

Spring 2008

www.3912.cupe.ca

Special points of interest:

- May Day May 1st
- Notes from the Mount
- New website for cupe 3912
- WLU Contract faculty are on strike!

Special thanks to Troy Winters and Robert Lanning, for the launch of our new Website!

New Address!

www.3912.cupe.ca



New Website & Address for CUPE 3912

CUPE 3912, serving Part-time faculty and Teaching Assistants at Dalhousie, Saint Mary's and Mount Saint Vincent universities has a new website and Webmaster. The Website was launched on 17 March 2008. The content is essentially the same, providing job postings at each of the universities, Collective Agreements, contact information for the Executive, announcements, links to other labour websites, and other features. Some changes: we have a new means of checking precedence, accessible only to members, found via: Precedence Lists and Other Protected Documents; instructions for accessing this area of the site are found there. We are still in a period of transition and development and would appreciate members' patience while the transition is completed.

If you have questions about the new site contact, contact: Troy Winters @ Webmaster.3912@members.cupe.ca or Robert Lanning @ Robert.Lanning@msvu.ca
If we do not have your email, please send it to Troy or Robert, for updating.

CUPE 3912 in Solidarity with Workers Everywhere

As this newsletter comes out near the May 1st international workers holiday, it is important that we acknowledge our solidarity with education and other workers elsewhere in Canada and the world. Indeed, we should acknowledge our debt as working people to all those who have struggled before us and along with us in the present.

For the Solidarity of Educational Workers

MAY DAY GREETINGS

CUPE 3912 Halifax

NEWS from the MOUNT

Getting Better Office Space

Those of us working at MSVU know the constraints on office space for part-time faculty. We often share space with numerous others in quarters composed of left-over and inadequate items. A good proportion of our members responded to our survey on the problems with space, citing lack of privacy for discussions with students, lack of space for class preparation, even the absence of a space to hang one's hat while in class or the library or while away to get a coffee.

Jennifer Dimoff (Philosophy & Religious Studies) and Robert Lanning (Sociology; VP CUPE) met with the Administration at the Mount over these issues. There was much else in those responses that informed our discussions with the University administration.

Progress is being made: new desks have been placed in one of the Seton offices and the painting of some dull walls are scheduled and, perhaps, some better lighting. The resource room in Seton housing computers, a photocopier and printer is one space that may be redesigned to accommodate desks for

part-time faculty.

We recognize the problems associated with the constraints on office space and remind our members that this affects us all directly or indirectly. Shared space is not privileged space; that space, however constrained, needs to be shared in the best possible manner to serve the needs of us all. While we will continue to work with the Administration to address issues of space we appreciate the input our members have given thus far and we encourage our members to continue to communicate with us. *R. Lanning*



Space is an issue for contract faculty on all our campuses.

Please inform the CUPE VP at your institution, if you have any concerns about space, or about any other issue. Visit CUPE 3912's new website to find out the names and addresses of the CUPE representatives at your campus.

WLU Contract Faculty have the support of CUPE 3912 members, in their strike action!!

News from the Mount: When you retire!

..... Well, for most of us part-timers that will be at the moment our friends and relatives take us to our final resting place. However, some of our members encouraged the negotiating committee at the last round of bargaining to secure access to library databases, email addresses and other resources members might need after they decided not to continue working but to continue their scholarly research. This refers to Appendix D in our current Collective Agreement.

We have reached a tentative agreement with the MSVU Administration that persons who have reached Step 3 on the stipend scale, who choose not to continue their work as part-time faculty at the Mount but who

have a defined scholarly project to continue may apply for Adjunct Professor status to facilitate their academic interests.

Summer pay for Distance Education Faculty R. Lanning

While we have not worked out the details yet with the Mount administration, we have reached an agreement that members teaching summer courses through Distance Education will be paid twice during each summer term rather than once. We will update members on this issue as soon as we can.

Questions? Comments? Contact me: Robert Lanning, VP CUPE 3912:

Robert.Lanning@msvu.ca

WLU Contract Faculty are on STRIKE!!!

.....As this newsletter goes to "press", the WLU contract faculty are on strike for job security and pay issues, among other working conditions.

They've been supported by a great many Ontario universities staff and faculties, and are given our warmest

wishes for a great result!

CAUT has donated \$1 million, to the strike support fund, and hundreds of full time faculty showed up to support the strikers. Visitors to the striking workers have come from Dalhousie university, from Moncton, Carleton, Memorial,

C. Forde
and the university of Guelph, among others!
Stay strong in this effort and win a victory for part-timers across Canada.
Solidarity!