

10th February 1977

The Executive,  
AUCE Local 1.

Dear People:

I wish to comment on the events of the Membership Meeting today (February 10).

I'd like to make it very clear that my motion to reprimand Elizabeth Winterford for the comments she made at mediation on Tuesday, 8 February should in no way be construed as a personal attack. It was, rather, an indication of my grave concern with the way Ms. Winterford has interpreted her new role and her duties as the President of this Local.

It is very difficult to remain impartial when one has strong personal views on various issues. However, the President of this union, in his/her primary role as Chairperson of Executive and Membership meetings and ex-officio member of union committees, must do just that.

I regret having used the Contract Committee Report discussion period to raise the matter of Ms. Winterford's comments, because it sidetracked us from the all-important issue of the negotiations themselves; however, I think it was crucial that the membership be made aware of what had taken place, so that we could make our own evaluation based on facts, not based on innuendos or hearsay.

We have learned the hard way in the past that there is nothing to be gained from personal attacks on any member of this union, just as there is nothing to be gained (and everything to be lost) by bickering among ourselves. Debate is healthy - vindictiveness and divisiveness is not.

I'd appreciate this letter being published in the next issue of ACROSS CAMPUS.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

*Margot*

Margot Scherk,  
Division D.

*To be read.*