

FACULTY UNION NEWS

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Volume 3, Number 3 March 25, 1997

Faculty members old and new should feel free to contact any member of the Faculty Union Executive about employment matters and/or to drop into the Union Office (MM206c) for coffee.

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CHANGES IN THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

A reminder: The deadline is March 31st to submit your **Changes in the Collective Agreement**.

Please return your form to the Faculty Union Office Room MM206C. If you sent in a suggestion in response to the first appeal, please resend, as many of the previous completed forms did not make it to the Union Executive. We look forward to your response.

Members of the SMUFU Executive

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STRATEGY SESSION

The first two strategy sessions featured lively discussion by interested, well-informed participants.

The next Strategy Session *Salary and Fringe Benefits* will be held April 4th, 1:30 pm, Room L154.

(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME)

1997--98 FACULTY UNION EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

George Nahrebecky will be on sabbatical next year and so will not be re-offering for a position on the Executive. George conducted the nominations on March 21 and reports the following results:

Elected by acclamation:

Linda Van Esch - President
John Chamard - Vice-President

Guy Chauvin - Treasurer
Rashid Tayyeb - Secretary

The Members-at-Large will be elected by ballot.
The following individuals were nominated:
Elizabeth V. Haigh
Anne Marie Dalton
Doug Strongman
Joyce Thomson

Attached you will find a ballot for the SMUFU
Election of the Member-at-Large. Mark an X
beside **no more than three Members-at-Large**.

Place the marked ballots inside the smaller
envelope and seal it. Then place the small
envelope in the large envelope. **Sign** the outside
of the large envelope **and print** your name on it
as well. Drop your vote in the ballot box.

The ballot box is located in the **Senate Office**.
Voting takes place from **Tuesday, April 1, 1997
to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 1997**. Your
vote will only count if it is in the ballot box
before 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

The counting of the ballots will immediately
follow. All members are welcome to observe in
the Faculty Lounge. Popcorn and wine will be
served.

YORK UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION ON STRIKE

York University Faculty Association members
went on strike at 7:00 am Thursday March 20.

Wednesday afternoon, a mediator appointed by
the Minister of Labour met with the parties, but
negotiations failed to achieve a settlement.
Negotiations with the assistance of the mediator
took place again in the afternoon.

The outstanding issues in the dispute remain:
Compensation
Workload, especially with regards to class size
Technological change, especially with regards to
teaching and technology
Flexible retirement.

We will keep you up to date on the York situation
via the noticeboard outside the Union Office
(MM206C), the SMUFU Website
(<http://business.auracom.com/sumfu>)
and the Faculty Union News.
You can plug in directly to the YUFA Web page
<http://www.yorku.ca/org/yufa/>.

March 20, 1997

Dr. Susan Mann, President
York University
4700 Keele St.
North York, Ontario

Dear President Mann:

I was most distressed to learn that you have not listened to the advice of faculty from across the country to take action to avert the strike that is now in place at York. Knowing many of your faculty personally, I can attest to their dedication, commitment, and professionalism; I know they have only reluctantly taken this step in response to months of frustration and impasse at the bargaining table brought about by the intransigence of your negotiators. There is nothing wrong with hard bargaining, but your administration has crossed the line through your unilateral imposition of contract language and your refusal to share essential information. As early as last May, it was clear to many that you had set out on a unique course of action which most other Ontario universities had rejected; it was also apparent to many that this course could only lead to either a strike or lockout.

I believe that the issues in dispute are resolvable provided there is a will to do so. I would submit that the University's actions to date demonstrate no interest in settling the outstanding matters. Whatever the outcome of this dispute, one fact is clear: you have abrogated the faith and goodwill of your faculty. You, or more likely your successor, will have to spend many hours to reclaim their trust and that of the students.

Like many of my colleagues, who have also written to you on this matter, I would urge you to restore fairness in compensation, quality in education, and broad participation in university governance at York. Without a commitment to resolving the strike on this basis, I fear that York will become more widely known for its poor labour relations than for its academic excellence.

I urge you to take action to make this one of the shortest strikes in Canadian universities and to settle the strike in a fair and equitable manner.

Sincerely
Victor M. Catano
Chair, Collective Bargaining and Economic
Benefits Committee
Canadian Association of University Teachers

To: Susan Mann, President
Michael Stevenson, Vice-President
York University
Date: 19 March 97

We urge the administration of York University to come to a fair resolution with the faculty before the strike deadline of 1:00 p.m. today, March 19th. A strike at this time of year would be harmful to faculty, students and the University as a whole.

Regards
John Chamard
President
Saint Mary's University
Faculty Union

SMUFU Web Site

You can find SMUFU web site at:
<http://business.auracom.com/smufu>.

New: Noticeboard and Classified sections will be added to SMUFU Web Page.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Three Bedroom bungalow in Bedford for rent
May 1/97. \$800/month & utilities.
Phone # 835-3722

New Publications

The following item has been added to the library available to members in the Union Office:

Report to the Senate Subcommittee on Post-Secondary Education.
Carlton University Collective Agreement
Trent University Collective Agreement