

WLUFAs are the certified bargaining agent for two bargaining units: one representing all full-time faculty and professional librarians and the other for all contract faculty and professional librarians. This information pamphlet is directed to candidates for full-time academic appointments. Its purpose is to provide useful information and assistance to candidates who have been offered a full-time faculty or librarian appointment at Wilfrid Laurier University and are about to enter into negotiations on their terms of appointment.

The general terms and conditions of employment for Members of the full-time bargaining unit are set out in and subject to the current Collective Agreement for July 1, 2023 to June 30, . Under the Agreement the Employer is required to include a copy of the Collective Agreement with the letter of appointment. The complete text of the agreement is available at: www.wlufa.ca. It is advisable to consult the agreement before you begin contract discussions with your Dean or University Librarian.

Librarians:

The advice set out below applies equally to faculty and librarian appointments. There are specific articles in the Collective Agreement for librarians, and prospective librarian appointees may wish to consult WLUFAs about these provisions.

Negotiating Your Appointment:

Your individual letter of appointment is a negotiated document in which specific items are subject to your agreement. *Do not assume that the first offer made to you by the Dean is a final offer, for the University expects to enter into negotiations at this stage.* Once you have a first offer, feel free to consult with WLUFAs

for suggestions on how to respond. WLUFAs will provide salary negotiation advice, but this is easier if the Dean has provided you with a salary figure.

Articles 13.14.1 and 14.10.1 of the Collective Agreement specify the elements which must be contained in a Letter of Appointment.

Particular attention should be paid to Reference Salary; credited years of service for leaves, and credited years in rank. What you manage to negotiate in these areas has long-term consequences for your career path and income.

Starting Salary:

The structure of Compensation is set out in Article 30 of the Collective Agreement. The tables in Article 30.3 set out the floors for each rank of faculty and librarians as they will stand on July 1 of each year of the current contract. The Reference Salary offered to you must be at least the floor of the rank as of July 1 of the contract year in which your appointment begins. There is no salary grid at Laurier, and therefore *the floors only establish a minimum. Negotiated starting salaries are usually above the annual floor for the rank.*

If you currently hold a Limited Term Appointment at Laurier and have been offered a tenure-track position you must, as a minimum, receive your previous Reference Salary plus adjustments in compensation as laid out in Articles 30.1.3, 30.2, 30.4. *You may, however, choose to re-negotiate your initial Reference Salary at this point.* WLUFAs can provide some advice on comparative salaries.

Tenure-track Faculty Appointments:

Tenure-track appointments may be made at either the Provisional or the Candidacy level,

according to qualifications [Art. 13.1.4]. If you have been offered an appointment as a Faculty Member you should be aware that under Article 18.2.5.2 those holding provisional appointments are entitled to have one teaching term free of assigned teaching duties during the two years of the appointment. This provides junior faculty with valuable time for research and publication, and is not available to those who hold a Candidacy Appointment. Once you have received a Candidacy Appointment, you must be considered for tenure by the Fall Term of your third year [15.3.1]. However, you may apply for tenure in any year of your Candidacy Appointment. If you are uncertain whether a Provisional or Candidacy Appointment best fits your qualifications and career expectations, consult WLUFAs.

Experience at Other Universities or Equivalent Experience:

Credits for years of experience at another university, or equivalent experience elsewhere, can be negotiated and the agreed credit must be stated in your letter of appointment.

This has two applications:

1. An agreed credit may be applied to eligibility for sabbatical leave or librarians' academic and professional leave [Art. 13.1.3, 14.1.4].
2. If you are appointed with tenure or with a continuing appointment, credited years in rank reduce the service requirement for eligibility to apply for promotion [13.1.3, 14.1.4, and 15.7.8].

Other:

1. If you are a member of a pension plan with your present employer make enquiries about portability of your pension to the WLU plan.
2. Ask the Dean about the provision for office space, computer equipment, research/studio space and availability of research funds for new appointees.

Relocation Expenses:

You may be eligible for reimbursement for 90% of relocation expenses for moving to within 60 kilometers of the Waterloo Region and Brant County to a maximum of \$5,000 within Canada and \$6,000 for a move from another country [28.8].

Day Care:

Members of the University community have access to priority placement at a nearby day care centre in both Waterloo and Brantford [28.2.3]. For further information, please contact the WLUFA Office.

**INFORMATION
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