

MAUT VP-External Report to the Fall General Meeting, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

***Fédération Québécoise des Professeures et Professeurs d'Université*** (FQPPU)

The FQPPU held its Fall *Conseil Fédéral* on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Among the major issues discussed at the *Conseil* were the Quebec government's plan to impose conditions and rules with respect to the management of pension fund deficits on Quebec universities similar to those in Bill 3 covering municipal employees, the recently announced cutbacks in university funding for this and the next budget years, and the proposed Bill 15 threatening to intervene directly in the academic staffing decisions of the Université du Québec system. The FQPPU has issued several strong statements condemning these (proposed) government policies (see <http://www.fqppu.org/>).

As part of an ongoing series of fora on academic working conditions the FQPPU will organize a forum on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 dealing with service to the community as part of the responsibilities of university teachers. All are welcome to attend. More information will be available soon at <http://www.fqppu.org/evenements/>.

The FQPPU is currently conducting a member survey for a study on research and gender under the supervision of Prof. Françoise Naudillon of Concordia University. For more information and an invitation to participate in this survey, please use these links to access the English and French surveys: <https://fr.surveymonkey.com/s/ZLVHMGY> and <https://fr.surveymonkey.com/s/CRWN33J>

While the survey is addressed to professors only—and we have registered our displeasure about this with Mme. Naudillon—all our members, *librarians included*, are encouraged to participate. Based on earlier survey material the FQPPU has released the latest instalment in its series on the working conditions of university professors in Quebec, dealing with the challenges of reconciling work with other obligations entitled *Le défi des conciliations: S'épanouir...s'épuiser*. We have several free copies to hand out to interested members. An English translation should be available soon.

The FQPPU regularly organizes workshops and seminars that would be of interest to all university teachers in the province and it calls for suggestions from its member organizations on topics they would like to see covered by such events. If you have any ideas or suggestions do let us and/or the *Fédération* (<http://www.fqppu.org/contact/>) know.

At its next *Conseil federal* the member organization delegates will elect the new members of the FQPPU's executive council (president, vice-president, treasurer and council member). Any member of a member organization can be nominated for these positions. If anyone is interested in running for any of these positions, please contact [federation@fqppu.org](mailto:federation@fqppu.org) or [www.fqppu.org](http://www.fqppu.org) for more information.

## **The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)**

The Fall Council meeting of the CAUT will take place on 28-30 November in Ottawa. Issues to be discussed range from academic freedom cases to fairness for academic contract staff, from collective bargaining issues to a variety of national and international advocacy campaigns. The Council agenda can be found at [http://council.caut.ca/docs/default-source/default-document-library/77th-caut-council-agenda-\(2014-11\)ab69a1f749b562dba2e1ff000092afc2.pdf?sfvrsn=0](http://council.caut.ca/docs/default-source/default-document-library/77th-caut-council-agenda-(2014-11)ab69a1f749b562dba2e1ff000092afc2.pdf?sfvrsn=0). All documents related to the Council meeting can be found at <http://council.caut.ca/documents>. If members wish to be informed about any specific items or issues scheduled for discussion, please let me know at [axel.vandenberg@mcgill.ca](mailto:axel.vandenberg@mcgill.ca). Our delegation intends to propose creating a running database on salary and benefits in member universities at this meeting. Any suggestions about what such a database should contain are extremely welcome.

The CAUT is holding a workshop for senior grievance officers in Ottawa on December 14<sup>th</sup>. These workshops have been very useful in the past. We have asked current MAUT advisors if they are interested in attending the workshop but any members who are interested in playing a role in the future as advisor or in any other aspect of the grievance process are also more than welcome to attend these workshops. The deadline for registration is November 14<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit <https://events.caut.ca/sgo-2014/>.

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