

news from

CUASA

Volume 15, No. 10

Editor: Jon Alexander

April, 1985.

UPDATE ON CDI ARBITRATION

by Stan Jones, President

I am pleased to tell all members of the CUASA bargaining unit that the back pay owed many members as a result of the CDI arbitration will be in the end of April paycheques. Members of the CUASA Steering Committee have been in regular contact with the administration in order to ensure that this amount would be paid. The administration had considered several options, including asking for judicial review which would have delayed the settlement for up to a year. CUASA was prepared to ask the arbitrator to award interest from the date of his decision if the administration had sought judicial review. I am pleased that such drastic action on CUASA's part will be unnecessary.

NEGOTIATIONS STALLED

Jon Alexander

The two negotiating teams met on February 25th and March 3rd, and at the second meeting exchanged written proposals. The CUASA team is now waiting, patiently so far, for the management team to get a mandate to negotiate from the Board of Governors. The CUASA office has been trying to get a firm date for the resumption of negotiations and has been told only that it is unlikely that the Board will be able to meet and decide upon the administration's mandate before April 25th, which will put negotiations off until April 29th at the earliest. At that time we shall have been waiting over two months for real negotiations to begin.

As the collective agreement expires at midnight, April 30th, there is no possibility of concluding a new collective agreement prior to the expiry of the current contract as we did in the last round of bargaining. This means that the salary increases still to be negotiated will not be paid and that for a time we must work without a contract. Whatever salary increases are finally agreed to will of course eventually become retroactive, but again the administration will have held and made use of money that rightfully belongs to the members of this bargaining unit. It is to be hoped that this long delay, which amounts to a stalling of the negotiations, is the result of temporary factors and will not be a permanent feature of future negotiations.

SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER (Leave Replacement)

OCUFA is a lobbying and service organization which represents some 10,000 academic staff in Ontario's universities. The OCUFA secretariat consists of an Executive Director and a staff of 6 persons who serve its 21 member associations. We invite applications for a nine-month leave replacement for our Senior Research Officer. Applicants should be able to perform general research functions. Knowledge of collective bargaining matters, status of women and being bilingual would be assets. Preferred starting date is June 15. A collective agreement governs terms and conditions of appointment. Applications, including a c.v. and the names of three references should be sent by May 1 to:

Howard Epstein, Executive Director
OCUFA
40 Sussex Avenue
Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1J7



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