



University of Prince
Edward Island Faculty
Association

NEWSLETTER #3

June 2003

Delegate Report from CAUT Council - Larry Hale

From May 1st to May 4th, I attended the semi-annual council meeting of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) in Ottawa as the sole delegate from UPEI. The Spring meeting of council is much more of a "business" meeting than the Fall gathering, in that elections to the executive and various committees of CAUT are held, the annual budget is approved, and so forth. I am pleased to report that Dr. Vic Catano, of St. Mary's University in Halifax, was re-elected President of CAUT by acclamation. Dr. Catano is a very good friend of the UPEI-FA, and has taken a strong interest in our first contract negotiations. No less significant was the decision to re-appoint Dr. Jim Turk as Executive Director of CAUT for a multi-year period. Jim has been an invaluable resource to the UPEI-FA over the past few years, and we look forward to his continued involvement in our development as an effective faculty association.

CAUT continues to be a very strong organization. Membership in CAUT, through affiliations of local faculty associations/unions, has risen over 30% in the past five years. In the most recent fiscal year, CAUT realized an operating surplus of nearly \$300,000 on revenues of \$4.6 million.

An important contribution that CAUT makes is the provision of policy statements on various aspects of academic and professional lives of faculty and librarians that can be used by local associations to develop useful relationships with administrations. At this council, new policies were adopted on Appointment Procedures, and on Renewal and Retention of Academic Staff. Revisions to policies on Academic Freedom, and on the Appointment and Review of University Chief Librarians and Other Library Administrators were approved. In addition, revisions of CAUT Model clauses on Non-Discrimination, and on the Scholarly Activities of Academic Librarians were approved.

For me, the highlight of council was a presentation by Jim Turk on some of the instances in which academic freedom at Canadian universities is being attacked. The cases range from questionable corporate donations to the institution, to retribution by an administration upon a professor who dared to criticize an administrator, to an institution failing to defend a professor who is being sued by a student over a grade. The latter case underscores the need to assure that university administrations understand their responsibility to actively defend academic freedom, rather than simply pay lip-service to it.

Council is further convincing evidence that our affiliation with CAUT is an effective and essential component of our development locally and our contribution nationally.

Faculty Awards night

On the evening of Saturday, May 10th, the annual Faculty Recognition and Awards banquet was held with a renewed sense of commitment and expectation. A sold-out crowd of over 100 people at the elegant Fox Meadow Golf and Country Club gathered to celebrate a tremendous year of excellence in teaching and scholarly work.

Members of the Hessian family were on hand to inaugurate the Hessian Awards for Excellence in Teaching. The winners of these awards for 2003 were:

George Belliveau - Faculty of Education
Fiona O'Donohue - Faculty of Education
Darcy Shaw - Department of Companion Animals

The winners of the Scholarly Achievement awards were:

Rabin Bissessur - Department of Chemistry
Betsy Epperly - Department of English
Andy Tasker - Department of Biomedical Sciences

In addition, participants in the Teaching Partners Program were recognized. This program sees a new faculty member teamed with an experienced individual to help them develop their own teaching style and methods. The participants in the program, along with their mentor (in brackets), were:

Susannah Walker (Geoff Lindsay)	Fiona Papps (Rob Haines)
Leigh Lamont (Philip Smith)	Rachel Heydon (Lisa Miller)
Dan Ryan (Brian Wagner)	
Mae Gallant (Kathy Gotschall-Pass and Deborah MacLellan)	

Awards of recognition for twenty five years of service to UPEI were made to:

Larry Clarke - Department of Economics
Phil Koch - Department of Philosophy

Finally, some wonderful colleagues who have served UPEI so well for so many years stepped aside into retirement in 2003, and they were honoured for their manifold contributions:

Satadal Dasgupta - Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Frank Falvo - Department of Modern Languages
Don Gillis - Department of Engineering
Phil Koch - Department of Philosophy
Andy Robb - Department of History

Thank you, dear friends, and have a satisfying and well-deserved retirement!

Thanks also to President MacLauchlan for his generous support of this event.

A New Bargaining Unit for the UPEI-FA?

Recently, the UPEI-FA made application to the PEI Labour Relations Board to certify a second bargaining unit within the FA. This new bargaining unit includes the contract veterinary service providers. These people provide a range of important veterinary services necessary for the continued function of the AVC. Several of these people expressed a strong interest in having the UPEI-FA as their collective bargaining agent, and a card-signing drive was quite successful.

Under this application, the contract veterinary service providers would negotiate a separate contract from the main bargaining unit. We will keep you posted on how this application progresses.

Congratulations UPEI Graduating Class of 2003

One of the many ways that the UPEI Faculty Association supports scholastic achievement by our students is to honour each year's graduating class with a donation of a book to the Robertson Library. At the Faculty Awards banquet, the Department of Music was chosen to select a title that would be of benefit to students in their programs. The book chosen is

Music and Modern Art, Edited by James Leggio. 2002, Garland Publishing

Ultimate Frisbee Challenge

The Faculty Association is sponsoring a summer recreational opportunity for all Members and family and friends. Men, women, students and children welcome, this is a non-contact sport with rules! Please come out and play some organized frisbee and work on your tan instead of that next book!

Times: Friday afternoons, 2:30 to 4:30, from Friday, June 13th to August 29th.

Place: Athletic field beside the residences near University/Belvedere side of campus, look for middle-aged fools running around chasing plastic in the wind. We have two frisbees, some rules, and are looking for goal markers (flourescent pylons).

Social gatherings: After a robust round of disc exchanges and some triumph over nature, participants are invited to a social Faculty Association time at East Side Mario's on University Avenue. Even if you haven't played frisbee, you are welcome to join other members for a drink in a nearby licensed establishment. Come out and relive your glory days and show us your athletic appeal!

Associate members of the UPEI-FA

There has been a great response by our faculty retirees to the call to become "Associate" members of the FA. For a nominal annual fee, Associate members retain an opportunity to work with the FA on matters of common interest, and to show solidarity with our overall goals and objectives. Thank you all for your support!

Dues adjustment:

On July 1st, 2003 there will be a small adjustment to the dues payable by all members of the Association. This is a consequence of adjustments made to our individual contributions to CAUT, as our dues are fixed as a percentage of those of CAUT. Effective July 1st, the total dues deducted per pay will be as follows:

Full Professor / Librarian IV	\$32.33
Associate Professor / Librarian III	\$26.22
Assistant Professor / Librarian II	\$21.14
Lecturer / Librarian I	\$19.45
Sessional instructor (per course)	\$40.00
Clinical instructors	\$10.50

What is happening with negotiations?

The effort to conclude a first collective agreement with the UPEI Board of Governors continues. The picture has changed somewhat in the past few months, and we feel it is time to foster some discussion about how things stand and what should occur in the near future.

To that end, a new edition of the **Bargaining Bulletin** will be published very shortly. Please watch your mailboxes for your copy, or get it on-line at www.upeifa.org.

And remember, this is YOUR UNION! If you have any concerns, comments, kudos, ideas, or offers of help (especially those!), please get in touch.

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