



KFActs

Your KFA — Knowledgeable, Fair, Approachable

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September/October 2005

Welcome Back

School comes from the Greek word schole, which means leisure. Are you glad to return to work in order to have a break from your vacation?

Welcome Faculty to the 2005/2006 academic year. I hope you had an enjoyable summer. The KFA was very busy last year negotiating a new collective agreement and dealing with a number of important labour relations issues.

The letter we sent to you earlier this summer outlined what the new collective agreement contains. We encourage you to come to our General Meeting September 21 to find out more, ask questions, and participate in elections for the

positions posted in the meeting notice on this page. This year we expect to:

- implement the new collective agreement
- enter into “facilitated” discussions with the employer on the Performance Review / Evaluation procedure and practice
- protect your rights

The KFA is your union! We are here to assist you when you encounter problems in your work. Please don't hesitate to contact

us with your concerns. Have a great semester.

Until next time,
Terri Van Steinburg



Terri Van Steinburg, KFA President

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What's This?



Send a note to the editor explaining the significance of this photograph. The best answer will win a prize. Email your answer to rdogden@telus.net

KFA General Meeting

Date: Wednesday September 21st

Time: 3:00-6:00 pm

Place: G1205, Surrey Campus

Agenda:

- New contract
- Salary improvements
- Elections: Learner Support, Non-regular Rep and Labour Management Relations Committee

Attend & Be Heard!

Refreshments and snacks will be served.

Win a door prize!

Bargaining Update

Other Bargaining Highlights:

- Paid eye exam of \$75 every two years
- Employer supplied health & safety apparel
- Revised harassment procedure
- New partial sick leave & partial disability benefits
- Benefit coverage 90 days after retirement
- Updated LOU on work abroad & protection from being assigned international work

Effective July 17th the KFA negotiated a 2% lift in the salary grid. Members had voted 95% to find the value of the increase within the collective agreement. The 2% came from administrative savings created by giving up cross-college meeting times and reducing non-regular status assessments from three dates to one. The Employment Insurance

rebate was given to employer control and the Education Leave budget was reduced from 2.1% of salary to 1.6%. This reduction is offset by a new employer controlled professional development fund of .6% of salary.

On April 1, 2006 a new step on the salary scale will be created. Top of scale will be \$77,187.

A bargaining bulletin was mailed to the homes of all KFA members this summer. If you did not receive the mailing, please be sure to contact the KFA office and update your mailing information. The full Memorandum of Agreement and other changes are available on the KFA website link "Bargaining 2005 Update."



Al Valleau,
Faculty—English

Passing the Purse

As you start your term, I want to wish you all the best. I am back in the classroom fulltime after three years in the KFA office as Secretary-Treasurer. You are in good hands though as Suzanne Pearce, who brings with her a scientist's objective view, is taking over as the Secretary-Treasurer.

This fall brings some stability back into our lives with the signing of a

new collective agreement. It will be pleasant not to have contract negotiations in the foreground.

You should find new clocks on the side walls of all your classrooms. If you remember, two years ago the clocks around the college were quite unreliable and poorly placed. Hopefully all that is in the past and we will have no extra time zones around

Kwantlen. I, like you, wish the team in the KFA office the best of luck in dealing with the issues that affect us day to day. When faculty are valued and treated well, as we all know, they are more likely to do a better job and place a higher value on their commitment to their institution.

Have a good semester.
Al Valleau

Kwantlen's Common Ground with Harvard

Twice this year KFA members have passed votes of non-confidence in the senior Kwantlen administration. Management ignored the votes and hired more bosses.

In March, Harvard President Larry Summers received a vote of non-confidence from his arts and sciences faculty after

he made statements that were taken to mean that innate biological differences accounted for differences in achievement in the sciences.

Harvard's Corporate Board gave a statement to the Boston Globe that "the members of the Corporation fully support President Summers in his

ongoing efforts to listen thoughtfully to the range of views being expressed by members of the university's faculties and to work collegially and constructively with them to address the important academic matters facing Harvard."

FPSE President Comments



Cindy Oliver, FPSE President

Here we are again at the beginning of a new educational year. I want to welcome new members of FPSE locals and to acknowledge those whose ongoing work makes our federation strong at the provincial and local levels.

A year ago we were facing a provincial election, and we knew that post-secondary education would be an important issue. We worked hard to raise issues of access and affordability and I am proud of the work that FPSE did. The election is now over and we have a new and more balanced government and opposition in Victoria.

Despite the change in government, our institutions and our students continue to face some serious issues. Last year at this time I pointed out that many of our institutions were seeing declining enrolment. Preliminary information from the Ministry of Advanced Education for the 2004/05 year shows that the problem has increased. And for the first

time we saw a significant decline in enrolment for the college, university college and institute system as a whole.

This is a disturbing trend and one that requires urgent attention. We know that demand for post-secondary education is high, so why the decline in enrolment at our institutions? Many factors have likely contributed, including dramatically rising costs for students and families; the inadequacy of government funding for institutions; the absence of system planning and mechanisms to support inter-institutional cooperation; and an emphasis on competition between public institutions.

The BC government's goal of increasing student spaces is a laudable one. But it can only really be described as increasing access if institutions can create the spaces and if students are able to fill them. The BC government is planning a budget update in mid-September and we will be watching closely to see if it in-

cludes increased funding for post-secondary education.

For FPSE members this will be a busy year. As the post-secondary education system in BC continues to evolve, we will be working to maintain a focus on quality education and positive working environments. Later in the fall, we will be seeking meetings with MLAs to discuss our common concerns around post-secondary education and, coming up very soon, we will begin annual round of meetings and committee work.

I wish all members an invigorating and productive year and I look forward to having the opportunity to visit many FPSE locals during the coming year.

In solidarity,
Cindy Oliver

Please Support the United Way

Every fall labour supports United Way efforts through donations and volunteers. Why support the United Way? In these times of significant community and economic change, being able to turn to the community for support, whether for a little boost or for on-going assistance, can be critical for you, or someone you know. This makes your gift to United Way as important as ever.

Two students with party reputations claimed they missed a morning exam because they had a flat tire. The instructor allowed them to write a make-up test and arranged for separate rooms. Each student was given a booklet with one question: "Which tire?"

Tuition Fees Still Rising

According to Statistics Canada, undergraduates tuition fee increases this autumn are the lowest in over a decade. On average the national average increase is 1.8%, amounting to \$4,214 per year of university study. Since 1990/91, the annual average increase has been 7.3%, nearly four times the average rate of inflation of 1.9% as measured by the Consumer Price

Index during the same period.

Nova Scotia has the highest fees in the country, averaging \$6,281 with this year's 4.6% increase. Newfoundland and Labrador and Saskatchewan are the only regions with virtually unchanged fees this year.


Nationally, tuition this fall is 22.2% higher than it was in 2000/01. In British Columbia, fees rose

88.0% during the five-year period, during which a tuition fee freeze was lifted. This year's increase for BC averages 2.9% and Kwantlen students will rise pay \$3,285 for 30 credit hours and average tuition fees for international students will increase 6.7% to \$12,587. Kwantlen's international students pay \$11,400.

Have an upcoming event?
Send details on your upcoming event to Russel Ogden at rdogden@telus.net.

Letters to the Editor?
Send them to Russel Ogden, rdogden@telus.net, with the subject title "KFACTS Editor."

Have you recently moved?
Be sure to let us know! Send an email to Erica.Todd@kwantlen.ca

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
<http://www.kfa.bc.ca>

Restorative Justice Presentation: Katy Hutchinson

Katy's husband, Bob, was kicked to death when he checked on a neighbour's son's New Year's Eve house party in 1997. Four years later Ryan Aldridge confessed. He received a five year jail sentence and got Katy's forgiveness. Postponed from an earlier date due to a taping with Oprah Winfrey, Katy Hutchinson will tell her story on October 26th, Wednesday, 2:00 - 4:00 G1205 Surrey. Sponsored by the Department of Criminology.



Photo: Darren Stone

KFA Executive

Terri Van Steinburg, President, Local: 2259 VM: 2259
Mary Griffin, V.P.-Grievances, Local: 2151 VM: 2151
Maureen Shaw, V.P.-Negotiations, Local: 2149 VM: 2149
Suzanne Pearce, Secretary-Treasurer, Local: 2197 VM: 9693
Russel Ogden, Member-at-Large, Local: 2190 VM: 9050
Diane Ridout, Access, Local: 2176 VM: 9837
Ann Marie Davison, Science/Applied Science Studies & Technology, Local: 2655 VM: 9541
Wayne Fenske, Humanities, Local: 2179 VM: 9480
Jake Newton, Social Sciences/Related Studies, Local: 2555 VM: 9206
Harj Dhaliwal, Business, Local: 2725 VM: 9337
Ihor Pona, Applied Arts, Local: 2717 VM: 9795
Barry Johnson, Trades/Horticulture, Local: 3028 VM: None
TBA, Learner Support, Local: - VM: -90
Balbir Gurm, Community & Health Sciences, Local: 2267 VM: 9320
Terry Nanubhai, Non-Regular Faculty, Local: 2965 VM: 9900
Gillian Gausboel, Status of Women Committee, Local: 2789 VM: 9575
Alice Macpherson, Ombudsperson, Local: 3040 VM: 3040
Erica Todd, Administrative Assistant, Local: 2152 VM: 2152