

## Ricardo Grinspun - Candidate's Statement

I am standing for Vice-President Internal of YUFA.

I hold a PhD in economics from the University of Michigan, and am an associate professor in the Department of Economics in LA&PS where I have taught for 28 years. I have extensive knowledge of and affection for York University, where I have worked as a teacher and researcher, as an administrator, in important service roles, and as an active member of the academic community. Most recently, I am Treasurer of YUFA. In these activities, I have brought forward the voices and perspectives of the campus community, while demonstrating independent judgment and the highest ethical standards. I intend to bring the same commitment and qualifications to my new role as VP Internal in YUFA.

I bring a wealth of institutional and governance experience to the YUFA Executive Committee. Through more than two decades of committed work on governance, I have pursued a vision of York University as a leading public institution in Canada. In my work in the LA&PS (and formerly Arts) faculty council, in my work for YUFA, and most prominently as a York Senator, I have been an outspoken defender of academic and collegial values. These values inform my current work as an elected member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance established by LA&PS Council. In all these roles, I have focused on the erosion of normal collegial governance processes and a tendency toward top-down managerialism; a disproportionate focus on cost and efficiency that diminishes academic values; increased bureaucratization and diminished academic freedom; a shrinking of public spaces; and the increasing precarization of teaching.

I am a committed and passionate teacher who instills in my students the aspiration for a sustainable and just economy that responds to human need. To contribute to the advancement of research, I have served as an ORU director, have been involved in the fundraising and management of millions of dollars of external research funding, have directed several large scale international development projects, nurtured the involvement of dozens of graduate students in organized research activities, and chaired a plethora of conferences, colloquia and other scholarly activities. With a long record of service in various committees and roles, I recently completed a three-year term as coordinator of a medium sized program in the social sciences, including overseeing a process of cyclical program review, where I gained insight into teaching and the administration of teaching at the university.

During the last year and a half, as Treasurer of YUFA, I have engaged concrete and vigorous action, under the leadership of YUFA's President, to solidify the financial condition of the Association and make it sustainable. In addition to my role as Treasurer, I have been a central member of YUFA's Labour Management Committee, actively participated in the work of the Executive Committee, engaged in governance and institutional issues of the Association, and supported the York Cross-Campus Alliance, which represents tens of thousands of students, staff, and faculty at York University.

I look forward to continue working for a strong, independent, ethical, effective and vocal faculty Association.