



UWOFA-LA NEWS RELEASE - for immediate release

## **Strike Vote: Librarians and Archivists vote 88% in favour**

(London, ON – September 28, 2009) Unionized librarians and archivists at the University of Western Ontario have voted overwhelmingly to support strike action to back their bargaining goals of fair evaluations, job security and equitable salaries and benefits.

A total of 88% of UWOFA-LA members voted in favour of authorizing their union to call a strike. The ballots were cast over two days, September 25 and 28. Librarians and Archivists have been without a contract since July 1, 2009.

“This vote demonstrates the determination of our members to ensure a fair and equitable settlement,” said Regna Darnell, UWOFA president. “The work of librarians and archivists is at the heart of university life, and should be recognized as such.”

Conciliation to help advance contract negotiations began Thursday September 24. Further meetings with conciliator John Quinn are scheduled through to the end of October. UWOFA-LA members will not be in a legal strike position until a no-board report has been requested and sixteen days have passed after its receipt by the Minister of Labour.

“Our negotiating team is committed to use the scheduled meetings to achieve a fair deal,” said Darnell.

The 55 Librarians and Archivists at Western rank 91st out of 113 research libraries in North America when it comes to salaries and benefits.

For further information:

Regna Darnell, UWOFA President (519-661-3016)