

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACADFA WINTER GENERAL MEETING

5:15 PM  
February 9th  
Room 520

ALBERTA COLLEGES & INSTITUTES FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS

ACIFA ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

“Pioneering Alberta’s Learning Frontier”

Call for Submissions for ACIFA Annual Spring Conference is now open.  
The conference will be held at the beautiful  
Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge  
and hosted by Bow Valley College Faculty Association.

Theme Strands:

**Treasure the Past/Embrace the Present/Shape the Future  
Revitalize the Core Energies of Teaching & Learning  
Rediscovering the Heart of the Profession**

Please see the ACIFA website for further information.

<http://www.acifa.ca/>

ACIFA Climate Survey

Thanks to everyone who completed the ACIFA Climate Survey.  
Results will be available soon.

ACIFA 2016 Award for Innovation in Teaching

The aim of the Award for Innovation in Teaching is  
to recognize and encourage the use of  
innovative and creative teaching methods and design  
which lead to improved student learning.

This province-wide award  
attracts both recognition and  
a financial award of \$1,500 for the faculty member or  
team and  
\$500.00 for the faculty member’s faculty association.

Certificates of Commendation will be awarded to the two runners-up.

Please see the ACIFA website for further information.

<http://www.acifa.ca/>

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS (CAUT)

<http://www.caut.ca/>

CONGRATULATIONS

FACULTY MEMBERS

Mark Clintberg  
Miruna Dragan  
Craig Fahner  
Tia Halliday  
Paul Robert  
Justin Waddell

for your inclusion in the 2017 Alberta Biennial

THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN REPORTS WERE PRESENTED  
AT THE ACADFA EXECUTIVE MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2016

President - Alex Link

Perhaps surprisingly, I don’t have very much to report. The last month has been fairly uneventful. In fact, our January Joint Consultation was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. This may have something to do with the approach of bargaining, and so many issues may be being pushed back to be resolved then.

In any case, I have participated in several all-day meetings of the NAC team in preparation for bargaining.

I have also had regularly scheduled informal meetings with the College President. These, too, have been rather uneventful.

In January, I responded to an enquiry with regard to a unique situation. It concerned whether a permanent instructor’s teaching load could be spread into the Spring/Summer term if necessary. I responded that it is within the contract.

I responded to an enquiry asking whether permanent faculty can be asked to develop curriculum for Continuing Education, and whether this would be thought of as service or optional additional workload. HR and I agreed that curriculum development is workload other-than-service. We also agreed that it is not the same as optional additional workload, which speaks only to teaching additional courses. We concluded that the matter is not contractual, and ought to be contracted separately by Continuing Education, because the curriculum to be developed is non-credit, and instructors teaching in Continuing Education are not ACADFA Members.

I was also asked to represent a Member in what seemed to be a potentially disciplinary meeting. Given that the discussion ended in some confusion, a follow-up meeting has been rescheduled.

Lastly, ACAD invited ACADFA to co-host a two-day workplace civility/relationship-building event, to be run by Lauraleigh Keashly. Having seen this presenter before, I have faith that it will be constructive and positive.

ACADFA NAC Chair - Chris Frey

NAC business began in earnest this month (NAC deloads are in effect).

The negotiation schedule proceeds as follows:

“ . . . Written notice of intention to bargain takes place no later than the second work day of March 2016. Thereafter, the negotiating committees shall meet and exchange proposals on those items, which either party wishes to negotiate prior to April 1, 2016. On or before May 1, 2016, the negotiation committees shall meet from time to time to bargain in good faith and attempt to agree upon the terms of a new agreement. If, by July 1, 2016, the Association and Board have been unable to agree upon the terms of a new agreement, the parties may agree to continue negotiations at a future date or one (1) party may advise the other party of its intention to request a mediator. . . . ”

(Article 20: Term of Agreement and Negotiations).

NAC meetings with Terry Sway attending took place on January 13 and 19. LoUs have been discussed and will be included in the bargaining process. All articles have been reviewed and a short list for articles to open is being determined.

NAC’s next meeting is scheduled for January 26, with Terry attending. A short list of articles to open, with rationales for doing so, will be determined.

I attended ACIFA NAC Roundtable on January 16, with NAC member Karl Geist. ACADFA business was not out of place in the ACIFA context.

ACADFA Rep to the Board of Governors - Ian Fitzgerald

Board of Governors

The Board of Governors next meeting will be February 24<sup>th</sup>. For the last two years, January meetings have not occurred. My understanding of the reason for this is that some key budget information is more likely to be available (i.e. provincial budget) in February and as that dictates high-level decisions on so many fronts, it is thought best not to have a January meeting based on ‘tentative’ information. Also, it respects board members’ time commitment.

It continues to be a challenge to get many board members out to ACAD events. In many cases this is due to shortness of notice; I personally do not believe it is due to disinterest.

One of the board members Loradonna Botter has moved to Edmonton so she calls in for meetings now. Her Edmonton residency could be helpful and has positive optics vis-à-vis ACAD’s provincial mandate.

Most of the recent discussion around the Sustainability Planning Process seems positive as far as progress on elements of the plan. Still no word on gov’t funding to solidify the plan, nor specifically on meetings and requests to meet either the Minister or ministry higher-ups.

Advancement Committee

This is the new name for various previous incarnations of the special events committee and government relations committee. Chair is now Sue Thomas and she is trying to gain a grasp on where the committee has been and what needs to be done.

Some frustration voiced at last meeting as this area has not progressed much over the last couple of years. Many valid reasons for this, and with Sue’s guidance, a tighter ship can be expected. Kara Tersen’s resignation doesn’t help; Daniel and Sue’s search for a this area (including events and communications as well as fundraising) until a new search and hire are conducted which will take a few months. It was noted that too much of Kara’s time and energy were consumed with bookkeeping and reporting and not enough actual fundraising work.

ACADFA Communications Officer - Laurel Johannesson

The online link for the Fall 2015 edition of the ACADFA Newsletter was delivered to faculty via e-mail on December 18th and is now available online at:

<https://issuu.com/acadfanewsletter/>

We hope you have enjoyed our new electronic format! New features include clickable links (the light blue boxes) within the newsletter that connect to faculty (and other) websites with related content. From the issuu platform, members can easily share the document or embed it in a blog. We appreciate the feedback that we have received thus far and will be tweaking some aspects for the next issue.

We are in the process of ordering complimentary magazine quality copies for each of the contributors and featured faculty members.

The newsletter archives have also been uploaded to the issuu publication platform, and we are currently working on a “bookshelf” for the ACADFA website where you can access an archive of our newsletters whenever you like.

The call for the Spring 2016 Newsletter will go out later this week. We look forward to hearing your news and views!