

Strike Update – Sunday, November 6

Dear UMFA Members,

First, a quick note of thanks to all of you who were out at Friday's rally. Those who were there will know that it was incredible (and that we need a more powerful PA system)! There is clearly a great resolve within our Membership to fight for our priorities of workload protections, job security for librarians and instructors, and fair assessment. There were firm words of support from faculty across the country and abroad—along with jaw-droppingly generous donations to our strike fund. Our thanks also to the musicians, dancers, and other students who have been touring our picket lines in support of the strike. There's not much to update on the bargaining front since Friday. We expect to see new proposals this evening. The Collective Agreement Committee will meet to discuss any new administration proposals as soon as possible after that, and we will get you an update as soon as we can. In the meantime, **pickets will be as normal on Monday. Please report for your usual picket or strike duty tomorrow.**

Finally, some of you may have seen the administration's claim in the media that some UMFA members are crossing the picket line. Here's what we know: the administration's numbers include the dozens of members on research, maternity, parental, medical, or administrative leave who were advised by UMFA to send in their "notification to continue" forms. We also know that our lines have become stronger every day. The administration's tack in spreading these numbers to media is consistent with their attitude. Rather than grappling with how to respond to the clear voice and resolve of faculty and students who have called for a halt to ever-increasing workloads, admin are busy spinning the media. Sincerely,

Mark Hudson.