



University of Prince
Edward Island Faculty
Association

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the UPEI Faculty Association will be held on **Wednesday, April 23rd, at 10:00 am in KCI-104**. All members of the FA are urged to attend this very important meeting.

Tentative agenda:

- 1) Approval of agenda
- 2) President's report
- 3) Treasurer's report
- 4) Report on negotiations
- 5) Constitution and by-laws*
- 6) Elections to 2003-2004 executive committee**
- 7) Summer events
- 8) Any other business***

* In accordance with the UPEI-FA constitution, proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws are attached herein, and provided to the membership at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

** Nominations to the executive committee can be submitted to the Returning Officer; Dr. Lothar Zimmerman, Department of Modern Languages.

*** If anyone would like to add something to the agenda, please contact Dr. Larry Hale at 566-0551

Proposed constitutional and by-law amendments

The current version of the UPEI-FA constitution and by-laws can be seen on-line at the following address:

<http://www.upeifa.org/constitu.html>

First constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the constitution shall be amended by adding **Article 4.7**

4.7 Individuals who upon retirement from full-time employment at UPEI are members of the UPEI-FA shall be eligible for an Associate Membership in the association.

Associate Members shall:

- have the right to attend and be heard meetings at of the UPEI-FA, unless the Chair of the meeting specifies otherwise. The Associate Members shall not have a vote at meetings
- have the right to place items on the agenda of executive or general meetings of the association, with the consent of the chair of the meeting.
- receive newsletters and bulletins of the association, with the agreement of the executive

Dues for Associate Members shall be set according to Article 4.3 of the constitution.

*[**Rationale:** Many faculty associations (including our national organization, CAUT) have an associate membership class that allows retired members to retain some formal connection to the association. A number of retired UPEI faculty have asked that this be set in place.]*

Second constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the following articles of the constitution shall be amended as follows (insertions underlined)

Article 2.1

b) to regulate relations between the employer and academic staff and other staff, and to bargain collectively on behalf of academic staff and other staff on all matters pertaining to their terms and conditions of employment;

Article 4.1

Full Membership in the Association is open to all members of the academic staff and other staff of the University of Prince Edward Island, with the exception of those not deemed to be an employee according to the Prince Edward Island Labour Relations Act.

[Rationale: These changes are enabling legislation that will allow the FA to represent UPEI staff who are not currently represented under an existing collective agreement. Any decision to include any group of staff would be made on a case-by-case basis]

Third constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the following article of the constitution shall be amended as follows (changes underlined):

Article 5.1

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Association shall consist of:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice-President
- 3) Secretary/Treasurer
- 4) Chief Negotiating Officer (ex officio)
- 5) Three other members of the Faculty Association
- 6) Past President (ex officio)

[Rationale: This amendment has two effects. First, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer are being combined into one office, which codifies what has been going on for several years. Second, the Chief Negotiating Officer is being included to assure consistent communication between the negotiating team and the executive]

First by-law amendment

It is proposed that the by-laws shall be amended by adding “Article 6- Fiscal Year”

- 6.1 The fiscal year of the Association shall be from March 1st of each calendar year to the last day of February of the following calendar year.

[Rationale: This change both formalizes the fiscal year, and moves the start from April 1st to March 1st. Since the Annual General Meeting must be held in April of each year, this change will give the Treasurer more time to prepare an annual report and a budget]

Second by-law amendment

The by-laws shall be amended by adding by-law 1.5

- 1.5 If the Past President becomes ineligible for membership in the UPEIFA (in accordance with Article 4 of the constitution), or if he/she declares that he/she is not able or willing to serve on the executive, the position shall be declared vacant and a general meeting shall be called for the purpose of electing a Member of the Association to serve in an additional at-large position on the executive until the next Annual General Meeting. The Member elected must have previously served on the executive of the Association for at least one full term-of-office.

[Rationale: There may be cases (e.g. retirement) where the Member eligible to serve as Past President is unable or unwilling to accept the position. Rather than simply let the position sit vacant, this amendment will allow another member to contribute to the work of the executive. It is proposed that this individual be someone already familiar with the workings of the executive in order to bring the experience that a Past President would have provided]