

# UGFA

University of Guelph Faculty Association

## Newsletter

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

### GENERAL MEETING

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Ramada Hotel, Pinetree  
Rooms A&B

4:00pm – 6:00pm

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### NOTICE

**Strike duty sign-up session**

March 5<sup>th</sup>, U.C. Room 441

1:00pm – 4:30pm

## Strike Authorization Vote

As you know, the recent vote, authorizing the UGFA Executive to call a strike if necessary, was a resounding success. 71% of our Members turned out to vote and **84.5% of those voiced their approval of the motion**. This strong showing of support reaffirms the unity of the membership in its confidence and support of your Negotiating Team, headed by Professor Ed Carter.

It is important to remember, that this positive vote does not necessarily mean that a strike is imminent. The UGFA and the Administration have both voiced their commitment to obtaining a negotiated settlement.

The mediation process with mediator William Kaplan has begun and will continue until March 12<sup>th</sup>. During this time a media black-out regarding the position of both parties, has been agreed to. We will provide as much information as possible during the media black-out.

While preparations are being made in the event of a strike or lock-out, the position of the UGFA has been, and continues to be a desire for a successfully negotiated collective agreement. The strong support of the membership is what will lead to a negotiated contract.

**UGFA, Room 535, U.C., (519) 824-4120 Ext. 52126**

**[www.caut.ca/ugfa](http://www.caut.ca/ugfa)**

**[facassoc@uoguelph.ca](mailto:facassoc@uoguelph.ca)**

## A Message from UGFA President, Glen Filson

**CUPE 1334 (trades, custodial and maintenance employees) will be in a legal strike position** as of Friday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 12:01 a.m. The major issue for their members is related to benefits and pensions. In particular the implementation of a co-pay on drugs of 15/85 (15% paid by Member to a maximum of a set dollar) and increased pension contributions without any improvement to their pensions.

In the event that CUPE 1334 goes on strike, UGFA Members should respect the efforts of CUPE 1334 to secure a collective agreement. In particular, **you should not perform the duties of striking workers**; nor shall they be expected to perform their own work during a strike. While you must cross the picket line, you have the right to contact your Dean or other administrator and request they escort you across the picket line, if you feel that your safety is in question.

You may also choose to assist CUPE 1334 by joining the picket lines or speaking in support of them. However, this may only be done if it does not conflict with your scheduled duties. We ask that you **not perform the duties of striking workers**. If your garbage is full, contact your Dean to correct the situation. **You are not required to remove your own garbage.**

We believe that no member of the university community should be penalized for exercising their rights. We are a community and should respect and support each other in the work we do in the University.

## Participation Survey Responses Required

If you have not already done so, it is important that all UGFA members complete their strike participation survey as soon as possible. In the event of a strike, this information will assist the Association in contacting you. Again, the Association does not wish to see a strike occur, however, if it does happen we do not know if we will have access to current the email and contact information of UGFA members. So please send in your completed form as soon as possible.

**PARTICIPATION FORMS ARE ATTACHED.**

### \*\*\* INFORMATION UPDATES and FAQ's \*\*\*

Our website has moved! In order to better serve our members we have moved our website to a new location ([www.caut.ca/ugfa](http://www.caut.ca/ugfa)). Communicating with our members is one of our top priorities, and we hope that you will find this new site beneficial in obtaining up to date information about your Faculty Association. **Information updates are added weekly**, and our **new FAQ section** (which we are in the process of building) will provide members with answers to many of the questions the Association has received about negotiations, strike duties, etc. **To submit your question**, please email [nhyde@ugfa.caut.ca](mailto:nhyde@ugfa.caut.ca).

### UGFA Teaching Awards

Faculty members are reminded that the UGFA teaching award **deadline is fast approaching**. We would like to urge everyone to submit your nominations by **March 21<sup>st</sup>**. For more details about the UGFA awards please visit our website at <http://www.caut.ca/ugfa/Teaching%20Award%20Guidelines.htm>

### Events

**Past:** The UGFA JAZZ night was a great success and was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank everyone for their support and participation in making the night one to remember.

**We are interested in your views and comments. If you have any comments, suggestions, or views that you would like to share with us please call ext. 52126 or email [facassoc@uoguelph.ca](mailto:facassoc@uoguelph.ca).**

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