Focus on Contract Faculty

To Inform & Be Informed

Issue 8: 2015

# Update…

We hear talk of profound exhaustion.

These last eight months have forced us to confront realities and defend our sta-tus at a pitch previously unexperienced. Cuts to departmental budgets have moved our precarity from footnotes to headlines.

While grateful to those who have taken up our cause, we are also painfully aware that we continue to grow in number, in anxiety and in fear. The question of how we are to financially get through the coming months and years is our ever present, frightening reality. Never before has our disposability been so clear.

In spite of our dedication, commitment and effort to continually ‘do more with less and less’, cuts to stipends are forcing many of us to see this term as potentially our last at Laurier. For a growing num-ber, the question of who outside of aca-demia will hire us is being asked with great urgency as we watch opportunities within the academy disappear.

Despite of all of this, we need to re-member that we do have power.

We have power in our numbers and in the growing number of people who sup-port us. We have power in our commit-ment to what a university stands for and its importance in the establishment of just practices inside and outside its corri-dors.

Our strength increases with our daring-ness to speak truth to power and by chal-lenging exploitative systems. And when we fight for and protect one another this year and in the coming years our strength is formidable.

Fourteen months.

Fourteen months from now - August 31st 2016 - our Collective Agreement ends. It is going to take our coming together, with all our strengths, to fight for and protect each other in the immediate and to prepare for the future.

Let’s start planning for our negotiations now!

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# Newsworthy Stories?

Laurier’s Department of Communications, Public Affairs & Marketing (CPAM) works to build the university’s profile & reputation through external promotion, while also communicating key university messag-es to the internal community.

CF are welcome to propose story ideas & submit news-release re-quests, as well as to request marketing & design work related to uni-versity activities. We strive to accommodate as many requests as possible, so we prioritize requests according to such things as news-worthiness &/or alignment with the institution’s strategic direction, as well as the date the request is received & when the finished product is required.

The best way to help us accommodate your request is to submit your information well in advance. For news releases, a minimum two weeks notice is preferred. For creative ser-vices, please bear in mind that the time required to complete a project depends on when you submit content, as well as the time needed for the design work, revisions, approval & printing.

To request a news release, web story or social media support, please complete a Request for Communications form To request marketing & design, please complete a Project Initiation form

# Centre for Student Success Study Skill Services (Waterloo)

We look forward to working with CF to enhance students’ academic life through the promotion of proper learning strategies and study skills. Our service covers time management, critical think-ing and reading, active listening, note taking, test preparation through study aid development, and presentation skills.

Services include:

 consultations on integrating study skills, learning strategies, & metacognitive strate-gies development into the curriculum & assignments;

 class learning skills assessments;

 workshops and presentations;

 online learning module development and deployment; and,

 student referral to a learning strategist.

All of our services can be integrated into course curriculum or offered as supplemental resources. Both in-class and online options are available.

More information can be found online at www.wlu.ca/study

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# Mark Thursday April 16th!

Annual General Meeting

The Turret, 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Spring Wine & Cheese

Retirees Recognition

The Hawk’s Nest, 3:00 - 6:00 pm.

Arrangements have been made to offer round-trip bus service for the AGM and Wine & Cheese Social. If you are interested (and we hope you are) in taking this bus, please let Linda Watson know by April 13th. A final decision on the bus service will be made once numbers are known.

Bus Information:

11:30 am. - Leaves Brantford (150 Dalhousie)

12:45 pm. - Arrives Waterloo

6:00 pm. - Leaves Waterloo

7:00 pm. - Arrives Brantford