

ST. MARTIN'S UNIVERSITY: IGNORING THEIR VALUES AT STUDENT EXPENSE

St. Martin's has used student tuition money to bankroll a legal fight against the labor rights of underpaid faculty.

What's happening at St. Martin's University?

- The majority of SMU faculty are contingent, working on short term contracts with no expectation of continued employment.
- Contingent faculty at SMU had a union election where they voted 2:1 to form a union.
- Tenure/tenure track faculty and librarians are had an election in April to form a union. 72% voted to join SEIU Local 925.
- Faculty are organizing in order to win more investment in classroom instruction for the benefit of faculty and students.

St. Martin's spends only 34% of its budget on instruction. That's the lowest percentage of all four-year, nonprofit universities in Washington!¹

This means:

- Overreliance on adjunct and contingent faculty and low tenure-line faculty wages.
- Money goes into non-instructional costs such as management salaries and bond debt.
- Some adjuncts don't have offices to meet with students, create lesson plans and prepare for class.
- Students may not be able to build quality relationships with adjunct faculty working on short-term contracts.

IT'S TIME FOR ST. MARTIN'S TO INVEST IN CLASSROOM LEARNING!

Instead of picking a fight with faculty, St. Martin's President Roy Heynderickx should bargain with the faculty and librarian union over how to improve the quality of a St. Martin's education.

1. See <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/datacenter/>