



Canadian Association of University Teachers  
Association canadienne des professeurs et professeurs d'université

November 24, 2008

Dr. Denis Rancourt

[REDACTED]  
Ottawa ON [REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Rancourt:

I am writing to advise you that the Canadian Association of University Teachers has established an Independent Committee of Inquiry to examine your situation at the University of Ottawa.

The terms of reference for the Independent Committee are:

- To investigate the ongoing series of disputes between you and the University of Ottawa;
- To determine whether there were breaches of or threats to academic freedom and other faculty rights;
- To make any appropriate recommendations.

The members of the Independent Committee of Inquiry are:

Dr. Walter Whiteley, Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, York University;

Dr. Joyce Lorimer, Professor, Department of History, Wilfrid Laurier University;

Dr. Jeffrey Halpern, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ.

The Committee will be operating under guidelines that assure its independence from CAUT.

These are spelled out in Section 5 of the "CAUT Procedures in Academic Freedom Cases" which are available on our web site

[<http://www.caut.ca/pages.asp?page=198&lang=1>] and which I have enclosed with this letter.

The Committee will be contacting you in due course to gather relevant documentation and to arrange to meet with you so that it can get a full and fair understanding of the facts.

Should you have any questions about our procedures or any other matter related to the Independent Committee of Inquiry, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James L. Turk".

James L. Turk  
Executive Director

/mmp

cc: Walter Whiteley  
Joyce Lorimer  
Jeffrey Halpern  
Penni Stewart, President, CAUT  
Victor M. Catano, Chair, CAUT Academic Freedom and Tenure  
Committee  
Allan Rock, President, University of Ottawa

Enclosure