

association of university and college employees

March 4, 1981

Dr. Patricia Baird Head, Medical Genetics 5804 Fairview Crescent CAMPUS MAIL

Dear Dr. Baird:

This letter is in response to your telephone call of March 3rd and our receipt of a copy of your Department's application for funds under the Employment and Immigration Canada Student Employment Program.

You requested some letter or statement from us approving your plans for the funds requested. The Union cannot provide this. I feel it is necessary to make an explanation of our position. The University employs student assistants during the year, mainly in the library system. If those students work less than 10 hours per week they do not need to join the union, if they work more than 10 hours per week they must join the union. In either case, these students are paid at the same rate as other people working full time for the university. This pay is guaranteed to them under Article 3.06 of our collective agreement with the University. If the union were to agree that students working on your project or any other university department project could be paid less than the contract allows them, we would be exposing ourselves to an unfair labour practice charge plus we would be endangering all future student assistant's rights to receive the pay as outlined in the collective agreement.

However, more importantely to the students involved, the Union's position is that they should be receiving pay commensurate with the work they are doing.

We do appreciate the position your department is in with respect to a shortage of funds but can only suggest you apply for the grant and possibly within your own Faculty find an additional source of funds to make up the difference needed to comply with pay requirements.

Yours truly,

Carole Cameron Union Organiser AUCE Local I

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