**WLUFA Climate Action Committee Call for Nominations**

By resolution of the Executive Committee, WLUFA is pleased to announce the formation of a Climate Action Committee and to put out this first call for nominations.

*The global climate crisis is having profound impacts on our world and promises long-term implications for the shape of ecological systems and human societies alike. Climate change is simultaneously an environmental issue and an issue of social justice, which calls for creativity, resources and tough decisions at all levels of society. Universities are key sites for teaching, research, debate, collaboration and innovation on climate and climate-related issues. Across their numerous operations and activities, they are also important contributors to greenhouse gas emissions.*

*Laurier’s Sustainability Action Plan for 2018-22 identifies “climate action” as one of the Plan’s three core themes. As employees of the university and members of its governance structures and processes, WLUFA members play a significant role in shaping Laurier's greenhouse-gas footprint and its responses to the climate emergency. We also have a direct stake in how our workplace and workplace practices are reshaped by Laurier’s efforts to tackle the climate issue.*

*The WLUFA Climate Action Committee will engage in climate action with respect to WLUFA’s internal operations, our members’ relationship with the university, the university’s broader activities, and climate action beyond Laurier.*

We are seeking 8-10 members who will represent contract faculty, full-time faculty and librarians from across Laurier locations. Only WLUFA members are eligible to join. Diversity and equity are core values of WLUFA, and as such form key criteria as we seek to build the committee’s membership. Also, given the importance of this issue to the land we are on and to the work of reconciliation, one seat on the committee is reserved for an Indigenous faculty member.

Half of those nominated will have membership active for one year, and half for two years, with subsequent annual nomination processes being for two-year service on the committee. Members will be required to attend five annual meetings, one in spring/summer (normally in June) and two in each academic semester. Members will spend additional time working with others on the committee between official meetings.

To nominate yourself or a colleague please complete the attached nomination form and send it to [Linda Watson](mailto:lwatson@wlu.ca) in the WLUFA office by September 14th.

**WLUFA** **Climate Action Committee Nomination Form**

*Nomination forms will be kept strictly confidential. They will be viewed only by members of the WLUFA Executive Committee and WLUFA staff. The forms will be stored on password-protected staff computers and will be shared with Executive members via the password-protected WLUFA Executive web portal. Executive members will be instructed to delete the forms from their personal devices after committee appointment decisions are made.*

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| **Name:** | Derek Hall |
| **Bargaining Unit:** | Full-time  Contract |
| **Location:** | Brantford  Waterloo  Kitchener |
| **Are you a member of an equity-seeking group?** | Yes  No  Prefer not to say |
| **Do you identify as an Indigenous person?** | Yes  No  Prefer not to say |
| **Are you applying for a one or two-year position on the committee?** | One-year  Two-year |
| **Please provide a 200-250 word explanation of why you would like to join the committee and what you hope to contribute to its work. You may also mention previous related experience as appropriate.** | |
| I have been a tenured faculty member at Laurier since I joined the university in 2006 and am cross-appointed to the Department of Political Science and the School of International Policy and Governance. I have been researching environmental politics and political ecology, particularly in East Asia and globally, for 30 years, and have published a substantial amount of work in these areas. I also cover climate politics in my undergraduate and graduate teaching. The climate strikes of 2019 inspired me to become more involved in climate action at Laurier, and as a result I co-founded a climate committee in the Political Science department and became a member of Climate Justice Laurier. I also co-organized the writing and submission of the WLUFA Climate Action Committee proposal with Alex Latta this summer. As a member of the committee I hope especially to prioritize 1) getting faculty more involved in existing efforts to reduce carbon emissions at Laurier and in thinking about the relationship between our work and fossil fuel consumption, 2) critically analyzing the claims that the Laurier administration makes about sustainability, and 3) connecting WLUFA members to other climate initiatives in the region and nationally. | |