

Bulletin 09-02
September 9, 2009

To All Members

The restarting of the year:

Bargaining Preparation Begins: General Meeting, September 24th

New Opportunity for Input and Information: Operations Council

Input on Strategic Planning

Presidential Search Update

Education Council Elections

Whitecap Soccer Tickets

Bargaining Preparation Begins – General Meeting

Thursday, September 24, 2:30 pm, Room 112 (Theatre) Downtown

The Bargaining Committee is beginning its work this month and this meeting will be an early opportunity to engage with members. The union's fiscal year ends this month so a new budget for 2009/10 will be presented (those wishing advance copies should phone the union office a week ahead). There will be other updates on the work of the union.

New Opportunity for Input and Information: Operations Council

Want to talk about Space Allocation, Labs and their Operation, Facilities, Safety and Security, Registration, Information Technology Issues?

As reported at our June general meeting we made a proposal for a new approach to OpsCo, one that would have expanded it to a representative forum for Schools and Centres to bring up issues and to exchange views directly with the many managerial reps on the Council. Acting President Pete Legg listened to our proposal and heard from others; he decided not to change the structure but he did commit to having the Council "be more proactive in soliciting agenda items...and to making agendas more accessible," all in an effort to make it a more effective "venue for effective College engagement and information exchange." We are hopeful that there will be an improvement.

Brenda Appleton and Frank Cosco represent faculty on the Council so please feel free to forward concerns on the issues above or others. Anyone who has the time can come to OpsCo meetings and if people want to speak to issues we're sure they'll get a chance.

Over

*Next Meetings: Tuesday, October 13 and November 10 at 2:30 pm in Room 5025, Broadway.
Space Allocation is going to be discussed in the next month.*

Input on Strategic Planning

Should it re-start before a new President takes office?

As discussed at the June meeting, we made an intervention on the Board and Acting President's call for input around a restart of strategic planning. Pete sent a memo to constituency groups at the end of June and we responded at the end of July. We assume there will be some announcement closer to the September College Board meeting.

Our full response, with extensive quotes from Pete's memo can be found at our website (www.vccfa.ca). In disagreeing with a full restart of strategic planning without a new President in place, we suggested three alternatives, which are not mutually-exclusive:

- Given internal commitments to current programming, then start a planning process on a limited group of college-wide topics.
- Invite outside commentary from both the post-secondary world and from the broader, connected community.
- Have Schools and Centres start their own planning exercises.

Presidential Search Update

Interviews in the Fall

The Search Committee met once during the summer to review initial responses to the posting. At that time, it was decided not to pursue some candidates. The committee is meeting again soon and it is anticipated that we will be able to short-list a group that we are interested in interviewing. Ingrid Kolsteren and Frank Cosco are on the committee for faculty.

Education Council Elections

Elections before Halloween

One by-election for 2009/10 will be held in Language Studies to complete Dale Hunter's term.

Five faculty positions will be posted for 2009/11 terms:

College at Large (Sally Gibson)

Library and Learning Centres (Brenda Appleton)

Instructional Development, Instructor Education, Music, & Design (Ginny Cathcart)

Transportation Trades (Keith Lillyman)

Health (Leona Friesen)

The VCCFA will be providing an information package in the near future.

Soccer Tickets

Union Night with the Whitecaps! Friday, September 18th, 8 pm

Blocks of tickets that would normally go for \$21 are available for \$15 for this game against the Cleveland City Stars. They cannot be ordered individually so if you're interested please call Audrey at 604-688-6210. The Whitecaps are generously donating \$4 from each ticket to the United Way.