



Dr. Annette Trimbee
 President
 University of Winnipeg
 3W17-515 Portage Ave
 Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9

September 21, 2016

Dear Dr Trimbee,

I am writing to you on behalf of University of Winnipeg Faculty Association (UWFA). We understand that you are currently in collective bargaining with the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) Local 55600, representing our colleagues working as ELP Instructors, Research Assistants, and Teaching Assistants.

UWFA is deeply concerned with the surprisingly low level of remuneration currently provided to the affected University of Winnipeg employees.

2015 RATES

	UManitoba (TA/Demo/Tutor/ seminar leader rates 2015)	Brandon (Student Assistant III and IV 2015)	Regina	Average	Winnipeg	Difference	% Difference
Undergrad	\$19.16	\$12.75	\$13.7 2	\$15.21	\$11.00	-\$4.21	-27.68%
Senior undergrad	\$19.16	\$12.75	\$16.7 5	\$16.22	\$11.35	-\$4.87	-30.02%
Masters	\$21.08	\$15.36	\$19.0 6	\$18.50	\$11.35	-\$7.15	-38.65%

(Table provided by PSAC)

It is disappointing to see that the University of Winnipeg offers the lowest student wages in the region.. It is not reasonable to ask our student employees, either upper level undergraduate or graduate, to work for wages that are barely above the provincial minimum. The University of Winnipeg is an institution that prides itself on creating an atmosphere that welcomes and respects Indigenous and other non-traditional students. At the same time, it is treating student employment on campus as a “privilege” and/or “professional training opportunity”; employment that only students from well off families can afford to consider. Non-traditional students often do not live at home, may be single parents, and rarely have families that can support them or their education. They are dependent on part time work to eat, pay rent and generally survive while they complete their studies. Providing a reasonable wage on campus is an important part of ensuring that university education and success is attainable for all students. Equally important is that it also demonstrates respect for the education and training they have already received at the UW.

Our Regular Academic Staff (RAS), Contract Academic Staff (CAS), and Collegiate members are standing in solidarity with PSAC Local 55600 and will be providing any support they may require during the conciliation and bargaining process.

Ekosi,

Jacqueline Romanow, PhD
Acting President, UWFA.

Cc: Alex Bailey, Prairie Region Organizer, PSAC
Neil Besner, Vice-President, Academic
Laurel Repski, Vice-President, Human Resources, Audit and Sustainability
Erin Sirett, Negotiator, PSAC