

Maria McGarrity  
Candidate Statement

I am running for the office of Vice President of the LIUFF. I have served most recently on the Union Executive Committee from 2012 to the present with one term as Treasurer from 2012-2014.

I am running for VP to further reform the union from within. The last decade on the Brooklyn campus has been challenging for our membership. We have been on strike (2011) and have been locked out (2016). In these critical moments, our gains have been too modest and our losses have been too great. With the advent of the Cline Administration, we need to reimagine how we move forward collectively together: tenured, non-tenured, full-time, and adjunct. We need to go on the offensive against the Administration. I recently attended the Labor Notes conference in Chicago with a view to bring back new ideas and fresh perspectives to invigorate and strengthen our union. We need to switch up our game and do the unexpected to take the advantage away from the Administration. I view the VP position as one focused on outreach and organizing. In that light, I will work to begin a series of organizing and engagement strategies such as:

- ✓ Engage in member-focused outreach to listen to the priorities of the rank and file—allow the membership to drive our collective discussions and actions.
- ✓ Organize a group of shop stewards to begin staging small group sessions for actions that ultimately build into a mobilized and engaged faculty—preferably with a steward/faculty ratio of 1/20.
- ✓ Build a Contract Campaign for 2021 starting now—based on faculty priorities and ensuring that we have structures in place that that serve everyone.
- ✓ Advocate for opening the Grievance and Negotiation sessions to all membership—secrecy only serves the Administration.

Thank you for your consideration.

In solidarity,

Maria McGarrity  
Professor of English