



Dalhousie Faculty Association

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## President's Message

*by Darren Abramson, DFA President*

October is Mi'kmaq History Month, proclaimed in Nova Scotia in 1993. As an association, the DFA acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This year, the DFA established the Aboriginal Caucus Committee to hear and address the issues of our members in this community. I invite you to send comments and feedback for consideration by this committee to [dfa@dal.ca](mailto:dfa@dal.ca) or to committee chair Nancy MacDonald.

In recognition of the challenges facing academics on contract employment, the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) has initiated Fair Employment Week, this year held October 23-27. Please join us on October 23 for a presentation on the topic of limited-term appointments in academia. (Event details are below and at [www.facebook.com/dalfacultyassoc](http://www.facebook.com/dalfacultyassoc).)

This round of collective bargaining continues, as we move into discussions on workload. Our *Negotiations Bulletin* provides you with relevant updates, and I provide more in depth discussion of relevant bargaining issues through the *President's Bulletin*. Stay informed by taking the time to read our bulletins sent via email and posted at [dfa.ns.ca](http://dfa.ns.ca)

### DFA Open House

Join the DFA and your colleagues for an early start to the Holiday season.

Thursday, December 7

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

DFA Office

1443 Seymour Street, Halifax

See you there!

## Make it Fair: Opportunity. Security. Respect.

*Fair Employment Week, October 23-27*

*"Contract and part-time work has quietly gone from a short-term stepping stone to a career-long condition ... This has serious implications, not only for contract academic staff but for students, their regular academic staff colleagues and the integrity of post-secondary institutions."*

[makeitfair.caut.ca](http://makeitfair.caut.ca)

## Join Us!

To mark Fair Employment Week, DFA and ANSUT are hosting a presentation by Janet Morrill, President of University of Manitoba's Faculty Association. We will be discussing some of the issues around university budgeting and contract academic staff.

Monday, October 23, 2017  
7 pm - 8:30 pm  
Halifax Central Library  
Spring Garden Road

The DFA has approximately 150 Members on limited-term appointment. Fair Employment Week, an initiative led by the Canadian Association of University Teachers, gives us an opportunity to recognize the contributions of our Members on limited-term appointment and to draw member, public and media attention to the challenges presented by precarious employment.

Partnering with the Association of Nova Scotia University Teachers, the DFA is hosting a presentation on Monday evening, October 23, 2017 at the Halifax Central Library (BMO Room). Janet Morrill, PhD, FCPA, FCA, FCGA, president of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association (UMFA) will share how UMFA used collective bargaining to improve job security, guarantee renewal and limit the use of sessional instructors. Details can be found on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/dalfacultyassoc](http://www.facebook.com/dalfacultyassoc)

## Thanks to DFA's Committee Chairs & Reps

The advocacy and lobbying work of the DFA would not be possible without our dedicated Members who give of their time and talent. The Executive's work is supported by the following DFA Committee Chairs. If you are interested in getting involved with DFA activities, please contact the DFA office at [dfa@dal.ca](mailto:dfa@dal.ca).

DFA's 2017-2018 Committee Chairs are as follows:

- Grievance Committee: David Westwood
- Equity Committee: David Mensink
- Aboriginal Caucus Committee: Nancy MacDonald
- Communications Coordination Committee: Amy Birchall

We also thank Members who volunteer their time to sit on various Dalhousie/DFA joint committees. Those members include:

- Employee Benefits Committee: David Mensink, Lori Dithurbide
- Pension Advisory Committee: Jonathan Shapiro, Jodi Lazare
- Pension Trust Fund/Retirees' Trust Fund: Ronald Pink
- Association-Board Committee: Tim Jukes (ABC Co-Chair), Matt Numer, Barbara MacLennan
- Environmental Health and Safety Committee: Mark Obrovac, Emanuel Jannacsh
- Transportation and Security Committee: Sherma Dewey
- Council on Employment Equity through Affirmative Action: Jacqueline Gahagan
- Southern African Student Education Project: Matthew Schnurr
- WUSC Student Refugee Sponsorship Program: Keltie Jones, Isaac Saney

## Royal Society of Canada Recognizes Two DFA Members



In September, two DFA Members were recognized by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), the country's National Academy that promotes learning and research in the arts, the humanities and the natural and social sciences. Dr. Julia Wright, Department of English, was elected as a Fellow of the RSC. Dr. Marsha Campbell-Yeo, School of Nursing, was named to the RSC's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.



## Workplace Wellness

### *Communication and Conflict*

Throughout the month of October, Dalhousie's Workplace Wellness program is focusing on communication and conflict. Simply click on the event to register:

- The Basics of Conflict Resolution (October 18)
- Working Towards Bully-free Workplaces (October 20)
- Elephant in the Room: Diversity & Inclusion Conversation, Level 1 (October 26)

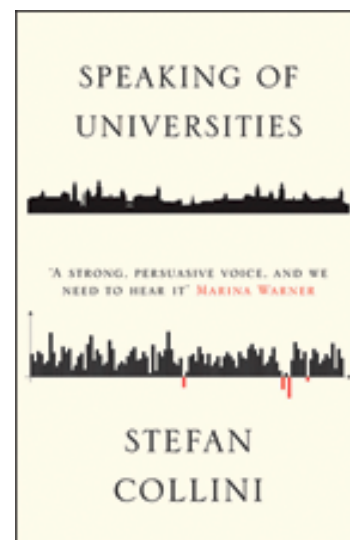
**WORK  
WELL**

## Books You Can Use

### *Speaking of Universities*

Stefan Collini. Verso Books, 2017 (ISBN: 978-1-78663-139-8)

"... as Collini documents, academics have worried from day one about keeping scholarship unfettered. And the conception of universities as vocational training grounds has its own legacy, as when tertiary education prepared young people for careers in civil service or the Church. But things have changed. If, for centuries, spiritual reflection grounded some of humanity's deepest thinking ... university as career preparation today eschews such aspiration." *Charles Reeve, president of the Ontario College of Art & Design Faculty Association. Book review [www.caut.ca](http://www.caut.ca).*



## Research Links from Around the World

*Each month, News You Can Use will highlight several examples of new and interesting research taking place at universities around the world.*



This month, rather than highlight specific research projects, we thought you might find it interesting to have a few stats on the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities. The U15 represents 15 of Canada's top research universities, including Dalhousie University. Together, U15 universities:

- undertake 80 per cent of all competitive university research in Canada;
- conduct \$8.5 billion of research annually;
- contribute more than \$36 billion to the Canadian economy

each year;

- produce more than 75 per cent of all doctorates awarded in Canada;
- receive 79 per cent of all competitively allocated research funding in Canada; and
- hold 85 per cent of Canadian university technology licences and 81 percent of Canadian university patents.

*Learn more about the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities at <http://u15.ca>*

*News You Can Use is a monthly e-bulletin featuring DFA news and links to items of interest to Dalhousie academic staff. If you have news we can use, please contact Catherine Wall, DFA Communications Officer, at [Catherine.Wall@dal.ca](mailto:Catherine.Wall@dal.ca). Submissions must be received no later than the 15th of the month to be considered for the following month's issue.*



## Dalhousie Faculty Association

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