



President's Report May 2010

The past weeks have been quite interesting for MUNASA, to say the least.

On the salary policy front, the higher administration continues to plough ahead with salary increases based solely on merit, or as they say: "pay for performance". Salary increases are due June 1st. MUNASA continues to believe that this is the wrong approach for our members. The process is in no way transparent, but one can question what one receives. If you feel you have not been treated appropriately, let us know immediately.

Gas prices climbed again last week. Housing prices are up.....and yet we are not entitled to a minimum salary increase.

Does the "pay for performance" exercise reduce cynicism? No. Does it encourage productivity? Probably not, but we are willing to stay judgement until we see measurements from Human Resources.

On another front a MUNASA member recently applied for a senior position at the University and was granted an interview. The interview panel consisted of three people, one of whom was the local Human Resources "professional". Not only was our member refused the position but one of the interviewers was then given the job! When this was brought to the attention of a member of the higher administration, he informed the applicant that despite appearances nothing untoward occurred and all involved acted in good faith. We certainly hope this is the case, but we can't help but wonder about the professionalism displayed during this process. Is this any way to run a University?

Much has been said of late concerning the consultants appearing on campus in ISR, but doing what doesn't seem to be consulting work. A MUNASA member reportedly spent a good deal of time teaching them things they should have known and should have been embarrassed about asking. It appears that a decision has been made to contract out work in this area that traditionally has been done by McGill employees. MUNASA is very concerned about this development and will be following the situation very closely.

Our sister organizations in CACPUQ have responded favourably to our plans for membership in the FPPU. Also, to date we are in discussions with the FPPU concerning membership costs. We will have more news soon.

The Executive and I thank all of those who supported my candidacy for the Board of Governors. We were successful, garnering almost 40% of the votes in a field of eight candidates.

Bill 38 concerning the revamping of university governance in Quebec is still alive, and will resurface as an issue presently. As non-academics, we will continue to have representation on future "conseils d'administration". MUNASA continues to monitor the progress of that legislation and continues to make its opinions known both to other groups representing non-academics and to legislators themselves.

The BBQ season is fast approaching, in spite of last weekend's snow. We'll be contacting you soon about events on both campuses.