

WLUFA Climate Action Committee Activities Report December 2020

To the WLUFA Executive,

The proposal for a WLUFA Climate Action Committee submitted this summer stipulated that the CAC would submit activities reports to the Executive every December and April. This document is our December 2020 report.

The proposal for a CAC was approved by the WLUFA executive in August 2020, and now serves as the CAC's governance document. The deadline for nominations was set for September 14 (later extended to September 30) and the members were notified of their appointments in mid-October. The CAC held its first meeting on October 23 and its second on December 15.

While the committee is still in the process of getting up and running, our actions to date have included:

- 1) we drafted a plan of activities and submitted it to the Executive (as per the proposal); we received news that it had been approved on December 9.
- 2) we revisited the appointment dates for committee members (set at June 1 in the proposal) in light of concerns expressed at our October 23 meeting that contract faculty would not have a clear enough sense of their Laurier teaching for the coming year to feel comfortable standing for the committee in May. After some communication with the Executive we decided at our December 15 meeting that we would like the call for nominations to go out in mid-July and for committee terms to start on August 15. We have sent this request to the Executive.
- 3) we received permission from the Executive to try to find more members for the committee for the 2020-21 academic year.
- 4) we have sent a request to the Executive for information on past WLUFA engagement in and discussion of the issue of divestment from fossil fuels.
- 5) Brenda Murphy has made a student placement opportunity available through the MA in Social Justice and Community Engagement. The placement posting focuses on the action items in the CAC plan of activities. If a student takes this up we will be able to involve an MA student in our activities in the Winter term (approx. 120 hours). There may also be opportunities for students to work on CAC projects in Brenda's Winter term graduate class.
- 6) Derek Hall introduced the CAC to the WLUFA membership at the December 15 General Meeting (on Zoom).

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

With best wishes,

The WLUFA Climate Action Committee

Derek Hall (Chair)
Jessica Cameron (Vice-Chair)
Simon Dalby
Brenda Murphy
Anne-Marie Allison (WLUFAs Executive observer, non-voting)