

**York University Faculty Association
Annual Trustees' Report
2014-15**

Submitted by

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In keeping with Article 3.5 of the YUFA Constitution, two trustees are elected at the Annual General Membership Meeting. They are responsible for reviewing policies and activities within YUFA over the past academic year. They are also able to make recommendations for policy review or change in activity.

In preparation for the writing of this report, we examined the past year's minutes of Executive Council, Stewards' Council, as well as those of the Annual Membership Meeting and General Membership Meetings. We also examined the Financial Report from the 2013-14 auditors.

It is our view that YUFA has fulfilled its obligations to its membership in giving close attention to all significant issues affecting its membership and the broader community. We identified the following principal issues that have been considered or addressed over the past year: AAPR, Online Course Policy, Equity, and Preparation for Bargaining. Other matters of concern that we have identified are improved Communications within YUFA and attendance at Membership Meetings. Lastly, we have reviewed YUFA's Financial Affairs.

1. AAPR

AAPR remained at the forefront of considerations for a substantial portion of the year. It was the topic of extensive discussion at all levels including Steward's Council, Executive and General Meetings. The AAPR was the subject of a great deal of member feedback as well as department Steward Council discussion. The AAPR focus continued at the Executive and General Meeting levels. Among the actions stemming from this matter were grievances due to the workload caused by the PIFs.

2. Online Course Policy

On-line course policy remained a constant issue of concern in meetings, culminating in discussion at the General Meeting level. The gains won on this issue in 1997 continue to be supported by the YUFA Executive at every level, including grievances. YUFA was mindful of the Ontario Centre for Excellence in On-line Post-secondary Education ('Ontario On-line') and ongoing efforts to expand on-line courses. The

Executive planned to remain attentive to matter with respect to Collective Agreement implications, including how these cases are addressed at JCOAA.

3. Equity

YUFA convened the YUFA Task Force on Federal Equity Law Reform be approved, the recommendations of which have now been approved and carried forward into the negotiation positions.

4. Preparation for Bargaining

YUFA conducted a survey of the membership with regard to bargaining priorities. The meeting on primary negotiating positions was well attended.

Other Matters and Recommendations

1. Communications

Communication remains an issue for YUFA's ongoing efforts to enhance transparency and member awareness. A regular email bulletin directing members to new posts on the website would be both timely and transparent.

2. Membership Meetings

It is recommended that the General Members Meeting be convened at on a set, monthly midday schedule to promote the highest level of engagement.

3. Collective Agreement Implications of On-line Courses

It is recommended that the YUFA Executive undertake a task force to conduct a full review of the collective agreement implications of on-line course development and delivery.

Financial Statements and Auditors' Report

This year's auditors' report and financial statements reveal that YUFA officers have responsibly managed YUFA's financial affairs. Contributions have been made to the defense and arbitrations funds as required by the Association's governance documents.

The financial statements for 2014, overall, were largely consistent with the receivables and expenditures for 2013. The exceptions were mostly confined to retirement payments to staff on retirement due to two retirements. Similar expenditures will continue into the next year.

Last year's trustees' report made note of the ongoing problem of banked release time for officer and committee service. This directive was followed and many of the long-standing release requests were granted, such that the resulting demand accounted for almost double the expenditure for this item.