

April 17, 2025

Beth Creary, Chair of the Board of Governors Wisdom Tettey, President and Vice-Chancellor Carleton University

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA), I write to express our full and unwavering support for the Carleton University Academic Staff Association (CUASA) in their ongoing collective bargaining efforts. As you approach a critical point in negotiations, we stand in solidarity with CUASA in their fight for fair and equitable treatment for their Members.

CUASA's Members, the Professors and Librarians at Carleton University, are essential to the institution's core mission of teaching, research, and student success. The working conditions of CUASA's Members directly affect the quality of education, the excellence of research, and the overall student experience at Carleton University. It is clear that a strong, fair agreement with CUASA is not just a matter of fairness, but one of fundamental importance to the future of the university itself.

We support CUASA's advocacy for reasonable workloads, access to mental health services, the removal of inequitable assessment criteria for tenure and promotion, and protection from the inflationary erosion of wages. The Association's proposals are not only about improving the lives of their Members; they are about ensuring that Carleton University remains a place of excellence in education and research.

The financial health of Carleton University must not come at the expense of its most valuable assets--its Faculty and Librarians. We urge the administration to reconsider any budgetary decisions that diminish academic standards, weaken Faculty governance, threaten academic freedom, or increase precarity in academic labour. As CUASA has made clear, the future success of Carleton depends on prioritizing commitments to research and academic excellence. This begins with a fair and equitable collective agreement that respects and values the work of Faculty and Librarians.

In the spirit of solidarity, we call on you to engage in these negotiations with the seriousness and respect that CUASA's Members deserve. The university's long-term success depends on it.

We stand with faculty associations across Ontario who have joined us in this call. Together, we collectively express support for CUASA's efforts by writing directly to you. Please consider this letter a clear expression of our firm support for CUASA's bargaining positions.

Sincerely,

Bruce Gillespie

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