



e-BULLETIN: June 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faculty Vacation

June 23 - August 28, 2016

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
ACADFA Members Nominated For
ACADSA Gracious Gratitude Award

Derek Beaulieu • Mark Clintberg • Miruna Dragan • Dee Fontans • Chris Frey
• Heather Huston • Joan Irvin • Silas Kaufman • Mitch Kern
• Charles Lewton-Brain • Alex Link • Rita McKeough
• Sondra Meszaros • Bill Morton • Mark Mullin
• Katie Ohe • Mireille Perron • Natali Rodrigues
• Barbara Sutherland • Blake Senini

ALBERTA COLLEGES + INSTITUTES FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS

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

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS (CAUT)

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

COALITION OF CONTINGENT ACADEMIC LABOUR

COCAL XII Conference
August 5-7, 2016
University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Please see COCAL website for further information

<http://cocalinternational.org/>

THE FOLLOWING WRITTEN REPORTS WERE PRESENTED
AT THE ACADFA EXECUTIVE MEETING
MAY 12, 2016

President - Alex Link

This report speaks to the two weeks that have passed since our AGM, April 26.

First, I want to welcome again the new members of Executive, Martina Lantin (Faculty Professional Affairs), Justin Waddell (President), Mark Giles (Sessional Rep.) and Karl Geist (VP/Treasurer). I want to welcome back our re-elected members, Jeff Lennard (Grievance) and Ian Fitzgerald (Board Rep.). Lastly, I'd also like to thank Diana Sherlock, Tyler Rock, and Mitch Kern for their work on Executive over the past two years. It's been a pleasure and a privilege, and I've appreciated all of Executive's candour and dedication. I also want to recognize Patti, given that this—like every—newly constituted executive will likely rely pretty heavily on her support for the coming little while, as it finds its rhythm. Given that she already does quite a lot, I would just ask that we be mindful of her workload. I'm glad Heather Huston, Mark Clintberg, Chris Frey, and Laurel Johannesson will also be staying on to contribute to the Executive's stability.

Since our AGM, bargaining has continued, to which I'm sure our NAC officer will speak, so I'll just say it seems to be proceeding smoothly.

I met with the Minister of Advanced Education, Marlin Schmidt, on April 28. Three additional members of his staff were present, as were Justin Waddell, Patti Dawkins, and Terry Sway. I spent the half-hour meeting outlining the ways in which our chronic underfunding impacts virtually every aspect of our functioning, while we are held to the same standards and cut in the same way as other, fairly funded institutions. I suggested ways in which this matter might be rectified with minimal disruption to the system and no cost to government. I explained the various ways in which our students suffer under this unjustifiable disadvantage, outlined our successes that ought to be seen as being in spite of it, and described the communities we serve. I also made it clear that I reject feeling required to justify equitable treatment for what is, after all, a public institution.

I'll have the opportunity to speak with David Williams, Chair of Campus Alberta at the ACIFA Conference this weekend, and will be saying much the same thing. As I indicated to the minister, our lack of any kind of marketing budget makes it difficult to get these messages out, only compounding our difficulties, so I believe that they can't be repeated enough.

I brought forward a request that at-risk PERA funds be usable beyond the completion of sessional contracts given the very late notification of balances this year. I've asked that we discuss the matter later in this meeting.

Later today, Justin and I will be meeting with Daniel for an informal one-on-one-or-two, depending on how you count us.

NAC Chair - Chris Frey

Toto did not like it. He ran about the room, now here, now there, barking loudly;
but Dorothy sat sat quite still on the floor and waited to see what would happen.

- Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Since the last ACADFA Executive meeting (March 31) NAC is now well into bargaining with the College and may be close to completion. Ratification of a new agreement will take place early in the Fall semester.

Review:

NAC membership includes Karl Geist and Natali Rodrigues, and Justin Waddell as the alternate. Labor Relations Officer Terry Sway informs and assists NAC through negotiations. ACADFA President, Alex Link, participates in NAC in caucus meetings, as does Office Manager, Patti Dawkins.

The College's bargaining team comprised Jill Brown, Director Human Resources), Alison Miyauchi (Associate VP, Research and Academic Affairs), Carissa Matthews (Manager, Office of Academic Affairs and Research), and Richard Brown (Chair), with Jessica O'Connor (HR Generalist) taking notes for the college.

Update:

Since March 29 six negotiation meetings have taken place, five with the College (April 5, 13, 26, May 2, 3, and 9) and one with faculty only (April 19). Future meetings with the College are scheduled for May 13, June 2, and 3. June 23, when the faculty holiday commences, is the deadline for meeting.

I will be attending the ACIFA NAC Roundtable on May 15.

“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).

Communications Officer - Laurel Johannesson

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