

Frequently Asked Questions for Faculty

Our librarians and archivists face a strike deadline of October 4, 2023.

Q: What does it mean that UWOFA has set a strike deadline of October 4 at 12:01 AM?

It means that unless our negotiating team reaches a tentative settlement by this date and time, or a settlement seems imminent, Librarians and Archivists at Western will go on strike.

Q: Do I have to cross the picket line?

Faculty Members must continue to fulfill their academic responsibilities in the event of a Librarian and Archivists strike. If those responsibilities require your presence on campus, then working on campus does not constitute strike-breaking. We encourage Faculty to honour the picket lines of our colleagues by entering campus at locations other than those being picketed. However, when you are able, your fellow UWOFA members in the Librarians and Archivists unit would be thrilled to have you join them on the picket line. "Solidarity picketing" is done on a Member's own time but we suggest adding it to your PE report as service. It is also an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to L&A colleagues and the Administration that we support UWOFA's efforts to negotiate a fair deal for L&As. Please report to the Picket Captain when you join any picket line.

Q: How will a strike by the Librarians and Archivists affect me as a faculty member?

Several services may not be available or could be delayed should the Librarians and Archivists go out on strike.

These include:

- In-depth research help
- Library workshops performed by librarians
- In-class library sessions
- Specialized consultations for systematic review support
- Purchase requests
- Expert help with understanding copyright
- Expert help with Research Data Management

- Expert help with data-related questions
- Expert help with scholarly communications

Q: What is the rush?

UWOFA-LA have been in negotiations since May 2023, with 14 bargaining sessions completed. We believe our actions have been measured; we only arrived at this point because all other efforts have failed.

Q: How can I help?

You can express your support for UWOFA by going to the [take action](#) page of our website to send an email to President Alan Shepard, Provost Florentine Strzelczyk, Board Chair Keith Gibbons, Vice-Chair Sarah Shortreed, and Chief Librarian Catherine Steeves. Help spread the word about the important issues Librarians and Archivists at Western are fighting for - go to the [L&A resources](#) page on our website to download posters, Zoom backgrounds, slides, and ready-to-post tweets.

Q: How can I stay informed?

Go to uwofa.ca

Twitter: [@UWOFA1](#)

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Get in touch with UWOFA at uwofa@uwo.ca