

UWFA President's Report – 8 April 2026 - Peter J. Miller

Thanking Lisa and Marissa for their work on all our behalf.

Thanks to Council members who have chosen not to run for re-election: Brianne Selman as Librarian – thank you for stepping into the role when Sam Popovich moved into the acting Associate Dean role; Carlos Colorado, who has served as VP for over five years and was on the bargaining team and has been a stalwart supporter and colleague – thank you!; and Peter Ives, who has served on Council for multiple terms and has served as our representative to and Treasurer for the Manitoba Organization of Faculty Associations – thank you, Peter (we're down to only two, now, on Council).

Some items we're working on

University

- CAS
 - Chief Negotiator: Andrew Bendor-Samuel
 - Bargaining Team: Lisa McGifford, Carmen Rohne
 - Meetings: six meetings with CAS members
 - Survey: just completed
 - Issues: raising issues in media, at Senate, with Provost, with President
 - Mandate meeting later in April and we will also form a Job Action Committee to organize members.
 - June: bargaining dates set
 - Challenge: govt mandates on salary and length? Still waiting to see.

- Instructor/Librarian committee meetings (librarians last week, but starting a series of five or six meetings over the next two weeks. Pre-bargaining work to inform the work of the committee. Will wrap up this summer likely).
- Policies: posters, awards, animal care/testing, policy on policies
- Meetings again organized with president.
- Board chair meeting: have been in regular contact with Board chair, who is keen to know about faculty morale and campus culture more broadly.
- Budgetary pressures: international student; no real dollar increase (2% operating); domestic tuition increase can be 4%.

- UofW Act
 - Details: major change to Board composition: from 36 to 21.
 - Reduced alumni from 3 to 1
 - Removed senior academic administrator

- Reduced faculty from 4 to 3
- Reduced Church from 10 to 3 (and student requirement)
- Reduced students from 4 to 2
- Removed Staff reps (2)
- Removed student requirement in govt but added indigenous requirement (x2)
- Still not 51% govt (cf. BU, UM, and USB); faculty from 4/36 (11%) to 3/21 (14%)
- Recusal language on president; annual review language on president; in camera requirements on board
- Consulted in Fall 2024
- Preview in Jan 2026
- Met again briefly last week

Events

- Governance Conversations: April 24 “What is Collegial Governance” (Jino and Jane); April 28 “Government” (Scott Forbes and Peter Bjornsen); TBD Unions (me and Alan Saji Koshy); TBD Senate/Board. Thanks to Brianne Selman, Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land, and Lisa McGifford for helping with this idea.
- Harry Crowe: April 14. Tell your friends; bring your friends; don’t worry about the ticket link – everyone and anyone is welcome to come. Thanks Alyson Brickey for your work on this event – and other members who are volunteering, Zabeen Khamisa, Farra Yasin. Brianne Selman.

Academic Labour Movement

- Attended CAUT President’s Forum in January; especially good presentation from Concordia Part-time Union
- CAUT Council end of month