

## **Research Committee on the Casualization of Academic Labour at York University**

As contract faculty know by experience, and grad students know by looking at future job prospects, work in the academic sector has been precarious for some time and is growing more so. Tenure-track jobs are becoming rarer; contract work is inconsistent, with overwork and underpay the norm. CUPE 3903 wants to create a policy document that 1) outlines the state of precarious work at York and Ontario; 2) looks at alternative models of contract work (e.g. 'minimum entitlement' provisions); 3) suggests political strategies and tactics to be used to push back. This document will be approved by the General Membership and put to effect by the Union's various caucuses, committees, and other bodies, including the Stewards' Council and the Executive Committee. This committee will also liaise with the **Research Committee on The Effects of Blended Learning on Teaching and Education** and 3903's Research Officer. This is an open committee, and all Members are eligible to join. The committee will elect a chair to coordinate the activities of the committee, and designate one or several people to maintain meeting minutes.

If you would like to join, contact Recording Secretary/Research Officer Greg Flemming at [cupe3903recordingresearch@members.cupe.ca](mailto:cupe3903recordingresearch@members.cupe.ca)

## **Research Committee on the Effects of 'Blended Learning' (e-learning) on Teaching and Education**

As laid out in its 'white paper,' York University plans to increase the amount of electronic technology that it uses to deliver its courses. Similarly, leaked documents show that the Province of Ontario is discussing a '3x3x3' plan for university education, where undergrads would be expected to attend classes all year (i.e. for 3 semesters), take at least 3 courses per semester online, and complete 3- rather than 4-year degrees. These initiatives will have significant impact on the way work is organized at York. CUPE 3903 wants to create a policy document that 1) investigates these plans and how they might be implemented; 2) the effects this will have on teaching and education; 3) suggests political strategies and tactics to be used to push back. This document will be approved by the General Membership and put to effect by the Union's various caucuses, committees, and other bodies, including the Stewards' Council and the Executive Committee. This committee will also liaise with the **Research Committee on the Casualization of Academic Labour at York University** and 3903's Research Officer. This is an open committee, and all Members are eligible to join. The committee will elect a chair to coordinate the activities of the committee, and designate one or several people to maintain meeting minutes.

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The 3x3x3 document is available here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/83126816/Three-Cubed#fullscreen>  
York's 'White Paper' is available here: <http://vpacademic.yorku.ca/whitepaper/>

## **Archives Committee**

Though it has yet to be made an official committee enshrined in the Bylaws, and Ad Hoc version of this committee is being struck to help organize the Union's documents before we move offices in the very near future. If you would like to join contact Recording Secretary/Research Officer Greg Flemming at [cupe3903recordingresearch@members.cupe.ca](mailto:cupe3903recordingresearch@members.cupe.ca) or Chief Steward Unit 1 Mark Brownlie at [cupe3903chiefsteward1@members.cupe.ca](mailto:cupe3903chiefsteward1@members.cupe.ca)

The description of what the Archives Committee might become can be found in the Bylaws, here: <http://3903.cupe.ca/documents-forms>