October 14, 1970

United Federation of College Teachers
260 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10010

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE UFCT

Dear Colleague:

The UFCT has had to assume extraordinary legal expenses in the recent period in order to defend the lecturer's contract under the arbitration provisions of the contract. We have also had to establish collective bargaining rights for the professional employees of private colleges in a series of complicated hearings before the New York State Labor Relations Board and the National Labor Relations Board after they assumed the jurisdiction over private colleges.

The CUNY administration is determined to break our union by completely disregarding the contract and compelling us to go to arbitration to establish almost every clause in the contract. Even when they lose an arbitration, they then go to court. Court cases involve still more heavy expenses.

We are determined to defend every victim of injustice and of contract violation and we will - if our money holds out. The UFCT Administrative Committee voted at its last meeting to send nine more cases to arbitration after a careful examination of the merits of each case.

The Executive Board of the UFCT anticipated this kind of an emergency and voted to establish a UFCT Legal Defense Fund. We are calling upon every union member to make a voluntary contribution of from $10 to $100 to defray the costs of the arbitrations. If we want to have a union that is able to enforce its contracts, we will have to pay for it.

Please make your checks payable to UFCT Legal Defense Fund.

Sincerely,

Israel Kugler
President