Local 1 (UBC) Newsletter Box 11, SUB, UBC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Assoc. of

College

University &

Employees

Alderman Harry Rankin will speak to UBC staff Wednesday, Nov. 7 at a meeting sponsored by the Association of University and College Employees (AUCE). Rankin will speak and answer questions on labor law, certification procedures and the role of unions in bargaining and grievance procedures.

AUCE, an independent union formed by UBC employees, has signed up over 40% of UBC clevical and library staff in their current membership drive. When a majority of eligible employees have joined, the union will apply for certification by the Labor Relations Board.

Clerical and library staff are the only unorganized section of the university community. Faculty members have the Faculty Association, students have the Alma Mater Society, and maintenance and food service workers are already unionized.

AUCE was formed as an independent union because of a strong desire by UBC staff to control their own union. Another factor in the decision to form a new union was the fact that over 90% of UBC clerical and library staff are women. AUCE's founders felt that existing unions had done little to improve conditions for their own women members, or to organize unorganized women workers.

There are more than two hundred offices in one hundred buildings on UBC's 1000-acre campus. AUCE members spend lunch hours and time after work signing up their fellow employees, because labor laws prohibit organizing during working hours.

Union organizers feel that the success of the drive thus far, in spite of these difficulties, indicates a strong sentiment by staff that union organization is necessary.

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For further information: AUCE, Room 228 (Box 11) Student Union Bldg. UBC - Phone 224-5613

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