



April 2017

## Report to CAUT Council

The Committee met once via teleconference since our last report to Council in November 2016. The pending Ad Hoc Investigatory Committee into the University of Calgary and its Enbridge Centre for Corporate Sustainability will involve further Committee deliberations. The developing case of infringement of academic freedom at the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada will also entail the creation of an Ad Hoc Investigatory Committee. The implications of the McGill University incident suggest this may be the most significant inquiry on principles of academic freedom in some decades. Previous AHICs have made inquiries and recommendations of matters of concerning individuals and groups who have experienced encroachments of their academic freedom, but the reports have also focused on broader issues of institutional dysfunction that undermine the broader values of the civic university. The erosion of tenured positions across Canada, and most dramatically in the United States, reminds us of the imperative of linking academic freedom with tenure.

As always, the establishment of AHIC panels, and the ongoing discussions of AF&T, are measured and deliberative actions to encourage university administrations to correct egregious decisions and engage in constructive solutions. In recent years some institutions have approached the point at which Council debated invoking censure only for these administrations to back away and adopt key recommendations suggested by the CAUT. Through AF&T, and the other Committees of Council, we are ensuring a positive collective response to the challenges linked to the corporatization of post-secondary education.

### Policy Statements/Model Clauses

#### Five Year Review

- Policy Statement on Defamation Actions Arising Out of Academic Activities
- Policy Statement on Academic Appointments
- Policy Statement on the Assessment of Academic Courses and Programs
- CAUT Procedures in Academic Freedom Cases
- Policy Statement on Conflict of Interest

### **New Documents**

- Policy Statement on Whistleblowers and Whistleblowing
- Policy Statement on Respectful Workplace Policies
- Policy Statement on Sexual Violence on Campus
- Policy Statement on the Submission Fees and Other Cost Impediments to Academic Knowledge Dissemination and Progress
- Policy Statement on the Allocation of Strike Pay

### **Policy Statements/Model Clauses from Other Committees**

- Policy Statement on French-Language Professors
- Policy Statement Concerning the Role of Public and Private Police Forces and Security Services on Canadian University and College Campuses
- Policy Statement on Team Teaching
- Policy Statement on Challenges Faced by Academic Staff Working in Departments with International Students
- Policy Statement on Discrimination against Academic Staff Living with Communicable Diseases

### **Ongoing Cases**

The Committee reviewed cases undertaken by the Executive Director, and on which, he will report to Council.

### **Current Committee Members**

Peter McInnis, Chair (St. Francis Xavier), Alison Hearn (Western), Elizabeth Hodgson (British Columbia), Robert Hackett (Simon Fraser), Penni Stewart (York), Bernie Hammond (King's University College), Carrie Dawson (Dalhousie), Brendan Gillon (McGill), and Roberta Lexier (Mount Royal). Ex-officio: CAUT President James Compton (Western); CAUT Vice-President Brenda Austin-Smith (Manitoba), and CAUT Executive Director David Robinson.

Penni Stewart (York) and Elizabeth Hodgson (British Columbia) have completed their terms, and on behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank them sincerely for their significant contributions. The Committee also wishes to thank members of Council and their colleagues at our institutions nationally for the ongoing diligence directed towards defending our collective academic freedom.

### **CAUT Staff Support for AF&T**

Paul Jones (Professional Officer), Marissa McHugh (Administrative Assistant, Legal Services), and Margaret McGovern-Potíé (Executive Assistant to the Executive Director) have been most helpful in organizing and tracking our deliberations and the related documentation.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Peter McInnis, Chair**