

## Office of the Governor

PO BOX 004  
TRENTON, NJ 08625

### NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Jayne O'Connor  
609-777-2600

RELEASE: September 16, 1999

#### **CONTRACT AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN STATE AND COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY STATE COLLEGE LOCALS**

An agreement has been reached on a four-year contract between the State of New Jersey and the Council of New Jersey State College locals, which represents the faculty, professional staff and librarians in New Jersey's nine state colleges and universities. The agreement affects some 3,400 employees.

"I am gratified that an agreement has been reached with regard to our state colleges and universities," Gov. Whitman said. "The contract is fair to the faculty members, professional staff and librarians and at the same time will keep tuition affordable for New Jersey's college students. The contract will go a long way in helping to retain and attract talented faculty members in New Jersey colleges and universities."

Under the terms of the contract, covered employees will receive pay increases of 2.5%, 3/5%, 4% and 4.5% in each of the next four years, respectively. The union agreed that employees will contribute to their health care premiums in the amount of 25% for employees in the traditional plan and 5% for employees in any of the state-offered HMOs. Employees who enroll in the state's preferred provider organization (PPO) will not be required to contribute to their health care coverage.

The agreement, which will run from July 1, 1999 to June 20, 2003, gives the college/university administrators greater flexibility in determining compensation levels for faculty members, affording the administrators the opportunity to keep and reward outstanding faculty and to compete in the academic marketplace.

The agreement was reached between the state and the Council of New Jersey State College Locals, an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO. The institutions affected by the settlement are Kean University, Montclair State University, New Jersey City University, Ramapo College, Richard Stockton State College, Rowan University, The College of New Jersey, Thomas Edison State College, and William Paterson University.