

Association of University and College Employees

LOCAL No. 1 (U.B.C.)

On Thursday, May 29, the membership of the Association of University and College Employees, Local #1, voted 56% to send the proposed terms of settlement to a referendum vote for ratification. They also voted to end the strike and go back to work on Friday, May 30. Upon reporting to work in the Housing and Conferences Centre, some of our members were told to go home; that there was no work for them.

Members who are affected by this have asked why they are being told that there is no work. We would dispute this since all of the September residence bookings remain to be processed and the employees could clearly see that the desks were piled with this non-existent work.

The Contract Committee and the Union Organizer met with the University Friday morning and were told that the University's position is that these people could not report to work and would not be paid. The Union's position is that people must be paid by the University. The University told the Union that they didn't even know which employees were affected by this.

What does this mean?

Is this reflective of a lack of communication and consultation between different levels of the University's management?

Is one Department Head trying to punish employees for supporting their Union?

We do not know the answer. But — it is clear that the Contract Committee cannot sign a memorandum of agreement with the University on the proposed terms for settlement until all employees entitled to return to work are allowed to do so with no loss of pay.

We would hope that the University will act in good faith and that we can have a speedy resolution to this dispute.

If you agree with our position in this matter, we would urge you to show your support by contacting the University's administration and demand that the settlement of a collective agreement not be delayed by such tactics.