

I moved to Portland last year, leaving a full-time position as staff at Washington University in St Louis with full health benefits to pick up a job as an Adjunct Professor here at PSU. I didn't have much of a choice in taking the position offered, even though health benefits weren't offered, because it was the best shot I had at getting some stable income. I had to buy my own insurance on the exchanges which cost me a significant percentage (~30%) of my income from PSU which is already below what I was paid in St Louis.

I was excited to have "professor" on my resume, but I didn't realize that "adjunct" meant "in-name-only". Adjuncts work hard to teach students and improve the environment in which they learn. We deserve to be taken care of, ESPECIALLY when we're in the grip of a global pandemic.