

OCFA Council meetings are generally held once per month. If you would like to bring forward a particular item for consideration please contact one of your OCFA Council or Exec mem (see page 2 for the list) OCFA Council meetings are scheduled for: 1-3 pm, Friday, Feb 4; 3-4 pm, Friday, Mar 4; and 3-4 pm, Friday, Apr 8.

The Vernon Social is scheduled for Friday, Jan 28 at 5:00 pm in Alexander's Pub (see notice on page 6 in this Update)

<http://www.okanagan.bc.ca/administration/ocfa/update.html>

Meeting Dates

OCFA Executive meetings are generally held once every two weeks. If you would like to bring forward a particular item for consideration please contact one of your OCFA Exec members (see page 2 for the list) OCFA Exec meetings are scheduled for: 9-11 am, Monday, Jan 24; 9-11 am, Monday, Feb 7; 12:30-2:30 pm, Friday, Feb 18; 9-11 am, Monday, Feb 28; 9-11 am, Monday, Mar 14; and 12:30-2:30 pm, Friday Apr 1.

1st VicePresident's Report

by Sharon Josephson

Collective Agreement Review Committee (CARC) Report

Submitted by Sharon Josephson (Communications) Chief Steward
Contact: Kelowna E320; ext. 4294; cell 250-6387

Get to know your campus steward:

Penticton: Kaya Forest (Chemistry), ext. 3222

Kelowna: Norah Bowma Broz (English), ext. none yet, email her NBroz@okanagan.bc.ca

Vernon: Steve Doyle (Geography), ext. 8235

Salmon Arm: Rod Watkins (Philosophy), ext. 8215

Your stewards are your first point of contact if you have any questions or concerns about the collective agreement, generally, or about your working conditions, specifically. We're here to ensure the College acts according to the agreement and to help resolve any disagreements that may arise between you and the College.

Claiming meal expenses?

We're looking for details from faculty about the kinds of meal expenses you're claiming. Article 37.2 specifies what dollar amount you can be reimbursed for each meal, but it doesn't specify timelines for those meals. We'd like to gather some information on practices across portfolios.

If you've been claiming meal expenses, can you email me and let me know which meals you're claiming and what times you're travelling on the days you claim them? We'd like to get a sense of how flexible the College has been in terms around meal expenses.

Alternatively, if you've had meal expenses denied for reasons having to do with the timelines of your travel (e.g. if the administration felt you couldn't claim dinner because you only taught until 6:00pm before travelling from Vernon to your home campus in Kelowna) please let us know that as well.

Course cancellation and non-instructional work assignments

If you've had a course cancelled and you've been assigned non-instructional work to "top-up" your workload to 100%, please let me know.

Textbook tutors

Several publishers are now packaging live online tutoring services with their textbooks. An example of such a service is Pearson's MyCompLab, a text used in English composition classes.

2nd VicePresident's Report

by Francie Greenslade

Negotiation Committee membership (2010~~1~~):

Back at the start of negotiations, two weeks of bargaining meetings were spent discussing conversion of term faculty to continuing positions. At that time, the College seemed open to some new approaches to the process. After many months of waiting, however, we were recently informed that OC is reverting to its original proposals on conversion.

By now, you have probably seen the “Nothing is not a solution” buttons circulating from the Federation of Post Secondary Educators. The campaign is meant to raise awareness about the PSEA’s “net zero” mandate and the refusal to discuss any issues affecting our sector that they deem monetary.

Important note from Francie to all Department Chairs Would all Chairs please send her their department member’s personal email, non-Okanagan College telephone number (home or cell), and campus office in the event of picketing.

Social, Political & Environmental

- x Send me concerns or thoughts regarding these issues if you have any.

3. Turnitin

- x Is this plagiarism detection an invasion of student privacy? Essays are kept in a database and accessed by others. Could this fact make students uncomfortable writing about certain matters? Locals should (re)consider their use/support of this program.
- x I welcome thoughts from OC members who use or who oppose Turnitin.

4. Ethical investing at FPSE:

- x The HRIS committee discussed the question of the ethical filters applied to FPSE pension plan funds investments. For example, Goldcorp Mining (Mining Watch for a discussion of the controversy regarding their human rights and environmental performance) has been found ethical according to the current filter used by the FPSE pension fund.
 - o A motion was passed to direct FPSE Presidents Council to apply the more rigorous Jantzi ethical standard to our pension plan (targeting Goldcorp, which passed the pension investment firm's current ethical test)
- x Let me know if you have thoughts or concerns regarding ethical investing at OC.