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OCFA Council & CARC 2

President's Report

by Tim Walters

New OCFA council members

I am delighted to be able to welcome two new members to our Association council. Janet Mercer is replacing Derek Cook as our Business Faculty Liaison, and the Vernon Campus Community Representative position will now be held by Melissa Munn from Sociology and Women's Studies, who replaces Colin Snowsell from the Communications department. On behalf of all OCFA members, I'd like to extend many thanks to Derek and Colin for their service, and welcome aboard Janet and Melissa. If you teach in Business or in Vernon, and you don't know either of these fine folks, I'd encourage you to seek them out but quick and introduce yourself—they are now your voice on council.

OC Employee Recognition Ceremony

Last week I had the chance to represent the Faculty Association at th 0 Td [O e h 0 Td [O e pme1(ha)-(u)-1(c)1

Thus, we will all shortly be receiving a missive from on high declaring that December 27th to December 31st are regular work days and should be treated as such. Please do not be alarmed or misled by this communication. As regards OCFA members, nothing whatsoever has changed, except that the heating system at OC and hallway lights will now be turned on should you need to flee the festive or the familial for a few hours and hide out in your darkened office. It remains the case that you are not required to be sitting in your office working during any or all of this period. These days are to be treated no differently from any other day when you are not required to teach, as has always been the case.

FPSE

Although provincial bargaining came to a disappointingly grinding halt earlier this term, we have continued to enjoy the benefits of our membership with FPSE in other ways. Last month I travelled to Victoria along with the other FPSE local Presidents to meet with the ministry and discuss sectoral issues, and also had the chance to sit down with the Canadian Federation of Students to begin working on a joint strategy to address the degraded state of post secondary funding in this province. This past weekend, I travelled with three other OC faculty members to Vancouver to attend a one day conference on governance issues, which have become an increasing source of concern in the wake of the McPhillips decision, which seemed to empower the UBC senate to overrule faculty protections enshrined in their collective agreement. Recently, FPSE has also been very active in attempting to unravel the implications of the recent ministerial reshuffle, which has been the source of much confusion and debate of late—I have asked FPSE President Cindy Oliver to briefly speak to this bifurcation at our FGM.

If any of you are interested in becoming more involved with the OCFA or with FPSE, we are currently seeking representatives to fill two vacant positions on FPSE standing committees. These committees are comprised of one representative from each of the FPSE locals from throughout the province, and concern themselves with one aspect of our professional lives (see the Education Policy, Status of Women, and Pension Advisory Committees). At present, we have spaces available on both the Workplace Health, Safety, and Environment Committee and the Disability Management and Rehabilitation Committee, so if you're interested please let me know. You can read all about the work these groups do by clicking on the following link (http://www.fpse.ca/committees), but all that is really required for you to get involved is an interest in the applicable area, a willingness to subscribe to the listserv and advise council periodically, and the ability to travel to Vancouver once a term to attend a meeting. Think about signing up—one of the advantages of our FPSE membership is the resource sharing these groups afford us, so the more we know about what's going on provincially the better off we all are locally (see, for instance, Doug's pension report below). Every campus and every portfolio at OC currently has at least one committee representative, so if you'd like to talk to one of your colleagues about what is required let me know and I'll get you some names.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our FGM this week and, as ever, if you have any questions or concerns, or would like to get involved, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Cheers,

Tim

1st VicePresident's Report

by Sharon Josephson

Collective Agreement Review Committee (CARC) Report

Submitted by Sharon Josephson (Communications), Chief Steward
Contact: Kelowna E320; ext. 4294; cell 250-718-6387

Get to know your campus steward:

Penticton: Kaya Forest (Chemistry), ext. 3222
Kelowna: Norah Bowman-Broz

TLUs they would have been assigned had they not gone on leave. This would ensure that they wouldn't lose their place in line.

We have also recently filed an "Eating Timelines" grievance. Our very own OCFA president, Tim Walters, found his per diem claim for breakfast ($5.50) was denied on the grounds that he had ample time to prepare and consume breakfast before travelling from his home in Salmon Arm to a selection committee meeting in Kelowna. The Collective Agreement does not specify timelines for eating particular meals at particular times of day. We have asked for reimbursement, with interest. If you've had an expense claim denied for similar reasons, please let us know.

Finally, in a meeting last week, a new member expressed confusion over how many Deans she had to report to. Teaching at two campuses, she had two regional Deans plus her portfolio Dean. Which one was her supervisor? All of them? Another victim of the infamous matrix management system, this member made me realize that many of you likely have similar sorts of questions and may find the Collective Agreement less than welcoming when you go searching for answers. If this is the case, please feel free to give us a call or send us an email. To answer this question: your portfolio Dean is your one and only designated supervisor.

2nd Vice-President's Report

by Francie Greenslade

Negotiation Committee membership (2010-11):

Francie Greenslade (English), 2nd Vice President of OCFA, Chair of the Negotiations Committee (Local 3221 and Office PL 112) from Penticton,
Peter Murray (Physics and Astronomy), Chief Negotiator (Local 4268 and Office C 277) from Kelowna,

Nolan Fretz (Network Engineering Technology), (Local 4497 and Office C 330B) in Kelowna,
Sharon Josephson (Communications), 1st VP of OCFA (Local 4294 and Office E320) in Kelowna,
Michelle Nicholson (Business), Treasurer of OCFA, (Local 4608 and Office C 132) from Kelowna, and
Tim Walters (English), President of OCFA, (Local 8251 and Office SA 116) from Salmon Arm

Contract Negotiation Report:

As you may have heard, things got a little heated at the bargaining table a few days ago, when the College handed over a letter informing us that their past practice of inviting

Treasurer's Report

by Michelle Nicholson

Money, Money, Money

Do you know that every year members miss out on money they could be claiming from OC? There are the GIA fund, the PD fund, and the PA fund available and just waiting for you to make a claim.

The GIA (Grant-in-Aid) fund is available to all OCFA members both continuing and term. You have to apply to this fund BEFORE you spend any money. They meet twice a year with application deadlines on October 31st and March 31st. Each grant from this fund shall not normally exceed $2,000. Add that up. $2,000 x twice a year you could get as much as $4,000 a year from GIA! The College is required to provide sufficient funding for the GIA fund. So the size of this fund is determined by how much we use it. Funding is to support research, scholarly and creative activity. There are a few hoops to jump through but so what it's $2,000 per grant! Before you can apply to the GIA fund you have to first try to get what you need from your department budget, the library (they have money to buy books your department requests), computer services, the Dean's Budget, or the bookstore.

required when applications are received. You just fill in the form, get your supervisor or Dean to sign it, and submit it to the appropriate PD committee. Your Dean's assistant can help you with this last step. You are also required to get approval before spending money for this fund but your Dean and PD committee might make exceptions with sufficient explanation (unlike the GIA committee).