



FAUST

News & Views

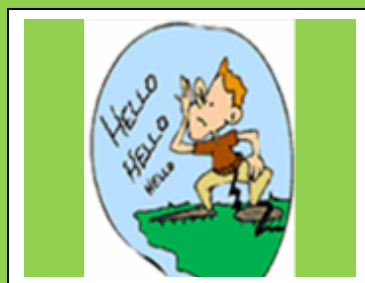
No. 7

OCTOBER 2019

Dear FAUSTians:

This is the first newsletter of the new academic year. In this issue, we feature a brief summary (or 'echo') of the last General Membership Meeting for those who were unable to attend, as well as news about Fair Employment Week, and other "good stuff"!.....

ECHO: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRI SEPT 13 2019



The General Membership Meeting on Friday September 13th was well attended (despite an inauspicious date!).

Chief negotiator Marvin Claybourn reported that bargaining has begun, with both sides exchanging proposals & organizing them by category. Further updates will be forthcoming as things proceed, and Marvin will also be available to answer any questions members may have at the various open consultation sessions being held throughout the semester.

Treasurer Moira McLaughlin announced that the FAUST executive wishes to change the dates of our fiscal year, in order to align with the calendar year. This will permit full reporting for the last year's financial results at the AGM every April. The change will require a constitutional amendment, to be put forward for a membership vote at our next GMM. Moira

also reported that FAUST's financial situation has been stabilized over the last 5 months and we anticipate a potential return to the normal dues rate in the near future if all continues to go well.

Senior Grievance Officer Jeannette Gaudet noted that FAUST is currently engaged in two grievances, both challenging the Employer's use of "Non-Disciplinary Letters of Expectation" (which may have the potential to circumvent normal Disciplinary procedures under the Collective Agreement).

FAUST President Robin Vose updated the membership on recent activities of the union's ad hoc committees.

- A panel discussion on "Sexual misconduct in the academic workplace" was organized over the summer, along with a poster campaign.
- Concerns raised at Senate about a lack of academic involvement in overseeing Information Technology services has resulted in the (re-)establishment of a president's Advisory Committee on Information Technology.
- Cooperation with student groups continues to address environmental concerns and climate justice issues, including a movement to divest in fossil fuels.

Two new ad hoc committees were also created by unanimous motions at this meeting:

- Ad hoc committee on Indigenization in the academic workplace
- Ad hoc committee for review of FAUST's constitution

Volunteers for all FAUST ad hoc committees are now being actively sought. These are intended to be member-driven opportunities for activism, and they will continue to meet for as long and as frequently as members choose to do so (usually at least once per semester).

The FAUST Job Action Committee was formally launched. Volunteers for this important (and always fun!) committee are also being actively sought, as the union prepares for the possibility of any future lockout or strike.

Members were advised of the following upcoming FAUST events:

- Sept. 16 Panel discussion of "Sexual misconduct in the academic workplace" (this has since taken place, with over 50 audience members in attendance)
- Oct. 7-11 Fair Employment Week
- Oct. 25 Oktoberfest party
- TBA: Winter party

Volunteers are most welcome to help organize any of these or other future events! Contact faust@stu.ca for more information.

In other news:

- The STU Harassment and Discrimination Policy is being revised and is nearly ready for public circulation.
- FAUST will seek to hire a new part-time Office Assistant and to revamp its website this year.
- FAUST representatives are needed to attend monthly meetings of the Fredericton District Labour Council. This is a great opportunity to get involved in labour union politics, as well as local community affairs. Please contact faust@stu.ca if you are interested, no experience is necessary!
- The FAUST membership voted to contribute \$400 to Bahamian relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Dorian.
- Gül Çalışkan will serve as FAUST Acting President from September 23-October 4.

In solidarity,

The FAUST executive

FAIR EMPLOYMENT WEEK



FAUST is again observing **Fair Employment Week (FEW)**, which is held this year from **October 7-11**. Promoted by CAUT, FEW recognizes the contributions of contract faculty working in Canadian universities and colleges, and draws attention to the challenges facing precarious workers. This year the theme is "Make it Fair." For CAUT's brief video on FEW, see <https://vimeo.com/290598904/402eddb483>

FAUST will engage in a **postering campaign**, as well as host a **luncheon** for Part-Time faculty and any others who are interested in part-time issues. It will be held on **Wed Oct 9** in the **ECH faculty lounge (ECH 201)** from **12:30pm to 2pm**.

Please **RSVP** if you plan to attend the luncheon. We would love to see you, even if you can only drop by for a few minutes between classes.

If you wish to share your story as a precarious worker with CAUT, please visit <https://stories.caut.ca/node/add/story>

WITH THE FEDERAL ELECTION APPROACHING THIS OCTOBER, WHAT ARE THE THINGS ACADEMICS SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE CASTING THEIR VOTE?

For some thoughts on this issue, see CAUT's election primer, <https://www.caut.ca/bulletin/2019/09/election-primer>



Don't forget to pick up a FAUST toque before it gets too cold!!



FAUST MEMBERS & THEIR FRIENDS & FAMILY AT THE FREDERICTON PRIDE PARADE



FAUST OFFICE HOURS 2019-20
WED & FRI 9-11AM, 1-4PM
OR BY APPOINTMENT

Contact information

Faculty Association of the University of St. Thomas (FAUST)

St. Thomas University

Edmund Casey Hall, Room 211

51 Dineen Drive

Fredericton, NB

E3B 5G3

(506) 452-9667

faust@stu.ca

<https://wordpress.com/view/faustnb.com>

