Off the Track

The rising number of non-tenure-track faculty and what it means for students in our colleges and universities

Overall:
2/3 Off Tenure Track (and growing)

Approx. 10,000 Faculty; Public+ Private Non-Profit 2+4 year colleges

Tenured or On-Track in 1969
18.8%

Part-Time
33.5%

Non-Tenure-Track
18.8%

Full-Time
47.7%

Overall:
78.3%

Fewer transfers from 2 to 4 year colleges
Diminished graduation and retention rates
Lower GPAs and fewer attempted hours

Inaccessibility+
less interaction
with students

Students feel the effects of policies that do not support a majority of the faculty

What does all of this mean for students?

Non-tenure track faculty are often very committed to their students, but do not receive support to maximize their utility in instruction and are limited in their ability to have meaningful interactions with colleagues and students

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few/No office; few course resources; limited support

May have multiple jobs; often no pay for work outside class

Up to 70%; less than full-time peers; often no benefit

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

What does all of this mean for students?

Non-tenure track faculty are often very committed to their students, but do not receive support to maximize their utility in instruction and are limited in their ability to have meaningful interactions with colleagues and students

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

Part-time faculty often experience

Few/No office; few course resources; limited support

May have multiple jobs; often no pay for work outside class

Up to 70%; less than full-time peers; often no benefit

Part-time faculty

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty

What is it about tenure:

It’s not JUST about tenure:

Approximate totals of instructional faculty based on available information from the National Center for Education Statistics 2008 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System National Survey of Postsecondary Faculty surveys.

POOR Working Conditions

Varies by subject/sector:

Working Conditions

Part-time faculty in particular often experience

Few Resources
Limits on Time
Less Pay/Benefits

Part-time faculty