

Selene Colburn
49 Latham Ct.
Burlington, VT 05401

October 30, 2014

Burlington College
351 North Avenue
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Dear Interim President Smith,

We have recently been contacted by adjunct faculty members at Burlington College who are attempting to organize with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

Adjunct faculty are incredibly important to Burlington, as educators and residents. They teach both foundational and advanced skills to the many students who call the area home and they are active members of our vibrant community. Burlington College is a wonderful addition to the greater Burlington area and an important driver of our economy. We are grateful for your presence here and your work in our community. We know it has been a tough year and appreciate the hard work of the interim team as you do everything you can to get the college back on stable footing.

We are writing to express our support for a fair and neutral process that allows Burlington College's adjunct faculty to make their decision about representation in a free and fair election that is not marred by intimidation, coercion or unnecessary legal hearings or delays.

As representatives of many student and faculty constituents, we urge you not to use student tuition dollars or other college resources to fight adjuncts' right to organize. Tuition dollars are best spent on the important mission of furthering student success and supporting the educators who are helping Burlington College students achieve their academic goals.

Several of us have worked alongside adjunct faculty at educational institutions. We recognize the tremendous work they do in educating our next generation, as they often juggle huge teaching loads, second jobs, low wages and scarce benefits.

Please join us in supporting a neutral process at Burlington College that allows adjunct faculty to have a real voice in deciding their future.

Sincerely,

Selene Colburn, Ward 1 City Councilor
Max Tracy, Ward 2 City Councilor
Vince Brennan, Ward 3 City Councilor
Rachel Siegel, Ward 3 City Councilor