

A VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGE

GET TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER

BREAK THE ICE AND END THE FREEZE IN 1996

We are the workers who handle student and faculty services, deal with registration, keep the buildings working and the grounds clean. We are the secretaries, heat plant operators, food service workers, lab techs, trades workers, accountants and storekeepers.

HIGHER ED WORKERS UNDER ATTACK

The last few years have brought severe attacks on higher education workers. Extremists like Bill Sizemore and Bob Tiernan have pursued a mean-spirited and reactionary agenda to attack working people in Oregon in order to benefit the wealthy few at the expense of the majority, including students, faculty and working families who support the university system.

These attacks led to a seven-day strike last May, when students and faculty joined front-line workers to stop a 6% cut in our take-home pay. They also led to the fact that, **for the past three years, our wages have been frozen.** During this period, inflation has reduced our purchasing power by 10%, while staffing has been cut and our workloads and required skill levels have steadily increased.

BREAK THE ICE IN 1996

Since October, we've been back at the table with OSSHE. We're seeking modest cost-of-living increases and an end to the freeze. **OSSHE did the right thing for faculty** by providing the money for across-the-board raises. Now it's time for them to do the same for front-line, classified staff.

We are hopeful that we can conclude our negotiations with OSSHE without a disruption in services. But **we are determined to "break the ice" and end the freeze!**

A CALL TO ACTION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

We call on the higher education community to join us in urging OSSHE to get to the heart of the matter and to **"Break the ice" in 1996** by agreeing to overdue cost-of-living adjustments for higher education workers.

BREAK THE ICE IN '96

END THE PAY FREEZE

Oregon Public Employees Union
SEIU Local 503, AFL-CIO, CLC

Sponsored by OPEU UO Local 85