NEWS RELEASE

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE
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FMCS Mediators to Speak on Resolving Labor Disputes in Higher Education

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Three senior federal mediators with experience in helping to resolve labor disputes at U.S. institutions of higher learning will speak at a New York City education conference next week on the value and benefits of dispute resolution services provided by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) at universities, colleges and other academic settings.

FMCS Commissioners Conrad Bowling, David Thaler, and Kathleen Murray-Cannon will take part in workshop sessions and a panel discussion on labor disputes, productive labor-management relationships and the process of collective bargaining in the context of academia at the 42nd Annual National Conference "Thinking About Tomorrow: Collective Bargaining and Labor Relations in Higher Education" at the CUNY Graduate Center, April 19-21. The Conference is sponsored by the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions at Hunter College, CUNY.

FMCS mediators will discuss the expanding role for federal mediation in helping to resolve labor disputes in higher education and in providing training in collective bargaining and relationship building for labor and management in academic settings because of increased unionization in many such institutions.

Commissioner Bowling will participate in a workshop on "Collective Bargaining for New Administrators and Labor Representatives" on April 19. He will also take part in a workshop titled "Collective Bargaining for Experienced Administrators and Labor Representatives on April 20-21 with FMCS Commissioner David Thaler. FMCS Commissioner Kathleen Murray-Cannon will speak as part of a panel discussion "Views from Mediators: Resolving Higher Education Labor Disputes"

Interviews can be arranged with the FMCS presenters on the above topics by contacting the FMCS Office of Public Affairs at (202) 606-8100.

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The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, created in 1947, is an independent U.S. government agency whose mission is to preserve and promote labor-management peace and cooperation. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 10 district offices and more than 60 field offices, the agency provides mediation and conflict resolution services to industry, government agencies and communities.