

news from CUASA

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PROPOSED AUGUST REGISTRATION DUTIES FOR FACULTY

Council has requested that all members of CUASA be advised with respect to the implications of the employer's request for faculty participation in the proposed new August registration. There are a number of important past practices and provisions of the Collective Agreement to bear in mind:

1. All scheduled teaching and most administrative assignments are normally concentrated in two consecutive terms (usually Fall and Winter), leaving the faculty members one clear term for their research and scholarly activities and one calendar month of annual leave. Traditionally faculty have been expected to help in maintaining the normal operation of their departments in the summer months to the extent that this did not interfere with their own planned research and/or scholarly activities.
2. Registration has normally been held at the beginning of each term, with the main registration period taking place during the first week of September.
3. The administrative workload of faculty is normally approximately 15% of the total academic workload.

The employer is now attempting to alter past practice by requiring faculty members to be on duty during August registration. This is a direct encroachment on members past right to have one term set aside exclusively for research and annual leave. Without agreement of the parties (i.e., the employer and CUASA) as provided for in Article 6.3(a), this would constitute a direct violation of our terms and conditions of employment.

Members who have completed plans for research or other scholarly activities or who have made arrangements for their annual leave during August are, therefore, entitled to decline to participate in August registration duties. Similarly, members not engaged in research nor taking annual leave during August cannot be forced to take part in August registration duties UNLESS their overall administrative or other workload during the rest of the year is reduced proportionally.

Any unilateral attempt to require faculty members to participate in August registration should be reported to the CUASA Office (6387) or directly to the Grievance Chairperson of CUASA, Professor Nils B. Jensen (7540).

