

VP-External Report to the 2016 FGM

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

The FQPPU publishes an (almost) daily press digest of provincial, national and international news in French and English on issues relating to postsecondary education and research. It can be accessed at <http://fqppu.org/revue-de-presse/>.

The FQPPU held its 87th and 88th *Conseil Fédéral* on April 21-22 and October 20-22, 2016, respectively. Some highlights:

- Creation of a *Comité sur la gestion des universités*. Bernard Robaire will serve as MAUT representative on this committee.
- The following workshops are planned for the coming year: *Le droit de gérance*, *Les mesures disciplinaires universitaires*. MAUT members are invited to attend.
- The FQPPU launched a campaign asking the Québec government to provide new funding for a \$10,000 annual research grant to all tenure-track professors at Quebec's universities, in an effort to reduce inequalities between universities and disciplines in access to research funding.
- The FQPPU submitted a report to the Quebec government with its recommendations for the planned *Conseil des universités du Québec*, demanding that the *Conseil* be an independent body with the resources to do independent research and be devoted to, among other things, "the development of the university network in order to put an end to competition between universities" and "accessibility to post-secondary education, institutional autonomy, academic freedom, collegial management, collaboration between institutions, and the conception of universities as a public service."
- Our own Bernard Robaire was the co-recipient of the FQPPU's 2016 Guy-Rocher Prize in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the development of Quebec's institutions of higher learning and the promotion of equity, democratization, collegiality, and academic freedom.

The FQPPU is calling for candidates for election to its executive committee. MAUT members who are interested should contact VP-External Axel van den Berg (axel.vandenberg@mcgill.ca) well before the nomination deadline of January 9th so we can submit an appropriate nomination file on behalf of MAUT.

The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)

The Fall Council meeting of the CAUT will take place on 25-27 November in Ottawa. Issues to be discussed range from academic freedom cases to confronting sexism on campus, from collective bargaining issues to performance metrics and university governance, a variety of national and international advocacy campaigns, and much more. The Council agenda can be found at <http://council.caut.ca/home>. If members wish to be informed about any specific items or issues scheduled for discussion, please let me know at axel.vandenberg@mcgill.ca.

The CAUT will hold its 4th Equity Conference, “Mobilizing Intersections,” on February 24-25, 2017, in Toronto. More information can be found at <https://events.caut.ca/equity-2017>. MAUT members who are interested in attending this conference should contact Honore Kerwin-Borelli at maut@mcgill.ca or 514-398-3942.

The CAUT is holding a workshop for senior grievance officers in Ottawa on December 9th-10th, 2016. These workshops have been very useful in the past. This year’s main theme will be “Building towards Arbitration.” We are asking 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 25th. You can register for the workshop at <https://events.caut.ca/sgo-2016/en/registration.aspx>.

The *CAUT Almanac of Post-Secondary Education in Canada* is now available at <http://www.caut.ca/resources/almanac>. The Almanac is a source for the most current statistical information available on post-secondary education in Canada. It provides statistics on university and college finances; academic staff salaries and gender; student enrolment and graduation rates; student-teacher ratios; university research funding; and national, provincial, and international comparisons.