"They get nine months but the college needed them more so they come back in an hourly capacity. We need to hire them full-time."

Barry Theile
CSEA UA Union Steward

"I worked 20 hours at first and so far I’m only at 35 hours. I’ve been trying everything to try to get those 40 hours and also get contracts of 11 months. It’s kind of impossible. For retirement I’m looking at quite a long time, but I like what I do and I wouldn’t go anywhere else."

Evelia Zepeda
SC Food Services employee

CSEA FIGHTS FOR ‘LIVING WAGES’

Julie Wrech
Editor

CSEA UA President Silvia Negoesu has set out to change those conditions when classified employees can retire with dignity.

"The contract states that you can be on a full-time employee to get the retirement benefits, " she said, "but only if you work 40 hours a week. Whenever you work 40 hours a week for 11 months, that’s 50 hours a week for 11 months."

Negoesu said the union also sought to extend contracts that will allow part-time and full-time employees to retire at some level of benefits.

"We don’t see a reason why the district should fight so hard to continue that clause," she said. "We saw that a contract clause that makes more money than our contract employees."

"There are classified employees that work 475 hours a year and make more than our contract employees."

"It’s unfair to a classified employee who make more money than our contract employees."

"Negoesu said the contract employees work 475 hours a year and make more than our contract employees."

"They are classified employees, that if you look at the salary schedule, they make less than $15 an hour, which is absolutely unacceptable."

"We have about 300 non-teaching employees that make up the other workforce," she said. "The administrative, the clericals, the IT, the food services, the counselors, gardeners, mechanics, lab coordinators, tech center staff, everyone has that same sort of schedule, everyone that everybody goes to school our students."

"We are an institution of higher education and we are supposed to be, or should be, providing fair wages," she said. "That includes health and welfare, that includes compensation, and that includes a safe working environment so they can do their job of serving our students."

"Too many classified employees are not treated humanely."

"We are an institution of higher education and we are supposed to be, or should be, providing fair wages," she said. "That includes health and welfare, that includes compensation, and that includes a safe working environment so they can do their job of serving our students."

"Too many classified employees are not treated humanely."

"I think we’ve put a very good package on the table, but I can see how it’s not going to go with the people who are not trained as lawyers or administrators."

"Schia Negoesu, CSEA President

"There are nine-month employees asked to work in an hourly capacity out of class."

"We have benefited from the district, the college, the human resources, the union, and the students, and we have benefited from all of that."