from the difficulty all women experience obtaining credit. The desire of the women for even more involvement in the affairs of the school is demonstrated by their greater resentment at being treated like outsiders and at not being compensated for holding office hours.



Subject Matter Taught

The stereotype of the part-timer as a real-estate salesman who shares his knowledge of business practices with a group of students is ultimately inaccurate because only a small proportion of the hourly instructors teach business subjects. About 50 percent of all part-time teachers at Santa Monica College teach in the humanities/social science division, 15 percent in the math/ sciences division, 5 percent in physical education, 12 percent in the business division and 17 percent in the vocational division.

Significant distinctions can be drawn between the part-timers on the basis of subject taught. See Table VI. [Place Table VI here.] Although instructors in the business and vocational division (hereafter aggregated as the occupational divisions) conform to the administrators' stereotype, liberal arts instructors (i.e., those in the humanities/social science division, in the math/science division and in physical education) provide support for the portrait of the part-time teacher I have drawn.

In the selection of occupational instructors, relevant experience in the field is frequently considered at least as important as academic training (Lombardi, 1975:32). It has previously been noted that the academic credentials of these part-timers are considerably lower than those of hourly instructors in liberal arts; more occupational part-timers lack an M.A. and very few have accumulated credits beyond that degree.

Not surprisingly, far more occupational instructors have outside jobs and their jobs tend to be more lucrative. On the other hand, a significantly higher proportion of instructors in the liberal arts field teach part-time at other community colleges, perceive themselves



as teachers or educators, would accept a full-time teaching position at the college, and rely on their salary from Santa Monica College for a significant proportion of their total income. As a result, they are more aggrieved by the low salary, lack of fringe benefits and poor working conditions.



Concerns

It has been seen that moonlighters represent only a small fraction of the part-time staff at Santa Monica College. Most part-time faculty members are well qualified, committed teachers whose careers have been blocked by the employment crisis in education.

One hundred and fifty-seven, or 71 percent, of the respondents stated that they would accept a full-time appointment at Santa Monica College. Despite the self-serving stereotype of the part-timer propounded by administrators, the primary difference between full-time and part-time instructors appears to be simply this: the latter entered the job market too late to obtain the type of jobs which the former are holding.

Seventy-one respondents, or nearly half of those who indicated that they would accept a full-time appointment, also stated that they would prefer to remain on a part-time basis if pay and status were improved. This is another critical statistic. First, it implies that many hourly instructors are more dissatisfied with their inferior pay and second-class status than they are with their reduced teaching loads as such. Second, a large number of community college administrators have expressed a determination to eliminate part-time jobs should adjunct faculty gain parity pay and fringe benefits. In other words, when it is no longer economical to hire part-time teachers, their positions will be abolished. It is important to recognize that such a policy would run counter to the wishes of part-time teachers.



The elimination of part-time positions would also undermine a movement currently underway throughout academia to regularize part-time employment so that part-timers receive all the prerequisites of their full-time counterparts (Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, 1973:Appendix D; Robinson, 1973:226; Robias & Rumbarger, 1974:132-37). Although the impetus behind this movement has been the desire of women to remain professionally active during their child-rearing years, an increasing number of men have also expressed the wish for more flexible career patterns. Were the community colleges to retain their large part-time staffs and implement policies geared toward improving conditions of employment, these colleges could serve as models for other post-secondary institutions.

On the last page of the questionnaire the part-time faculty was asked to rate certain concerns as either "very important," "important," "slightly important" or "unimportant." Those considered either "very important" or "important" by at least half of the respondents are enumerated in Table VII. Place Table VII here. It can be seen that the respondents were concerned first with their insecure status, second with their low salary, third with their lack of fringe benefits and fourth with their inability to participate more fully in the life of the college.

It is significant that the primary grievance was the lack of job security and tenure. We have noted that high turnover impedes the participation of part-time instructors in the life of the college



and that this is used by administrators to justify their treatment of the part-time staff. However, Table VI shows that at least 70 percent of the respondents resent the fact that their continued employment at the college is so uncertain. Their concern was realistic; shortly after the survey was conducted, the administration fired 140 part-time teachers, claiming that an enrollment decline was projected.

The dissatisfaction with the low salary and lack of fringe benefits reflects the fact that the majority of part-time teachers are not fully employed and that they rely on their salary from the college for a significant portion of their total income. Finally, the desire of part-timers for greater involvement in the life of the college is demonstrated by the high rating they gave the lack of office space, the lack of compensation for holding office hours, the lack of participation in departmental affairs and their feeling of being outsiders.



Conclusion

The conditions of part-time employment in the community college system make apparent the emptiness of many of the promises held out by the expansion of this segment of higher education. The rhetoric of the community colleges presents them as democratizing agents, enabling the underprivileged to move upward through education. There are many reasons why these institutions have not been able to fulfill the ideal of redistributing educational privilege; all of the problems of the community colleges cannot be cured by raising the pay and status of part-time teachers. Nevertheless, as long as the majority of community college teachers are underpaid, discouraged from holding office hours and treated like second-class citizens, the education provided by the community colleges will continue to be stigmatized as inferior.

However, part-time teachers throughout California are beginning to organize and to demand equitable treatment. Part-time instructors in many community college districts have filed suit, charging that they have been misclassified as temporary employees and asking for re-employment as regular employees. Part-time instructors are also beginning to use the mechanism of collective bargaining to improve their conditions and pay. SB160, the Rhoda Act, which guarantees community college teachers the right of collective bargaining, stipulates that the bargaining unit must represent all classroom teachers and that it must be determined by all teachers voting equally. Given their superior numbers on virtually every campus in the state, part-time teachers potentially have the power to



decide the outcome of these elections.

The part-time faculty at most community colleges have been organized by representatives from the two union affiliates, the California Teachers Association and the American Federation of Teachers. However, at Santa Monica College, the part-time faculty had already organized themselves by the time these two groups recognized the advantages of including within their membership part-time instructors. Thus, the Santa Monica College part-time faculty association is one of the strongest organizations of part-time instructors because it resulted from a grass-roots movement. This association was founded during the summer of 1975. Like all marginal workers, part-time instructors are difficult to organize. Nevertheless, the part-time faculty association at the college had over 200 members by the spring of 1976. At this time the association became the CTA chapter on campus, despite a challenge from the full-time faculty. The association also conducted an authorization campaign to become the collective bargaining agent, obtaining the support of 57 percent of the entire faculty. Last summer, the association filed suit against the Board of Trustees, demanding the reinstatement of the 140 part-time instructors who had been arbitrarily dismissed the previous semester and asking for reclassification, pro-rata salary and back pay for all CTA members on campus.



Table I

Increases in Numbers of Students and Faculty

| | Fall,1974 | Spring,1975 | <u>Fall,1975</u> | Spring,1976 |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| Total enrollment | 14,750 | 16,095 | 17,814 | 18,157 |
| Full-time teachers | 155 | 155 | 170 | 170 |
| Number of full-time teachers with "over- load" classes | 86 | 83 | 88 | 91 |
| Number of part-time instructors | . 314 | 368 | 528 | . 664 |

7,711 - . . .

^{*}Deputy Superintendent, Santa Monica Community College District, "Recommendation No. 2: Enrollment Comparisons, Fall 1973 through Spring 1976" (April 26, 1976)

Table II

Highest Academic Degree Obtained by Members of Different Departments*

| Department | High School Diploma | A.A. | B.A. | M.A. | Doctoral Candidate | Ph.D. or Equivalent |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Vocational | 6 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| Business | 0 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 3 | 3 |
| Physical Education | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9 | o | 0 |
| Humanities/Social Sciences | 1 | 0 | 3 | 91 | 17 | 10 |
| Math/Sciences | 0 | 0 | 7 | 20 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | 7 | 3 | 33 | 152 | 23 | 17 |



 $^{^{\}text{th}}\textsc{Not}$ all respondents indicated both their department and their highest degree obtained.

Table III

Additional Part-Time Teaching Assignments

| | Percent teaching part-time at other community college | Percent <u>not</u> teaching part-time at other community college |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| | (n-53) | (n-189) |
| | | |
| • | | |
| Preparation time for each | | |
| classroom hour: | | |
| 0-2 hours | 37 | 48 |
| 3-5 hours | 57 | . 44 |
| over 5 hours | 6 | 8 |
| Would asset Euli ties in the | | |
| Would accept full-time job at | o.c | |
| Santa Monica College | 86 | 66 |
| Looking for full-time job at | | |
| other educational institu- | | |
| tion | 73 | 25 |
| | | |
| Concerns considered either | | |
| "important" or "very important" | | |
| Lack of benefits: | | |
| Medical | 7 6 | 60 |
| Dental , ** | 70 | 54 |
| Inadequate salary | 76 | 67 |
| Lack of compensation for | | |
| holding office hours | 59 | 44 |
| Lack of participation in | | · |
| departmental affairs | 57 | 48 |
| Lack of job security and tenure | 83 | 68 |
| Inability to move to full-time | | |
| position | 77 | 57 |
| Second-class citizenship and | | |
| feeling of being an outsider | . 60 | 48 |



Table IV

Teaching Time

| | Percent Evening (n-132) | Day (n-103) |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Teach only one course | 65 | 47 |
| Teach part-time at other community college | 18 | 27 |
| Teach full-time elsewhere | 26 | 11 |
| Hold other job | 76 | 57 |
| Percentage of yearly income derived from teaching position at college: Less than 10% 11-24% 25-49% 50-74% 75-99% 100% | 44 25 10 9 6 6 | 21 17 15 13 13 21 |
| Academic Division: Vocational Business Physical Education Humanities/Social Sciences Math/Sciences | 18 19 6 45 12 | 14 6 4 60 16 |

Table V

Sex

| | Percent Men | Percent Women |
|---|-------------|---------------|
| | (n-108) | (n-121) |
| | | |
| Manaka walio wa asawa a Camba Manian | | |
| Teach only one course at Santa Monica | 65 | 48 |
| College | 03 | 40 |
| Hold job in addition to teaching position | | |
| at college | 76 | 57 |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
| Either hold no other job or have only | | |
| another part-time teaching position | - 46 | 70 |
| | 1 | |
| Percentage of yearly income derived from | | |
| teaching position at college: | 50 | 4.0 |
| Less than 10% | 53 | 18 |
| 11-24% | 23 | 20 |
| 25-49% | 8 " | 17 |
| 50-74% | . 4 | 13 |
| 75-99% | 7 | 12 |
| 100% | 7 | 20 |
| parameter have | | |
| Preparation time for each classroom hour: | FO | 2.2 |
| 0-2 hours | 59 | 33 |
| 3-5 hours | 36 | 55 |
| over 5 hours | 5 | 12 |
| | • | |
| Highest academic degree: | 0.5 | 4.0 |
| B.A. or lower | 25 | 14 |
| M.A. | 53 | 74 |
| Enrolled in doctoral program | 13 | 7 |
| Ph.D. or equivalent | 9 | 5 |
| Prior teaching experience | 66 | . 79 |
| Frior reaching experience | | 7 3 |
| Consider selves primarily teachers or | | |
| educators | 63 | 86 |
| , | | |
| Want to belong to State Teachers Associa- | | |
| tion (if not currently a member) | 25 | 68 |
| | | |
| Concerns considered "important" or "very | | |
| important": | · | |
| Inadequate salary | 67 | 70 |
| Lack of fringe benefits: | | · |
| Medical | 57 | 70 |
| Dental | 52 | , 64 . |
| Credit Union | 26 | 37 |
| 4.1 | | |
| * * | 1 | (continued) |
| · · | | 4 |



Table V (continued)

| | Percent Men | Percent Women |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| | (n-108) | (n-121) |
| 4 | | * 4 |
| Severence Pay | 37 | 44 |
| Sick Leave | · 55 | 65 |
| Child Care | 9 | 28 |
| Lack of office space | 44 | 52 |
| Lack of participation in depart- | | |
| mental a ffairs | 46 | 55 . |
| Lack of compensation for holding | | |
| office hours | 39 | 61 |
| Lack of job security and tenure | 63 | . 80 |
| Insufficient number of classes | | |
| assigned | 39 | 59 |
| Second-class citizenship and | | İ |
| feeling of being an outsider | 42 | 60 |



Table VI

Subject Matter Taught

| | Percent in Vocational Division (n-38) | Percent in Business Division (n-30) | Percent in Phys. Ed. Division (n-13) | Percent in Humanities/Social Sciences (n-124) | Percent in Math/ Sciences (n-33) |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Teach only one course | 79 | . 83 | 15 | 41 | 79 |
| Teach part-time at other community college | 11 | 17 | 15 | 26 | 30 |
| Hold outside job | 81 | 7 9 | 77 | 57 | 72 |
| Women | 47 | 29 | 58 | ⁶⁵ | 29 |
| Percentage of yearly income derived from teaching position at college: | | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 54 | 64 | | 22 | 36 |
| 11-24% | 17 | 20 | 37 | 21 | 29 |
| 25-49% | 3 | .3 | 9 | 14 | 19 |
| 50-74% | 14 | 3 | 18 | 13 | |
| 75-99% | 9 | 3 | | 11 | 3 |
| | | | 27 | | 3 |
| 100% | 3 | 7 | 9 | 19 | 10 |
| Highest academic degree: | | ı | | •9 | |
| B.A. or lower | 53 | 30 | 25 | 3 | 20 |
| M.A. | 45 | 50 | 75 | 7.5 | 60 |
| Enrolled in doctoral program | == | 10 | | 14 | 10 |
| Ph.D. or equivalent | 2 | 10 | | 8 | 10 |
| | _ | | • | | |
| Consider selves primarily teacher | | | : | | |
| or educators | 53 | 45 | 90 | 85 | 90 |
| Would accept full-time job at | | | | | |
| college | 56 | 46 | 83 | 7 9 | 80 |
| Concerns considered "important" or "very important": | | | , | | |
| Inadequate salary Lack of fringe benefits: | 61 | ∞ 63 | , 85 | 73 . | 67 |
| Medical | 55 | 60 | 85 | 68 | 58 |
| Dental | | 57 | 69 | 61 | |
| | 53 | | | | 52 |
| Retirement | 53 | 47 | 77 | 56 | 42 |
| Credit Union | 37 | 33 | 62 | 30 | 18 |
| Sick Leave . | 68 | 37 | 77 | 64 | 52 |
| Lack of office space | 47 | 30 | 39 | 51 | 58 |
| Lack of participation in | _ | | | | 1 |
| departmental affairs | 32 | 40 | 69 | 57 | 52 |
| | | | | | |

(continued)



Table VI (continued)

| | Percent in Vocational Division (n-38) | Percent in Business Division (n-30) | Percent in Phys. Ed. Division (n-13) | Percent in Humanities/ Social Sciences (n-124) | Percent in Math/ Sciences (n-33) |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Lack of compensation for | | | | | 18 1 |
| holding office hours | 42 | 30 | 62 | 58 | 55 |
| Lack of job security | 64 | 53 | 85 | 77 | 70 |
| Inability to move to full- | | • | | | |
| time position | 42 | 50 | ÷77 | 72 | 58 |
| Insufficient number of | | | | | = |
| classes assigned | 40 | 37 | 77 | 55 | 43 |
| Second-class citizenship and feeling of being | | | • | : | • |
| an outsider | 45 | 37 | 46 | 60 | 49 |
| | | | | | |

Table VII

Concerns Considered "Important" or "Very Important" to at Least 50 Percent of the Respondents

| Item | Number of Respondents | Percent of Respondents |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lack of job security and tenure | 172 | 70 |
| Inadequate pay | 167 | 65 |
| Lack of medical benefits | 155 | 64 . |
| Lack of sick leave | 148 | 61 |
| Inability to move to a full-time position | 146 | 60 |
| Lack of dental benefits | . 140 | 58 |
| Lack of retirement benefits | 128 | 53 |
| Second-class citizenship and feeling of being an outsider | 123 | 51 |
| Lack of compensation for holding office hours | 123 | 51 |
| Lack of participation in departmental affairs | 122 | 50 |

Appendix

Santa Monica Part-Time Teacher's Association

SURVEY

Dear Part Time Instructor:

The following questionnaire has been prepared by the Santa Monica College Part Time Teachers' Association. Our aim is to find out who we part-time faculty members are and what we want in order that our association can better serve our needs. We know that you are busy and that teaching at the college may be only one of your many obligations. We therefore appreciate the time and effort required to fill out this questionnaire. Please answer as many questions as you can.

All information you furnish will be held in strict confidence. Only members of the executive committee of the Part Time Teachers' Association will have access to the completed questionnaire. A summary of the results of this survey will be published and distributed to all part-time instructors. No individual names will be used.

Please place the completed form in the box provided in the faculty mail room or mail it to: Emily Abel, Box 336, by January 23.

Thank you for your help.

2Elementary school

33Secondary school

Emily Abel Chairperson, Questionnaire Committee Box 336

3 University/four year college

46 1 Adult education

1. Sex 121 Female 108 Male 2. What is the total number of years you have taught at Santa Monica College (including this year)? 22 Three <u> 10</u>\$i.x 24 Nine and over 81 Less than one 17 Four _1Seven Terl 2<u>3</u>One <u>a</u>Five __zEight 50 Two twer-ten 5. How many courses are you teaching at Santa Monica College this semester? 5 Four 1380ne Seven 1 Fi.ve 88Two Eight 11Three Six 4. Are you also teaching part time at any other community college this semester? 189^{No} 53Yes If yes, note the number of classes you are teaching elsewhere 2 Four <u>o</u>Seven 150ne o_Eight 21 Two 4 Five Nine or more <u>o</u>six <u>9</u>Three 5. Are you also teaching full time at Santa Monica College? <u>0</u>Yes 243No 6. Are you teaching full time at another educational institution? 189No If yes, indicate the level(s) at which you are teaching: 4 Community college 1Pre-school

```
7. Are you teaching part time at another educational institution?
                84Yes
                                  148 No
     If yes, indicate the level(s) at which you are teaching:
              Pre-school
                                        _Community college
                                        __University/four year college
              Elementary school
             Secondary school
                                         Adult education
  8. Do you hold any other job in addition to your teaching position at Santa
 Monica College?
               156.<sup>Yes</sup>
      If yes, what do you do?
 9. Approximately what percentage of your personal yearly income comes from
 your part-time teaching position at Santa Monica College?
                76less than 10% 24 50-74%
                4911-24%
                                      20 75-99%
                2725-49%
                                      29 100%
 10. Approximately what percentage of the yearly income of your household comes
 from your part-time teaching position at Santa Monica College?
               1171ess than 10% <u>13</u>50-74%
               5311-24%
                                       775-99%
               3225-49%
                                       5100%
11. What course(s) are you teaching on a part-time basis at Santa Monica College
this semester? (Indicate whether each is a credit or non-credit course.)
    In which department(s) is(are) your course(s) listed?
        20_Art
                                        _7Music
                                       4 Nursing
        21 Behavioral Sciences
                                       4 Physical Education, Men
        30 Business Administration
                                       9 Physical Education, Women 3 Physical Science
        7 Earth Sciences
        34 English
        14 Foreign Language
                                        24 Social Studies
                                        4Speech, Theatre Arts
        13 Home Economics
        7 Life Sciences
                                        15 Technical
                                        <u>g</u>Trade
        18 Mathematics
12. When do the class(es) you teach on a part-time basis meet? (Check all appropriate)
     157a.m. - 9a.m. 293p.m. - 6p.m. other (specify)
259a.m. - 12p.m. 1326p.m. - 10p.m.
     2112p.m.-3p.m.
                             13 Saturday morning
13. At which campus(es) do the class(es) you are teaching on a part-time basis
meet? (Check all appropriate.)
       140 Santa Monica College
                                          2 Edison Elementary School
        10 Malibu
                                          2 Webster Elementary School
        33 Santa Monica High School
                                          1 Grant Elementary School
        10 John Adams Junior High
                                          12 other (specify)
14. Do you at present have access to office space to:
   a. meet with students or teachers?
                                              55Yes
                                                           181 No
   b. prepare for class?
                                              42Yes
                                                         185 No
   c. leave books?
                                              59Yes
                                                           169 No
```

| | . Are you invited to departmental meetings? |
|------------|--|
| • | 111 Yes 121 No |
| 16 | • Do you participate in departmental meetings? 74 Yes 158 No |
| 17 | Do you participate in committees on campus? |
| 18 | • Can you choose the courses you teach? 38 Yes 100 No 98 Limited choice |
| 1 9 | Can you choose your hours for teaching? 35 Yes 116 No 88 Limited choice |
| 20. | Do you belong to a state teachers' organization? 76 Yes 163No |
| | lf no, do you want to belong to such an organization? 64Yes 56No |
| 11. | About how many hours do you prepare for each class hour you teach? 109 None - two 110 Three - five 19 Over five |
| .2. | What is the highest academic degree you hold? 7 High School Diploma 23Candidate for a doctoral degree 18Doctorate (include Ph.D., Ed.D., 34 Bachelors 154 Masters 0 ther (specify) |
| 23. | Did you teack prior to your appointment at Santa Monica College? 177 Yes 64 No If yes, answer the following: At what level(s) Indicate the number Indicate whether each job had you taught? of years you taught was part time or full time |
| | at each level Primary school 29 f.tp.t. |
| | Primary school 29f.tp.t. Secondary school 92f.tp.t. |
| | College f.t. p.t. |
| | Adult education 47 f.tp.t. |
| 4. | Do you consider yourself primarily a teacher or educator? 67 Yes 23 No |
| 5. | Would you accept a <u>full-time teaching position</u> at Santa Monica College if one were offered to you? 157 Yes 65 No 1f no, why not? |
| | |
| | |
| | Are you looking for a full-time job at another educational institution? 85 Yes 152 No |
| 6. | |
| | If your status and pay were improved, would you prefer to remain a part-time instructor? |

28. What are your major concerns as a part-time faculty member at Santa Monica College? Indicate the importance of each item by checking the appropriate box:

| Logo. Indiagos ono ampirosono | very important | important | important | unimportant irrelevant |
|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 4.1104.1104.1104.1104.1104.1104.1104.11 | 1 | Í I | | 10 |
| Inadequate salary | 102 | 65 | 17 | 10 |
| Lack of fringe benefits: | 440 | 43 | 24 | 32 |
| Medical | 112 98 | 43 | 31 | 32 |
| Dental Dental | 1 | 45 | 29 | 35 |
| Retirement | 83 | | | |
| Credit Union | 40 | 37 | 42 | 59 |
| Severance pay | 50 | 47 | 42 | 46 |
| Sick leave | 88 | 60 | 24 | 26 |
| Child care | 20 | 24 | 20 | 102 |
| Lack of office space | 53 | 63 | 48 | 41 |
| Lack of participation in | | | | |
| departmental activities | | | | |
| (selection of textbooks, | | ¥ | | |
| appointment to committees, | 50 | 72 | 49 | 33 - |
| selection of faculty, etc.) | | 1 | • | |
| Lack of compensation for | | | | |
| holding office hours | 57 | 66 | 47 | 40 |
| Insufficient choice in selecting | | | | • |
| teaching time | 36 | 80 | 50 | 46 |
| Insufficient choice of subject | *. | | | |
| or courses taught | 49 | 55 | 48 | 47 |
| Lack of job security and tenure | 136 | 36 | 22 | 27 |
| Lack of opportunity to move to | | | | |
| a full-time position | 113 | ` 36 | 25 | 44 |
| Insufficient number of classes | | | | |
| assigned each semester | 75 | 44 | 29 | 55 |
| Inadequate facilities at off- | | | | |
| campus locations | 35 | 30 | 28 | 92 |
| "Second-class" citizenship and | | | | |
| feeling of being an outsider | 81 | 42 | 31 | 56 |
| Other | | | я | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | <u> </u> | | | |

Thank you for taking the time to enswer this questionnaire. If you wish to make any additional comments, please use this space.



Notes

1. Some administrators candidly admit that they frequently hire part-time teachers, even when full-time positions are available, as a way of saving money (Martes, 1975:5; Phair, 1972:2). The chancellor of one community college district stated (Peralta Fact Sheet, 1975, quoted in Marsh & Lamb, 1975:7):

To a considerable extent, the use of part-time faculty has made possible the salary increases granted full and part-time employees in the recent past, has funded the district's sabbatical leave program and has averted a financial crisis in the district of unmanageable proportions.

A similar statement was made by the State Board for Community College Education in Washington (quoted in Marsh & Lamb, 1975: 19):

To a large extent, economic conditions ... have forced colleges to depend upon the availability of part-time personnel as they sought to spread close-end budgets across an increasing demand for services. As a result, what has been viewed as exploitation of part-time personnel by some, might as easily be termed efficient management of finite resources by others.

2. Unless otherwise noted, this term refers only to those instructors who are employed solely on a part-time basis and does not include full-time instructors teaching additional courses on an overload basis at their own institution.



- 3. Studies of part-time instructors include Bender & Breuder, 1973; Kuhns, 1971; Lombardi, 1975; Ross, 1975. In addition, a number of faculty associations at individual colleges have produced valuable reports (e.g., Ferris, 1976; Marsh & Lamb, 1976; Office of Educational Services, Peralta, 1974; Rio Hondo Academic Senate, 1975).
- 4. Additional money is saved because part-timers are not assigned offices and because they receive no secretarial assistance; in fact, during the fall of 1976, the college abruptly terminated the practice of employing a few students to type exams for part-time teachers.
- 5. Summer school salaries are not included in these calculations.

 A large number of part-time instructors teach courses during
 the summer, for which they are paid at the hourly rate. On
 the other hand, full-time instructors receive the prorated
 full-time wage for their summer school assignments although
 they have no additional responsibilities.
- Figure supplied by Assistant Superintendent James Fugle at a meeting of the Santa Monica College Faculty Senate, November 4, 1976.
- 7. Santa Monica Collège Unified Faculty Association, "Newsletter,"
 II,2 (November 1976). The salary of the average administrator
 at the college is about 10 times the yearly salary of a parttime instructor teaching the full part-time load.



- 8. Information supplied by Office of Personnel, Santa Monica
 Community College District.
- 9. Santa Monica College is not unusual in its absence of any formal orientation program for part-time teachers. Lombardi found that part-time teachers in community colleges throughout the nation rarely receive more than one or two hours of advice from department chairmen before beginning to teach (1975:47; see also Bender & Breuder, 1973:34).
- 10. It is unfortunate that respondents were not asked to specify the exact number of hours they invested in each class; the first category, zero to two hours, was clearly too broad. Significantly, 22, or just over one-fifth of all respondents who checked this answer, took the trouble to indicate in some way that they spent two hours on class preparation.
- 11. Again, Santa Monica College is not unusual. One study of parttime community college instructors concluded that the "average
 adjunct faculty member has had a variety of educational experience
 together with an educational background nearly equivalent to that
 of the typical full-time faculty members" (Bender & Breuder, 1973:
 34).
 - 12. Figure supplied by Terrence C. Marre, in speech before the Board of Trustee, Santa Monica Community College District, June 21, 1976. Nationwide, only 7 percent of all community college faculty hold a doctorate (Cohen et al., 1971:33).



- Administrators frequently base their assertions about the 13. outside employment of their part-time staff on a survey conducted in 1975 by the California Community and Junior College Association, which appeared to demonstrate that 77.3 percent of the part-time instructors in California's community colleges hold full-time jobs (Brydon et al., 1975). However, this figure seems virtually meaningless for a number of reasons. First, the sample included those individuals who are employed full-time at a community college and who teach additional courses at the same campus on an overload basis; by definition, this group is fully employed. Since it constitutes 27 percent of the part-time faculty in the community college system, the CCJA study can only be asserting that half of all part-time teachers hold full-time jobs. seriously, the CCJA results were obtained by asking administrators to "estimate" the proportion of their part-time faculty employed in different capacities. Because there is rarely any contact between administrators and part-time instructors, it is unlikely that the administrators have any information at all on which to base their estimates. Inaccuracies of computation further diminish the usefulness of the result of the CCJA survey. For example, on page 8, the numbers of part-time teachers employed in different capacities, do not add up to the stated total. Moreover, these numbers were extrapolated from the data received.
- 14. A survey conducted by the administration in the fall of 1976 to ascertain the employment patterns of part-time faculty similarly found that slightly over half of the part-timers either have no other job or hold only another part-time teaching position at another school.

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- 15. It should be noted that not all members of this group are necessarily dependent on part-time teaching positions for their entire income.
- 16. The administration of a community college in Virginia which conducted a survey concluded that the part-time faculty did not rely on their income from their teaching jobs at the college because only a few people stated that their primary reason for teaching at the college was to support their families (Grymes, 1976:37). Since it is impossible to support a family from this salary, it is clear that no one could work in order to do so. It does not follow, however, that the salary of part-time teachers represents only supplemental income.
- 17. It is true that some part-time instructors teach both day and evening classes, but this does not appear to affect the general outcome.
- 18. The respondents who held other jobs were asked to specify the nature of their employment. Below is a list of these jobs classified according to the Hollingshead Occupational and Educational Scales (1958). Part-time teaching positions at other educational institutions are not included.

(continued)

| Occupation | Number of Part-Time Teachers |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Major professionals (e.g., physicians, architects, attorneys, university professors) | 15 |
| Business managers in large concerns | 5 |
| Lesser professionals (e.g., social workers, nurses, librarians, elementary and high school teachers) | 40 |
| Administrative personnel | 5 |
| Small business owners | 2 |
| Semi-professionals (e.g., actors, reporters) | 17 |
| Clerical and sales workers | 7 |
| Skilled and manual employees | 5 |
| Semi-skilled employees | 2 |
| Self-employed | 6 |
| Total | 1.04 |

- 19. Physical education has arbitrarily been placed in the liberal arts division because the respondents from this department appeared to share more characteristics with the part-time liberal arts instructors than with the part-time instructors in the occupational field.
- 20. Surveys returned with blank answers to any items were counted as if they had ranked the item "unimportant." This undoubtedly gave undue weight to the unconcerned, because many people simply neglected to take the trouble to answer all or part of this lengthy question. In fact, it appears that many people did not notice the first item-inadequate salary--because it was placed immediately beneath the instructions.



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