



association of university and college employees

April 11, 1985

Mr. Gary Norris
Canadian Press
1455 West 7th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. Norris:

RE: Press Conference AUCE Local 1
and CUPE 2278 (Teaching Assistants)

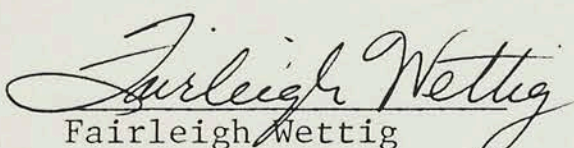
Further to our telephone conversation, I have enclosed the copy of the press package that I promised you. In addition, I have included the recent bulletin sent to our membership regarding the status of negotiations.

In a nutshell the Union's position is that we are prepared to essentially roll over the contract in exchange for a couple of motherhood type issues and wording changes necessitated by legislative amendments. The University, in its negotiations with IUOE 882 and CUPE 116 last year, settled on the same basis; a roll over, changes embraced by Employment Standards Act amendments and a couple of small issues of concern to the respective groups. Our concern stems from their reluctance to make the same kind of settlement with us. Why are we being treated differently?

The second issue broached today was the University's refusal to put us on the agenda of the April Board of Governors Meeting. As I told you, in January Dr. Pedersen assured us that we could address the BOG providing that we advance our written material through the Personnel Sub-committee of the Board. In responding to our request to be placed on the agenda, the Chairman's secretary made it clear that the request was considered inappropriate and that we were not going to be given an audience. We were referred back to the Department of Personnel Services - the department with which we conduct our negotiations. Clearly they either missed or chose to ignore the purpose of our request; that we be given the opportunity to present our case to those with the ability to guide the University's negotiators. We have been told that the Board of Governor's have not, during the entire year of negotiations, received a single status report or recommendation. We feel as if we just don't matter. We wish to demonstrate that we are prepared to be reasonable.

Of late, much hay has been made by the University over their feeling that the government is unreasonable and unresponsive to its needs. At this point support staff are feeling that the University is guilty of a similar indifference. We feel that an offer such as we made to the University would be one applauded by employers outside the gates of this parochial institution.

Sincerely,


Fairleigh Wettig
President

#202-6383 Memorial Road, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5
Telephone: 224-2308