

OPSEU Local 420
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, October 26th, 2011 – 12:00 p.m.
Loyalist College – 2L49

Members Present: Eric Bauer, Bernie Belanger, Brian Gibb, Vince Middleton, Charlotte Conard, Deirdre Way, Jonathan Lake, Vicki Ryckman, Paul Papadopoulos, Eugene Tay, Bruce Wright, Cathy Waite, Lynda Carr-Mulholland, Gerry Byrd, Adam Gosney, Claude Gariepy, John Poste, John Grieve, Karen Scott, Steve Cook

1. Call to order - 12:03 p.m.
2. Adoption of the agenda – (Tay/Bauer) – carried
3. Minutes of previous meeting – Motion to approve the minutes of the June 2nd, 2011 General Meeting (Ryckman/Waite) – carried
4. Business arising from the previous meeting – Bernie Belanger provided members with the following updates from the June meeting:
 - The Local 420 annual parking bill went up by 4.5%, not the 10% projected in the minutes. That brings the individual member's annual parking fee close to a tax deductible \$300 – as compared with a non-deductible annual rate of approximately \$1200 at George Brown College
 - There have been no full-time faculty lay-offs at Loyalist since 1999
 - The grievance launched by the local over the fact that Justice Studies enrollments had doubled with no increases in full-time faculty helped lead to the hiring of two new full-time faculty for the program this semester
 - To keep our pension viable in today's weakened investment economy we should brace ourselves for pension contribution increases in January of 2012 (@ 0.8%), 2013 (@ 0.4%) and 2014 (@0.4%) totalling 1.6% for members and colleges over the next three years
5. Treasurer's Report – Bruce Wright summarized Local 420's current financial status at June 2011 year-end and presented a proposed budget for Local 420 in 2011-2012
 - Motion: to approve the proposed 2010-2011 honoraria for members of the Local 420 LEC – (Lake/Way) – carried
 - Motion to approve Local 420's budget for 2011-2012 - (Scott/Carr-Mulholland) – Carried
6. Correspondence – none

7. Initiation of new members – Paul Papadopoulos of the Television News Media Production Program was introduced by Bernie as a new full-time faculty member

8. Reports of officers

- President's report
 - Bernie told members that he and Eugene attended the pre-bargaining session in Toronto on October 15/16th; Bernie listed the members of the new bargaining team
 - He pointed out that our current collective agreement expires on August 31st, 2012 and that negotiations start in June (past negotiations have commenced in January). The next steps involve the local presidents reconvening after local members have met to develop their lists of bargaining demands – it will be important for faculty to attend demand setting meetings as it's expected to be a tough round of bargaining. The minimal success of the support staff strike doesn't help the cause and we'll probably be asked for a strike vote early in the process to give the bargaining team some clout.
 - Bernie feels that the bigger colleges will likely be asking for workload improvements
 - Bernie pointed out that he had nothing to report for Loyalist at the presidents' pre-bargaining meeting in terms of any negative labour relations but that, in fact, Local 420 has maintained an excellent rapport with HR and President Piercy. Both the local and management at Loyalist seem committed to resolving issues in-house
 - Motion to approve the president's report (Ryckman/Wright) – carried

- Chief Steward's report
 - There has only been one new grievance since June and it was settled internally. That leaves only one outstanding grievance which goes back to 2005 and is being held in abeyance. The group grievance over compensation for work completed following the 2006 strike is still being sorted out.
 - Motion to approve the chief steward's report (Waite/Way) – carried

- No reports were provided by the Vice-President or Secretary of the Local

9. Reports of committees

- Cathy Waite provided members with an overview of the Union College Committee where faculty are represented by her, Robin Keller and Dave Stewart and which is a vehicle for taking faculty concerns directly to

management. Karen Cullen, John McMahon and Allan Ross are currently the managers who meet with the committee and the two sides have developed an excellent working relationship which seems to help to avert problems at the college. Cathy reported that management representatives have been very positive and responsive to faculty concerns. Currently the issues of putting course outlines on Banner, the implementation and updating of the college violence policy and the new student retention strategies plan are all slated for further discussion.

- It was suggested that a review of the Local`s committees, their membership and their roles could be provided in the next Local 420 Newsletter

10. Nominations & Elections – none

11. Unfinished Business – none

12. New Business – none.

13. Adjournment – (Bauer/Lake) – 1:07 p.m.