

Vanier College Teachers' Association

News Bulletin 3, Sept. 29, 2016



VCTA Website

Check out the VCTA website: <http://www.thevcta.qc.ca/>

We are updating it regularly with important events (see Calendar), descriptions of College committees, and news items!

World Teachers' Day

Come celebrate World Teachers' Day with your fellow teachers! Bagels and cream cheese will be available in the Union Lounge, C-101, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Homa Hoodfar

Concordia University professor Homa Hoodfar, who was imprisoned in Iran's Evin prison since June 2016, without a formal charge, was released Monday Sept. 26, 2016! Thanks to every teacher who signed a petition, wrote a letter or marched for her freedom.

College Committees

After a fantastic response from interested teachers, we have filled the positions of teacher representatives for the Research Ethics Board, the Complementary Course Committee, and the Cafeteria User Committee. We thank all of the teachers who put their names forward. It is this kind of willingness to be involved that will help us reclaim proper consultation. If you have something you want to contribute or learn about these committees, please contact the teacher representatives, whose names are all posted on our VCTA website.

CRT (Labour Relations Committee)

Various teachers have informed the VCTA that classrooms in N 4th and 5th floors, and E 5th floor, and some classrooms in A 5th floor were extremely hot the first few weeks of class. Fans were installed as soon as the problem was reported, but long-term solutions are needed. The Executive has taken this to CRT (the Labour Relations Committee) as this is a working-conditions issue, and we are waiting to hear about their plan to resolve this problem.

We have brought the questions of teacher resources for students with disabilities to CRT and were told that the administration does not need to discuss this with us but merely inform us of their decision on how to use these funds (now for two years rolled over, approximately \$640 000). We disagree and believe this issue should involve consultation with teachers as to how these funds could be used in the classroom so as to be most useful.

We have put in a grievance as a result of the new decision to charge teachers Fitness Centre fees.

The next CRT is scheduled for Sept. 29th at 2pm in the Boardroom (F 216). All teachers are encouraged to attend.

Grades Review Committee

Be kindly reminded that, according to the Collective Agreement, the teacher whose grade is being contested and is brought to the Grades Review Committee has a right to sit on the Grades Review Committee (Article 4-1:10). In addition, only the teacher or the Grades Review Committee has the right to change a student's grade (Article 8-1:02). It is important that these rules are uniformly followed.

Union lounge

Many coffee cups have disappeared from the union lounge. Please return them!

General Assembly

Our end-of-semester GA is scheduled for December 14, 2016. It will be followed by a Happy Hour. Please mark this date in your agenda.