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Kimberly du Buclet
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
5TH DISTRICT

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- Public Utilities

November 13, 2023

Dr. Kwang-Wu Kim
Chief Executive Officer
Columbia College Chicago
600 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60605

Dr. Kim:

I stand in strong support of the Columbia Faculty Union (CFAC) in their demands for a fair contract. I have learned from your communications that Columbia College Chicago plans to cut courses, increase class sizes, and potentially lay off hundreds of CFAC members by not offering courses they teach, or requiring full-time staff to teach the classes instead. This change does not prioritize students, who chose to attend college to focus on their future. Eliminating courses and increasing class sizes does a disservice to the educators at Columbia College who want to provide the best educational experience and to the students who are there to receive it.

Columbia is an important institution for higher learning in our state. Although it is a private college, it receives substantial support from the State. According to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Columbia College students were granted 2,060 MAP grant awards totaling last year \$9,669,364. Right now, those students are in great danger of students losing credits for this semester, setting them back. This can all be avoided by coming to a fair agreement with CFAC.

I urge the Columbia College administration to come back to the table and bargain with workers so that everyone can get back to the most important people in all of this – the students.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim".

Rep. Kimberly du Buclet
State Representative
5th District