



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 **Friday, April 23rd, at 10:00 am in the Duffy Amphitheatre (Duffy 121)**. All members of the FA are urged to attend this very important meeting.

Tentative agenda:

- 1) Approval of agenda
- 2) President's report
- 3) Changes to the constitution and by-laws*
- 4) Treasurer's report
- 5) Elections to the 2003-2004 executive committee**
- 6) Any other business***

* In accordance with the UPEIFA 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 by April 22.

*** 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.pdf>

First constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the constitution shall be amended by changing **Article 4.3** to read:

- 4.3 Dues will be determined by the members at the annual general meeting, or at any other duly advertised general meeting if 2/3 of the members present are in agreement.

*[**Rationale:** The amendment will allow the normal dues decisions to be made at the annual general meeting, which is when the annual budget is set. It will also allow for dues rates to be altered between AGM's, which will give the executive a greater capacity to respond to issues with financial implications that may arise during the year. The provision of a "duly advertised" meeting, and a 2/3 vote are safeguards to assure that such decisions are given clear approval at a quorate meeting.]*

Second constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the constitution shall be amended by changing Article 4.6 to read:

- 4.6 Any member may withdraw from membership upon written notice to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association.

*[**Rationale:** This is simply a "housekeeping" amendment, to reflect the fact that the proper title for the position is Secretary/Treasurer.]*

Third constitutional amendment

It is proposed that the constitution shall be amended by changing **Article 5.1** to read:

5.1 The Executive Committee of the Faculty Association shall consist of:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice-President
- 3) Secretary/Treasurer
- 4) Three other members of the Faculty Association
- 5) One other member of the Faculty Association from Bargaining Unit #2
- 6) Past President (ex officio)

*[**Rationale:** This will change the composition of the executive in two ways. First, it will assure representation from the newer (and much smaller) Bargaining Unit #2. Second, it removes the Chief Negotiator from the position of ex-officio non-voting member of the executive. Since there are two bargaining units, there could be two duly appointed Chief Negotiators. Rather than having both of them sit on executive, the appropriate Chief Negotiator would be invited to the executive meeting when issues concerning bargaining for their unit are being discussed.]*

First by-law amendment

It is proposed that the by-laws shall be amended by combining Articles 2.3 and 2.4 into a single Article 2.3 which shall now read:

2.3 The Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- 1) issue notices for meetings of the Association and the Executive Committee;
- 2) keep a record of the minutes of such meetings.
- 3) be responsible for the care and custody of the funds and assets of the Association according to the usual practice;
- 4) at each General Meeting of the Association present an account of the Association's finances;
- 5) maintain books of account and make these available for inspection to the members of the Association on request.

As a result of this, Article 2.5 shall be renumbered to Article 2.4.

*[**Rationale:** This is also a housekeeping amendment, to reflect the fact that the positions of Secretary and Treasurer were formally merged into the position of Secretary/Treasurer at last year's AGM. The duties have not been altered.]*

Second by-law amendment

The by-laws shall be amended by adding a new Article 5.4, which shall read:

- 5.4 Strike votes (as defined in the Labour Act of PEI), and contract ratification votes shall be by secret ballot.

*[**Rationale:** During our first contract negotiations, the question was raised as to whether votes could be taken by a show of hands. Legislation is silent on the question, as is our current constitution. This will require the Association to hold such important votes by secret ballot.]*