

Dear UPEI Students,

The UPEI Faculty Association (UPEIFA) represents all UPEI academic staff from faculty and librarians to sessional instructors, clinical nursing instructors, and veterinary professionals. Our top priority is to provide you with a worldclass education and to support you in reaching your goals.

In the last decade, although enrollments have increased 26% and tuition has increased 30%, there has been little change in the number of term and full-time faculty. This has led to increased class sizes and reduced opportunities for meaningful engagement between faculty and students. At the same time, the number of courses taught by contract academic faculty who have few if any benefits and supports has risen considerably.

Our working conditions – which are your learning conditions – are established by a collective agreement between the UPEIFA and the UPEI Board of Governors. We are currently in negotiations to make the first changes to our agreement since 2016, and in light of the stressors UPEI is experiencing, the UPEIFA is proposing:

- More full-time faculty to reduce course sizes and create more course options
- Support for contract academic faculty who teach your classes in challenging working conditions
- Securing adequate research support to help us help you reach your full potential
- Adequate administrative support so we can focus on your success
- Improving equity, diversity, inclusion, and indigeneity (EDII) on our campus
- Competitive compensation so we can recruit and retain academic staff

The UPEI Board of Governors believes that these improvements to your education will necessarily increase your tuition. At the same time, they have spent our limited educational resources on silencing victims of harassment, ongoing investigations of UPEI Administration, and repeated office renovations for UPEI Senior Management.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Through collective bargaining, we are in a unique position to improve the quality of your education. Together, we can send a message to the UPEI Board of Governors that supporting UPEI faculty is supporting your education.

To learn more about these issues, please contact us (office@upeifa.ca) or visit our website (upeifa.ca).

Together we can build a better UPEI!

UPEI Faculty Association

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