The Update

Issue III, 2022- 2023
April 2023

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SUBMISSIONS TO THE UPDATE

The Update welcomes letters to the editor, upcoming event notices, or other submissions. Readers are encouraged to write in response to what is read in the newsletter or about other Faculty Association matters. Letters to The Update do not represent the opinions of the editor nor the OCFA Executive or Council as an organization ts or via generally held to bring forward a particular item for consideration, please contact one of your OCFA Council members. Contact information for all your reps can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

DELIVERY OF THE UPDATE

The Update is now distributed electronically as a PDF file by email and is also available on the OCFA webpage.

OCFA SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/ocfaculty
Facebook group (for OCFA & OUCFA retirees)
https://www.facebook.com/groups/3459590260743214

Contact information for all Association Council representatives and Shop Stewards can be found on the final page of this newsletter.

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section B

1. The Benefits Officer (Chair of the Benefits Review Committee) shall:
    1. be a member of the Executive Committee.
    2. assist the President in all matters.
    3. be primarily responsible for:
        - developing expertise in the various health and welfare benefits provided by the Agreement.
        - assisting members in accessing those benefits and resolving issues with benefits providers.
        - developing expertise on the rights to accommodation afforded members under the Human Right Code of BC.
        - Assisting members in issues related to sick leave and other related leaves.
        - Assisting members in applying for and receiving LTD benefits as well as their return to work from LTD.
        - Liaising with the Chief Steward and Grievance Committee when any matter relating to the above requires a grievance.
        - be the Chair of the Benefits Committee.
    4. represent the Association on the

Upcoming Retirement Seminar

Randy Brown, OCFA's Treasurer, will be giving a presentation on "Retiring From Okanagan College" via Zoom, for all OCFA members that are nearing retirement, on May 4th, 2023 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

Subjects will include:

- When to notify and who to contact at OC.
- Accessing your pension information from the BC College Pension Plan website.
- Pension options.
- Selecting the best pension for you when you retire.
- Payouts from the College on Retirement.
- Tax Implications.
- Pension Plan Retirees Association.
- Working after you retire.
- Other questions you may have.

Please send any specific questions you would like answered, and Randy will answer them if possible.

Please RSVP and/or send questions to mailto:ocfa.treasurer@gmail.com

Thanks,

Randy Brown
OCFA Treasurer

2023-2024 Council & Executive Nominees

Position: 1st VP

Nominee: Rod Watkins

Nominators: Sean Johnston & Colin Wallace

Reasons for Running and Bio: I have been Chief Steward for several years. This will be my last. I am seeking one additional year to complete the wok on the Post-65 and Parking grievances as well as the program reduction just announced for the Nursing BSc program. Also, over this final year, I will be developing a robust transition plan to ease the work of the new Chief Steward next year.

Over my years as Chief Steward, I am confident I have represented our members strongly but wisely. I consider it a mark of our success that we have had but only two arbitrations in my time as Chief Steward—the Post-65 benefits grievance and the Parking grievance. Rather than going to a costly arbitration, we have successfully resolved a significant number of grievances during my tenure. In cases where we could not resolve the matter locally, we frequently were successful at mediation. I think that speaks to the careful way in which the Grievance Committee considers grievances and the best way to resolve them.

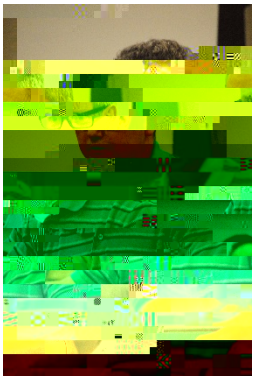
Larger labour relations issues like grievances are, of course, a significant part of the Chief Steward's workload. The work that has been most satisfying to me personally, however, has been the many times over the past years that I have been able to act on behalf of members to resolve issues with the College. Whether that is making sure members receive the benefits they are entitled to or are paid properly on the scale, it is the personal member interaction that is the most rewarding part of the job. There are many of you out there who I have been able to help; it has been my honour to do so.

After being awarded my PhD in Philosophy from the University of Toronto in 1996, I eventually earned a continuing position at the College in 2005. I served as the Salmon Arm Steward starting that very year and remained the Salmon Arm steward until I ran for Chief Steward in 2013, giving me over 16 years of CARC training and experience.

Position: 2nd VP & Bargaining Committee Chair

Nominee: Sean Johnston

Nominators: Jillian Garrett & Rod Watkins



Reasons for running and Bio: I've been Kelowna Steward for the last two years and that experience has deepened my appreciation of the value of the union's work. I want to increase the level of my involvement for that reason and also because the last two years on the grievance committee have given me many opportunities to learn—through meetings on particular grievances, FPSE workshops on job action preparation and human rights law, CAUT training on filing grievances, and recently in meetings with our OCFA executive and FPSE reps about responding to the recent BSN

announcement—and I want to continue that learning. This second part is a selfish reason, because I enjoy such learning, but I know it will also benefit our members.

I've been at Okanagan College for 15 years and served on GIA, ESL, and PD committees and am

After serving as Secretary for a full year, I look forward to serving another term with some experience behind me.

If you are a local to Kelowna, you may spot me running, sometimes with a golden retriever or two in tow. I also enjoy horseback riding, biking, and good coffee. You may also find me at the Okanagan Regional Library from time to time, promoting all kinds of literacy in their Youth Services department.

2023-2024 Nominees – OCFA Council

Position: Faculty Liaison Representative - Arts

Nominee: Raluca Fratiloiu

Nominators: Tim Walters & Matt Kavanagh

Reasons for Running and Bio: The last year in the Arts Faculty Liaison role has been rewarding and thus I am running again for the same OCFA position. I believe it is

Third, our faculty is very small. Sometimes it's difficult to find faculty members who have the time to volunteer for a position such as this.

Gurpreet Dhatt began her career as a Registered Nurse after graduating from Douglas College's Diploma Program (Vancouver) in 1996. In 2002, Gurpreet received her BScN Degree with Distinction from the University of Victoria. In 2008, Gurpreet graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Master's in Nursing Degree (Education focus).

While working at Vancouver General Hospital (1997-2012) Gurpreet became a participant in the preceptorship program, she helped guide nursing students through their preceptorship. In 2002, Gurpreet was hired in her first teaching position at Vancouver Community College (VCC) where she taught in the LPN Pharmacology Upgrade Program. In 2003, Gurpreet accepted the position of Clinical Instructor at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Graduate Nurse International Re-entry Program. In 2004, she joined the LPN Department at Vancouver Community College, then, in 2010, joined the BSN Program at Vancouver Community College. In 2012, Gurpreet joined the faculty at Okanagan College.

Outside work, Gurpreet serves as a volunteer in the local community and sponsors children in under-developed countries and travel is a big part of her life.

Position: Faculty Liaison Representative – Non-Instructional

Nominee: Lindsay Willson

Nominators: Roen Janyk & Eva Gavaris

Reasons for Running and Bio: Hi, I'm Lindsay Willson, I am a librarian at the Kelowna campus. I have worked at the college for 10 years, and I have just finished serving my first year on council.

Position: Community Represen tative - Penticton
Nominee: Available for Nominations

and Sorbonne University, worked in industry, and was a senior

Position: Non -Continuing Faculty Representative

Nominee: Available for Nominations

Nominators:Requires two nominators

Position: Pension Advisory Representative

policies here at Okanagan College. As for my work on the Grievance Committee, I attended monthly meetings to bring forward, discuss, and vote on any and all grievances brought forth by faculty members in the past year. I reviewed information sent out weekly to stay current with all topics and engaged in ongoing discussions with fellow Grievance Committee members to ensure our members received fair treatment as outlined by the collective agreement.

Colin completed his Master's degree in human physiology from the University of Oregon in 201 his PhD in neur

Executive Reports

President's Report

Sharon Mansiere

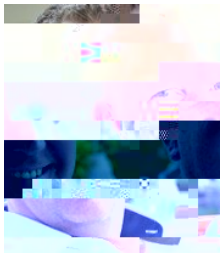
Local Update

Collegial Governance is enshrined in the College and Institutes Act for our College and others. It dictates the structure and role of our Education Council (EdCo) and Board of Governors (Board). Our Collective Agreement references and relies on the adherence to both of those bodies to do their appointed tasks with their fiduciary duties to the institution and faculty and staff groups carefully considered. Faculty and the BCGEU Instructors are Collectively called 'faculty' in the act and have the dominant voice at EdCo. EdCo elections are coming up and we need faculty to engage with those that are putting their names forward, especially in the contestealleo fot2D B0.001 Tc -0 ()9.5(-1(t)2(4.5(D 9(d)1.

OCFA Negotiations Committee Report

Alan Rice

Dear OCFA Members,



A bargaining update was circulated by email. Please contact me or a member of the bargaining team with any questions.

Alan Rice
OCFA 2nd VP, Negotiations Chair

Treasurer's Report

Randy Brown

Please feel free to email or phone me if you have any questions, concerns, or comments about the reports presented at the Winter or Annual General Meetings.

rbrown@okanagan.bc.ca
250-763-5445 x4373

Secretary's Report

Roën Janyk

Please join your friends and colleagues for an evening to socialize and elect our 2023/24 Council at our AGM on April 28. Council meetings take place one Friday per month, usually 2-5 pm, in-person in Kelowna and online during Winter months. Zoom attendance is also available.

It was a year of learning as I came into the role of Secretary after a year of parental leave. I have enjoyed my first year serving as OCFA Secretary. The learning curve seems to be levelling off and I have experienced the intricacies of the position. If re-elected, I will be working to get the independent OCFA website fully operational and actively updated in the upcoming academic year.

Our Executive had a productive year, we accomplished getting our vital records moved to a secure storage location, completing items from our action list, and we continue to navigate through the fallout of the cyberattack.

Meetings Attended/Upcoming

- February 27th, 2023 – I acted as a Panelist for IDS's Sustainability Industry Night (UBCO Engineering)

climate change and prepare for and adapt to the changes we are expecting.

- FYI - I keep an updated Postsrboard of Okanagan and regional and national climate and sustainability events and programs on Bublup
- Okanagan Climate Hub has a Take Action page which includes Odd Jobs and campaign specific actions that local members can take on climate issues, share with students who are looking for volunteer opps locally.
- You can also sign up to WCCAN newsletter here (West Coast Climate Action Network – FPSE Climate Committee is a member)

Submitted by Rosalind Warner

Human Rights & International Solidarity Committee Report

Terry Bridges

Here is a summary of my work as HRISC Chair this year:

- I attended every council meeting.
- I sponsored, co-sponsored, or spoke to the following motions at Council:
  - Nov 2022: That the OCFA donate $4000 to the OC student foodbanks on all four campuses.
  - Nov 2022: That the OCFA donate $1000 to support workshops in the winter semester by Spring Hawes which provided awareness of and education about ableism in post-secondary institutions.
  - Mar 2023: That the OCFA donate $1000 to United Way BC to support displaced Ukranians who have arrived in BC, and $1000 to the Canadian Red Cross to support relief efforts for people in Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes in Feb 2022.
- I attended both FPSE HRISC meetings, and reported back to OCFA Council. Here are some highlights from our work this past year:
  -

x

a motion to change the name of this position on council from Status of Women Representative to

Faculty Liaison- Arts	Raluca Fratiloiu	4582	rfratiloiu@okanagan.bc.ca
Faculty Liaison- Business	Stacey Fenwick	4355	sfenwick@okanagan.bc.ca
Faculty Liaison- Health	Gurpreet Dhatt	4604	gdhatt@okanagan.bc.ca
Faculty Liaison- Non-Instructional	Lindsay Willson	4624	lwillson@okanagan.bc.ca
Faculty Liaison- Science	Bruce Campbell	4784	bcampbell@okanagan.bc.ca
Faculty Liaison- Technology	Scott Fazackerley	4376	sfazackerley@okanagan.bc.ca
Community Representative-Kelowna			