



Jeff Wheeler / The Hartford Courant

At his basement office in his Bristol home, Richard T. Nolan works on revisions to the philosophy textbook he co-authored.

## Community College in State Seeking Teacher's Royalties

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Professor Richard T. Nolan thinks he is bringing recognition to Mattatuck Community College by co-authoring a textbook that will be used nationally. Mattatuck agrees, but says his work really doesn't count unless the college receives his royalties, too.

"This is publish and perish," Nolan protests.

Nolan, a professor of philosophy and history, has taught at the Waterbury college since 1969. Under the faculty union's contract, his work on two textbooks has counted toward a requirement that full-time professors either take part in outside activities that benefit their college or teach a fifth course.

Early this year, though, acting President Kenneth Summerer informed Nolan that "while the college is proud to boast of the authors on its staff and does recognize the positive public relations which result," unless the royalties go to the college "no direct benefit is actually enjoyed by the institution."

Nolan hired a lawyer and fought back. "What does this say about higher education in community colleges?" he asks. "This kind of nonsense reinforces in the public mind the fact that we are not a real college."

Summerer referred questions to Jackson Foley, assistant to the executive director in charge of personnel and contract services for the community college system. Foley declined comment on Nolan's case because of the challenge. He will rule on Nolan's grievance next month.

The faculty contract requires professors to devote nine hours a week to outside activities, which may include preparing college reports, participating in special college projects, or undertaking certain types of community service. College administrators decide which activities qualify.

Foley said a professor who fulfils the outside duty requirement would be "applying the particular expertise he or she has as an employee to the community's needs."

But Pat DiAngelis, the local grievance representative for the Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges, which represents the faculty, says, "A teacher's ability is enhanced by his publishing. It promotes his teaching."

Nolan and other Mattatuck professors believe the administration is trying to force them to take heavier teaching loads, which would save money by reducing the need for part-time instructors.

This summer, two faculty members who were assigned a fifth course for the fall despite previous approval of their outside activities obtained a court injunction blocking the assignments.

The professors also think the decision against Nolan's writing raises a larger issue surrounding the purpose of community colleges.

"This detracts from our status as a college, which we rightly deserve," said Donald Donihue, director of Mattatuck's division of public service and social science. "I find it very unusual that a community college person has been asked (to turn over royalties) when a University of Connecticut person never would be asked such."

Nolan is at work on the eighth edition of "Living Issues in Philosophy." He said the seventh edition, published in 1979, has sold about 30,000 copies and has been adopted by more than 230 institutions, including the California State University, Pennsylvania State University and the University of Wisconsin.

He would not reveal the royalties he receives because co-authors are involved.