
AFT Higher EducationAFT Teachers
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May 2, 2008

Heather Munroe-Blum, Principal
McGill University
Office of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor
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Edward J. McElroy
PRESIDENT

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Antonia Cortese
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Principal Munroe-Blum:

On behalf of the 1.4 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, including 165,000 higher education faculty and professional staff, of whom 20,000 are graduate employees, I write to express our deep concern over the treatment of the teaching assistants at McGill University represented by the Association of Graduate Students Employed at McGill (AGSEM).

AFT Higher Education

Sandra Schroeder
CHAIR, PROGRAM AND
POLICY COUNCIL


Lawrence Gold
DIRECTOR

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Following unproductive negotiations, AGSEM initiated a legal strike of the University. Rather than addressing the legitimate issues AGSEM brought to the bargaining table, the Administration has responded by hostile acts that include requiring professors and instructors to perform the duties of striking TAs and firing TAs from their other jobs on campus. These actions are legally questionable and contrary to good academic practice, and will only serve to create more distrust and animosity on campus rather than move the parties to resolution.

We call on you to put an end to this behavior. We urge you to rehire all employees who have been fired as a result of the strike and to focus your energies on negotiating in good faith so that the TAs can return to their work and to serving the students of McGill.

Sincerely,



Lawrence N. Gold
Director, AFT Higher Education

LNG:lah opeiu#2 afl-cio

cc: Anthony Masi, Provost, McGill University
AGSEM Executive Committee
Ronald Cameron, President, FNEEQ-CSN
Marie Blais, Vice President, FNEEQ-CSN