



## Strike by CUPE 3903 and its Impact on Academic Activities: Senate Policy on Disruptions Now in Force

### Communication from the Executive Committee of Senate

March 5, 2018

Members of CUPE 3903 have begun a strike that has substantially disrupted academic activities at the University. As a result, Senate's *Policy on the Academic Implications of Disruptions or Cessations of University Business Due to Labour Disputes or Other Causes* is now in force.

The three governing principles of this policy are **academic integrity, fairness to students, and timely information**. These are described in detail in the policy.

It is not known how long the strike will last. Courses will continue in all Faculties and in the School of Continuing Studies but some classes will not be held. Members of the community have access to a repository of active classes, tutorials and labs that will be updated.

At the outset of the current disruption, the following steps have been taken:

- the Registrar and other University administrators have informed counterparts in Canada about the disruption at York and will use their best efforts to ensure that due dates for applications are extended
- Senate Executive will meet to monitor the situation and keep the community informed if and when additional changes are necessary

In the case of a disruption that is six days long or shorter (defined as short disruptions by the Policy) normal academic regulations apply to all courses and related instructional activities (e.g. grading options or sessional dates). Unless a disruption goes beyond six days, individual faculty members are in the best situation to determine the extent to which their courses, seminars, graduate supervision, labs and the like have been affected and to determine what remedial action may be required. Only if the disruption goes beyond six days will it be necessary to implement more comprehensive remedial actions and to consider the modification of normal academic regulations and adjustment of class and examination schedules.

When a disruption of any length occurs, students who do not participate in academic activities because:

- a) they are unable to do so owing to a Disruption, or
- b) they choose not to participate in academic activities owing to a strike or lock-out on campus

are entitled to immunity from penalty, to reasonable alternative access to materials covered in their absence, to reasonable extensions of deadlines and to such other remedy as **Senate** deems necessary and consistent with the principle of academic integrity. Such remedies do not alter academic standards nor do they guarantee students the same learning experience they would have received in the absence of a disruption.

Senate Executive urges members of the community to familiarize themselves with the Senate Policy, and to watch the University and Senate Websites for frequent updates.

Senate "Disruptions Policy"

<http://secretariat-polices.info.yorku.ca/polices/academic-implications-of-disruptions-or-cessations-of-university-business-due-to-labour-disputes-or-other-causes-senate-policy-on-the>

Disponible en français

<http://secretariat-polices.info.yorku.ca/polices/reglement-du-senat-concernant-les-consequences-sur-les-etudes-des-perturbations-ou-interruptions-des-activites-de-luniversite-par-des-conflits-de-travail-ou-par-dautres-causes/>

LESLEY BEAGRIE, Chair of Senate, March 5, 2018