

focus on Contract Faculty

TO INFORM & BE INFORMED

WLUFA Contract Faculty Liaisons

Welcome to a new term and the first edition of the resurrected Focus on Contract Faculty (FoCF) newsletter! As your WLUFA CF Liaisons, we are here to represent your perspectives and experiences on campus. We encourage you to contact us with any concerns or questions you might have. If we can't help we will find someone who can. If you have a topic suggestion for FoCF, please let us know. Better yet, consider writing something.

CF are increasingly being relied upon to ensure universities can function. We must stand together for better employment conditions. To this end, please consider completing CAUT's survey on CF and joining us at a Fair Employment Week event.

In solidarity, Anne-Marie Allison (Mathematics, Brantford Liaison, aallison@wlu.ca) and Kimberly Ellis-Hale (Sociology, Waterloo Liaison, kellis@wlu.ca)



Women's Faculty Colleague, Frédérique Guinel

I have been elected this past June Women's Faculty Colleague (WFC) on the Waterloo campus; in this capacity, I am to serve you and the Women community for the next two years.

I have attended many of the excellent workshops organized by previous WFCs. Doing so, I noticed that Contract Faculty (CF) were not often participating in these events. I know that there are many reasons for this: you are very busy, you have awkward schedules, some of you live quite far and are obliged to commute, you are tired at the end of the day and do not necessarily want to attend another meeting, many of you have families with younger children, etc. Those are excellent reasons and I do understand them. Generally the workshop attendance is small but the atmosphere is friendly and the conversation is interesting. Very often, I come out of these workshops with my morale boosted.

Because I would like to see more people involved and be more inclusive, I thought that I might try another way to reach women. I thought I might invite her for a coffee or a tea. She and I could discuss issues encountered or ideas to research for potential workshops. The next time we meet at a campus event that person would not feel like a total stranger. I will try to strengthen the Women's network at Laurier one coffee at a time. So I would like you, CF, to contact me (fguinel@wlu.ca) if you would like to meet. I truly would like you to tell me how I as the WFC could help you. I already have had coffees with colleagues this past month; that time was well-spent as I have already learned a lot. Once I know what the issues are and how I can help, I will act on a larger scale. Looking forward to meeting you, Frédérique

Survey of Contract Faculty (CF)

The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) is undertaking the first ever national study on the experiences of CF. The survey is open to those who taught in the 2016-2017 academic year at one or more Canadian post-secondary institutions and whose job is in some way non-permanent, whether their title is contract instructor, contract academic staff, a limited-term appointment, part-time faculty, adjunct, sessional or similar. It will be open until November 1, 2017. Please circulate the [survey link](#) to all CF.

Fair Employment Week (FEW)

FEW Oct. 23-27 is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate and build national support for contract faculty (CF), challenge the casualization of academic labour and improve the working conditions of CF.

FEW raises awareness about the rise of precarious employment on campus and the unfair working conditions of one-third of faculty in Canada and highlights the contributions made by CF under difficult employment conditions.

Stop by one of the tables Tues. Oct. 24 (1-3pm, Concourse, Waterloo), Wed. Oct. 25 (10am-1pm, Science Atrium, Waterloo; 1-3pm RCW, Brantford) or chat over a free coffee/muffin at Veritas Cafe Wed. Oct. 25 7-9:30am.

Please support college faculty's fight for equal pay for their contract faculty and a 50/50 ratio of full-time to non-full-time faculty jobs. For more information please see www.collegefaculty.org.