

# Faculty Association

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Dear UMFA Members,

Since our last bargaining newsletter on June 17, the UMFA bargaining team has been meeting with administration 2-3 times per week to advance our priorities for a new collective agreement. While we are not yet in a position to report on agreements, we want to keep you informed on our bargaining activities to the extent possible.

The most recent meeting, on July 7, involved a discussion of the Letter of Understanding (LOU) on discontinuance, and we remain concerned that administration has not yet agreed to sign the LOU. Details of why this is important to all UMFA members were conveyed in the last update, which you can find [here](#). We must ensure that all UMFA Members are secure in their work, and that the conditions exist to support the principle of academic freedom.

The team's focus, however, remains on the priorities agreed to by the Membership in March. The sides have had one meeting to discuss teaching load, and one to discuss management rights, in which our positions as passed at the Special General Membership meeting were put forward. Next Tuesday, the sides will exchange information on the University's financial position, and Thursday we will hear the administration's salary proposal. Performance management systems and working conditions are slated to be discussed later in July.

We will continue to send out bargaining updates as the process continues. In the meanwhile, questions and comments are always welcome at [president@umfa.ca](mailto:president@umfa.ca).

Sincerely,

Mark Hudson  
UMFA President