

WIGUT NEWS BRIEF

17th June 1993.

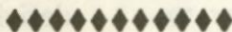
Saint Augustine Campus

ST. AUGUSTINE SALARY NEGOTIATIONS FOR TRIENNIUM 1990-1993

Since last reporting to the membership two letters have been despatched to the Chairman of the UWI/UGC Negotiating Sub-Committee (NSC) urging the start of negotiations and highlighting the severe deterioration taking place on the Campus as a result of a failure to get new salaries comparable to colleagues at Cave Hill and Mona. There has been no response, except that the Chairman of the NSC had suggested to the University that certain allowances to staff be increased.

We have now redone our calculations at the new rates of exchange and the Executive has mandated the President to report to the Ministry of Labour the failure of the Chairman of the NSC to meet with WIGUT, and to seek the Ministry's assistance in getting the negotiations started, failing which, to refer the matter to arbitration.

The letter to the Ministry of Labour has been sent and the President has contacted the Permanent Secretary alerting him to the problems.



REGIONAL SALARY SYSTEM (RSS)

On 28th May a meeting of the University Grants Committee (UGC) held in Jamaica set up a sub-committee to prepare final recommendations on the R.S.S. The sub-committee is to be made up of the Ministers representing the Campus territories, the Bahamas and the OECS. It will consult with the three WIGUTs and the University administration before reporting back to the UGC by the end of September.

Members will remember that the WIGUTs agreed in principle to the salary component of the recommendations but raised doubts about several matters like tenure, salary scales etc. Three meetings of the WIGUT Presidents have been had to coordinate these responses. There is a readiness to participate in the resumed discussions.

Since then the three Presidents of the WIGUTs, held a meeting in Barbados on 4th May, 1993. It was agreed in principle that a joint claim for salary/

Continued on Page 2

conditions of service would be submitted to the various Grants Committees for the triennium 1993-96. The claim would be based on the recommendations of the Lalor Report on the RSS with an adjustment to the salary comparator outer limits, a book grant of Bds \$935, this increases to 6.7 percent in the second and third years, and the request that staff

shall be eligible to purchase a duty/tax free car once every six years. A comparator compares and adjust salaries based on international standards.

St. Augustine pointed out that while it agreed to proceed with the joint claim it still has to settle the question of compensation for 1991-93.



FSSU

The FSSU payments for this year have been made at St. Augustine and Cave Hill and the position at Mona is not clear.

The matter was discussed at a meeting of the University F&GPC in February and was deferred with no discussion taken.

As a result, the three WIGUTs wrote to the Vice Chancellor (VC) protesting strongly about the University's behaviour and threatening to file an interlocutory injunction if the Administration persisted in trying to proceed with arrangements on FSSU without the involvement and consent of the WIGUTs or in contravention of the F&GPC decision to refer the matter to the sub-committee chaired by PVC Bourne.

Since then the Executive held meetings with the Campus Administration, the VC, PVC Bourne and the University Bursar. There is an assurance that no unilateral action will be taken.

In the meeting with the VC, PVC Bourne and the University Bursar, copies of all documents re: FSSU were promised.

Thus far the Union has received proposals from the University's actuaries re: a plan that would replace the FSSU. It is a rehash of a plan Daisy Coke presented approximately six years ago and rejected outright. The Actuary's letter also talks about all procedures to be met before any change can take place.

RECEIPTS FOR 1992 UNION DUES

For the first time the Union issued, for income tax purposes, receipts for union dues paid in 1992. It was a major undertaking in light of minimal resources, deficient records and volunteer effort. Nevertheless, approximately 300 receipts were distributed before April 30th. A sincere thank you to the Secretary and other members of the Executive whose concerted efforts, over a three day period, made it possible. Apologies are in order for any problems members may have concerning this matter. Please contact the Secretary, especially for inadvertent errors, at 3054 or 2055.

WIGUT OFFICE

At this stage the WIGUT Saint Augustine is still without office space. Union records are stored in various offices of Executive members and there is no office equipment. This situation makes it difficult to manage some aspects of the Union's business. Members will be pleased to know that the initial steps have been taken to obtain accommodation. Since these plans are very embryonic, members will hear more details in due course.

FAMILY DAY

The 1993 Family Day has not been abandoned! Plans are afoot to hold this activity sometime around the middle of the first Semester of the 1993/94 Academic Year. Any ideas and contributions of assistance will be welcomed. Please contact the Secretary at 3054 or 2055.

STAFF RESIGNATIONS

Forty staff members have left their Faculties during the 1992-1993 academic year. Staff were from all ranges. Resignations included three professors and senior staff members from the library and administration.



CONGRATULATIONS!

- ☺ To Edwin (Mechanical Engineering) and Mary Ekwue on the birth of their son, Chidozia.
- ☺ to Patrick Watson (Economics) WIGUT Executive Member and Linda Wickham (Crop Science) on their recent promotions to Senior Lecturer.
- ☺ to Clem Sankat (Mechanical Engineering) on his recent elevation to Reader.

CONDOLENCES

To Kim Gransaul (Library) on the recent death of her father in Canada.

ANONYMOUS QUOTES

On The Semester System:

"There are a lot of things happening above our heads. Suddenly there is no time for research activities, you are either teaching, marking papers or preparing to teach."

On the Gathering of Graduates:

"It is worth having again."

On Grade Point Average (GPA)

"What is the GPA? I am confused."

WIGUT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1992-1993

President:	Vishnu Singh, English
Vice President:	Kim Gransaul, Library
Treasurer:	Len Joseph, Bursary
Secretary:	Kathleen Phillips-Lewis, History
Committee Members:	Jim Cross, Surgery Suresh Birla, Agricultural Economics David Dolly, Agricultural Extension Stephen Lau, Mechanical Engineering Anderson Maxwell, Chemistry Rajendra Rastogi, Livestock Science Patrick Watson, Economics

The Committee meets monthly or more regularly if necessary. There are several sub committees which consists of executive members and coopted floor members. These are as follows: FSSU, Salary Negotiations, Public Relations/Education, Grievance, Health Scheme, Social, Building Plans and Services and Benefits.