Just a dream, just a dream

Tenure track access for contract academics
You’re not there

Not-for-profit status allows universities to become Virtual Enterprises. This has nothing to do with being on the Internet, instead it means

- Possess only intellectual property
- minimal capitalization
- partner with best/2nd best in class
- minimal workforce
- “with the aim of avoiding the formation of a new legal entity” (Raffaini)

Examples include Walmart, Qualcomm, Nortel and many universities.
School is out for . . .

Combining numbers from OCUFA and the CFS shows that there are (see Ouellette, *Academic Matters*, forthcoming, Oct. 2010)

- $100,000 more students in Ontario
- 1,000 fewer full-time faculty
- More than 5,500 faculty needed
  - To maintain 1995 student/faculty ratios

My own faculty is down 23 bodies since 2006, but after hiring 2 new people last year, claims to be in the midst of an expansion . . . conveniently forgetting the history.
I’ll be what I am

In researching the sector for my local and for my union, I have found five (5) distinct constituencies

😊 Professionals with day jobs
  ▸ Certificates required, some retired

😊 The leg up
  ▸ Usually ABDs or PDFs

😊 Those who teach
  ▸ And are not interested in research

😊 Those on the wheel
  ▸ And who cannot get off

😊 The aspirationals
  ▸ Who foolishly dream there is a tenure stream job

Although national surveys are not yet in, local data and prelim sketches show only 15% are “leg up.”
Don’t know much about history

There are those who deny that casualization is part of an over-arching plan

- Individual departments operate independently
- They respond to general institutional plans do their own thing.
- Simply a trend of behaviour, across units, contributes to an overall change that was never quite intended by anyone

For Rybak, even though “adjuncts are people too”, they are “yet to jump over some significant hurdles that their full-time counterparts long ago cleared.”
What’s it all about

There are two competing visions of what is at stake in the privatization of universities

😊 The idealistic view
   ▶ Centre of culture, learning, etc.
😊 I envision myself as a CEO even more than a dean.
   ▶ Ilene Busch-Vishniac, Dean of Engineering at Johns Hopkins University
   ▶ *Prism* magazine Interview, Dec. 2000

She’s been McMaster’s Provost & VP Academic since 2007.