The Real Financial Situation of the University of Ottawa

3 July, 2013

APUO Executive Committee
1. What is the employer’s real financial situation?
Employer is in excellent financial situation

Financial Position 2012
(Year End April 30, 2012)

Net assets of almost $1 Billion

Net assets increased by $35 million between 2011 and 2012

Source: University Financial Statements 2012
Employer is in much stronger financial situation than in 2000

Measures of Financial Strength

Employer has $350 million in cash. That’s more than Tim Horton’s!

Sources: University Financial Statements 2000, 2012
Employer banked almost $600 million in surpluses from 2000 - 2013...

Employer has not faced a deficit in 13 years

Sources: University Financial Statements 2000-2012
... despite systematically claiming that it faced financial shortfalls

Budgeted versus actual surpluses/deficits 2002-2013

Sources: University Budgets & Financial Statements 2002-2013
Employer in much better shape than comparable Ontario universities

Source: Audited University Financial Statements 2012
Even employer’s own presentation shows uO Pension Plan is in better shape than peers

Source: University of Ottawa Pension Plan presentation, May 23, 2013
2. What choices allowed employer to build such a large surplus?
Employer has chosen to grow revenue through major increase in student enrolments

Total Number of Students (FT & PT)

Student growth of 76% over last 14 years

Source: University Fast Facts
Employer has chosen to hire fewer regular profs than required by student growth

Full-Time Faculty vs Student Enrolments
1999-2000 to 2012-2013

14 yr student growth of 76%
14 yr faculty growth of 61%

Sources: APUO Membership List, University Fast Facts
Employer has chosen to reduce % of budget it spends on profs and other employees

Salaries as % of revenues & expenses, 2003-2012

- From high of 50% to current low of 38%
- From high of 42% to current low of 34%

Sources: University Financial Statements 2004-2012
3. What have these choices meant for students and APUO members?
Higher Tuition Fees

Source: University of Ottawa website, Registrar’s office, archived tuition fee, B.A., B.Soc.Sci
On average, Canadian students need 14 years to pay back student debt.

(2) Ontario: Canadian Federation of Students and Stats Canada, “Moving towards affordable post-secondary education”, February 2013
Larger classes, less student access to profs

Student to Faculty Ratios at Medical/Doctoral Universities (Maclean's Magazine 2011)

Source: Maclean's University Rankings, 2011

Source: McLean’s Magazine 2012
Less student access to Librarians

Student to Librarian Ratios in Ontario

Source: McLean’s Magazine 2012

Source: Ontario Council of University Libraries 2010 Facts; CAUT Librarian Salary Survey 2009-10
Lower salaries for APUO members

EXAMPLE 1: % Difference between uO Full Prof. Salaries and Avg Full Prof. Salaries at Comparator Universities (by age)

Comparator Universities include: Carleton, Guelph, Laurier, McMaster, Queen’s, Western, Windsor

Source: StatsCan Universities Salary Survey, 2010
Summary

There is no fiscal crisis. In fact, the employer is in excellent financial situation.

Employer’s choice to spend less on teaching and research has many negative consequences

If we stand together, we can do better