

Thursday, 25 July 2013

Dear President Rock,

If the University intends to negotiate a new, long-overdue Collective Agreement with the APUO, why did it call in the LRB Conciliator and then request a "No Board"?

The only purpose in doing so was to acquire the legal authority to be able to Lock-Out APUO members if the negotiations do not result in the major concessions that the University is determined to get from the APUO's members.

If this process is to be one among equals, the APUO has no choice but to seek a strike mandate from its members before returning to the negotiating table in early August.

Surely it need not have to come to this point. Transforming the very nature and structure of the University while crushing the APUO is a lose-lose objective. If both come to pass, they will tarnish seriously the University's reputation for a long time. Both students and professors will think twice before deciding to join Canada's University.

In the twilight of my 40 year career as a University Professor I am left pondering what is the future of post-secondary university education in Ottawa, Ontario, and Canada. Imposing coercive measures on the Faculty, I can assure you, will not ensure a bright future for the University of Ottawa and will leave its alumni baffled and angry.

Sincerely,

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