

April 2018

Report to CAUT Council

This has been a year of change in the position of Chair and in the membership of the CAS Committee. The present committee had some phone meetings, between June and September 2017, mostly regarding plans for the CAS Conference and Fair Employment Week plans. The committee met for the first time at the CAS Conference in Toronto. After meeting on October 18-19, the Committee then convened for the two days of Conference. During the second day of the Committee meeting, the committee members were able to attend a rally at Seneca College to support our striking OPSEU colleagues. The CAUT President accompanied the Committee and gave a rallying speech to an enthusiastic audience of hundreds of marchers.

CAS Conference, October 20-21, 2017

The CAS Conference, which the previous CAS Committee, Chair and CAUT staff had been in the process of planning over the last two years, was felt to be a success. Attendees reported enthusiastically about the structure of the sessions; the first day consisted of formal panel presentations on topics ranging from collective bargaining to community building and the CAS survey, with a break in the middle of the day to attend a rally at Humber College, which was also a part of the OPSEU job action. CAUT's Executive Director, the CAUT President and several staff members also attended. The President also gave a rousing speech, which was appreciated by all present. The second day of the conference consisted of workshops on topics such as bargaining and communication skills. Several members of the CAS Committee presented papers or facilitated panel discussions.

Fair Employment Week, October 23-27, 2017

CAS Committee members held events across the country. Common events included letter writing, postcard petition distribution and information booths. Other events included professional development events and information lunches and coffee events for members. In Vancouver, the Lower Mainland Coalition for Fair Employment, which is composed of member associations at several campuses, and has the supportive involvement of FPSE and OCUFABC, held its second Joint Pub Social as part of an attempt to build broader community relationships between CAS across campuses.

Looking Forward

The Committee held phone meetings since the Conference and met in March for a regular meeting, during which many new initiatives were proposed to continue expanding the Make It Fair campaign,

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Rhiannon Don // Nipissing

Polly Knowlton Cockett // Calgary

Martin Anil Kumar Sastri // St. Francis Xavier

strengthen a sense of community and increase awareness of CAUT for CAS across the nation. Joint meetings with the Librarians and Archivists' Committee and the Collective Bargaining and Economic Benefits Committee were interesting and productive, and the CAS Committee welcomes the opportunity to continue working with other committees with common interests.

Acknowledgements

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Respectfully submitted by,
Sarika Bose, Chair