Association of University and College Employees

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 1980

NEGOTIATIONS STALL AT U.B.C.

The Association of University and College Employees, Local I representing more than 1400 clerical and library workers at the University of British Columbia, announced plans to seek mediation in an attempt to settle a contract terminating on March 31st, 1980.

The Union, composed of workers, 93% of whom are women, is once again advocating "equal pay for work of equal value" as their goal. The University, in their usual effort to save funds at the expense of the staff, has offered a settlement considerably below the inflation rate. A strong mandate for a catch-up settlement of 18% increase was received by the negotiating committee from the membership. Further, the University has failed to address any other concerns raised by the Union by repeating the single phrase, "the University is philopophically opposed to any increase in benefits", a technique of stalling, and proposing regressive changes to the collective agreement.

"Job action seems to be the only thing this administration understands", says one spokesperson, "If that's what it takes, that's certainly what they'll get."

A.U.C.E. Local I was rolled back by the Anti-Inflation Board three years ago and it's members have made no significant gain since this regressive action.

For further information, contact Wendy Bice, A.U.C.E. Local I Union Co-ordinator at 224-2308.