

CAUT Western Regional Conference

University of Regina

October 21 and 22

Friday morning

Panel discussions on:

- first nations and higher education (more federal funding is required and one possible solution would be to convert to a loan-based program)
- gender equity (women are still under-represented in the higher academic ranks and lack of day care is one of the reasons)
- access copyright (almost all universities have withdrawn; the new University of Regina copyright advisor will be a member of the faculty association).

Friday afternoon

Presentation on national issues by Jim Turk, the Executive Director of CAUT.

- Jim urged faculty associations to lead the struggle against the political agenda of lower taxes and devaluing the common good
- he fears that the changes in the United Kingdom and initiatives in the U.S. will spread to Canada
- Jim says that we must take political action, which is difficult for faculty associations because not all members will agree

Friday afternoon

Roundtable reports

Of particular interest was the report of the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of BC. To coincide with its 40th anniversary, CUFA BC has named 2102 the “Year of Governance” and decided to reassert faculty control over academic governance at BC’s universities. They are developing a website to serve as a resource for faculty and student senators and will host a conference on practical reforms to academic governance in early March.