

OPSEU Local 420
General Membership Meeting
Thursday, May 29, 2014 – 12 noon
Loyalist College – Alumni Hall

Members Present: Brad Baragar, Eric Bauer, Bernie Belanger, Brian Bentley, Steve Bolton, Debra Bond-Gorr, Lynda Carr Mullholland, Steve Cook, Alicia Craig, Pat Dockrill, Mark Durling, Bob Fencott, Bridget Ferguson, Ron Ford, Lynn Foxall, Adam Gosney, Patti Gower, John Grieve, Kim Grimes, Eric Heidendahl, Sarah Hopper, Karen Holder, Craig Jackman, Paul Jennings, Brandon Laird, Jonathan Lake, Shelly Lyck, Michael Manthorpe, Julie Millar, Laurie Nichols, Frank O'Connor, Kathleen Rankine, Wally Rendell, Kate Rogers, John Rosebush, Brian Scharf, Jackie Stephens, Dave Stewart, Eugene Tay, Lorne Thompson, Cathy Waite, Deirdre Way, Scott Whalen, Bruce Wright

1. **Call to order** – 12:05 p.m.
2. **Adoption of the agenda** – Dockrill/Heidendahl - Carried
3. **Minutes of previous meeting** – March 2014, Stewart/Way - Carried
4. **Business arising from the previous meeting** – Discussion about convention – South Carolina Congress Woman spoke about 59 years of right to work
5. **Nominations and/or elections:**
 - 5.1 Nominations for one steward position in the School of Health Human and Justice Studies:
Laurie Nichols – accepted
Lorne Thompson – declined
Laurie Nichols is the new Stewards for the School of Health Human and Justice Studies.

Nominations for one steward position in the School of Skills Trades:
Mark Durling – accepted
Mark Durling is the new steward for the School of Health Human and Justice Studies.

Nominations for one steward at large position: none
6. **President's Report**

Discussion regarding transition period in executive with Stewart as Vice-President and Lake as Secretary. Vice-President Academic (VPA) is saying the College is in a state of austerity even after RIP. Partial-load faculty will most likely be affected and part-time faculty numbers will increase. VPA also constantly states that faculty are overpaid and the College needs to hire “firecrackers”. Provincial faculty bargaining team first meetings are June 2

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& 3 just before June 12 election. Remember that media will not be on the side of faculty for bargaining. Sunshades are available for cars to be put in windows on June 2 to get the message out about bargaining until collective agreement is reached. VPA is looking for input on sick days policy. Collective agreements are expiring for both locals – we need solidarity. (Stephens/Waite) – Carried

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Health and Safety Committee

Discussed parking lots snow removal concerns and how JHSC has provided input to RFP process. Discussed how work is being done regarding emergency procedures to assist faculty in their classrooms during the first week of each semester. Consideration is being given for a learning module for students to demonstrate their understanding of the procedures.

There were concerns expressed about faculty being in classrooms without phone access (i.e. dead zone for cell phone use). It was explained that this has been discussed at JHSC meetings but no inexpensive solution is available. A member explained that this may be changing because of new wireless spectrum changes. Another member mentioned Alberta as being a leader in lockdown procedures. (Bolton/Durling) – Carried

7.2 College Employment Stability Committee – none

7.3 Union College Committee – none although members were reminded of this committee's function

7.4 Workload Monitoring Group – none although members were reminded of this committee's function

8. Officer's Reports

8.1 Vice President – Mentioned that there is a twitter account for communicating what's going on particularly during bargaining and a possible strike. Twitter handle is @opseulocal420. Members were reminded about providing their personal email address through www.opseu420.org for communicating with members over the summer and during a potential strike. (Tay/Ferguson) - Carried

8.2 Chief Steward – members were informed that there were 10 grievances this past academic year including 1 that had its terms broken resulting in an upcoming arbitration. 3 union grievances filed (faculty replacement; vacation; management function). 5 grievances to be filed today regarding replacement of RIP faculty.

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Member asked how number of grievances compared to previous years – answer: 5 grievances the previous academic year (Wright/Stewart) – Carried

8.3 Treasurer – discussed strike fund including assumptions of number of faculty, number of weeks and estimated top up beyond OPSEU’s \$100/week + \$5/day/dependent. Meeting will be called to discuss and decide upon strike pay in the event that there is a strike. (Ford/L. Foxall) – Carried

8.4 Secretary – membership list being examined for accuracy leading up to potential strike. Attending grievance hearings with chief steward for long term planning purposes. (Rendell/Holder) - Carried

9. Unfinished Business – none

10. Good of the local – none

11. New Business – President discussed top system demands for bargaining (1. Wages, 2. hybrid learning – Mohawk and Algonquin have already moved in this direction 3. differential learning). Members were reminded of Article 11.01 D 2 which indicates number of different course preparations max is 4 or 6 different sections. Members were also reminded of Article 11.01 G 1 indicating functions (e.g. preparation, evaluation, complementary) can be performed outside the College as long as deadlines established by the College are met. Member asked if strike vote could be done by proxy. Members cannot vote by proxy but OPSEU and local could discuss option of mailing in votes.

12. Adjournment