LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

ADMINISTRATION AND USE OF STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRES ON COURSES AND TEACHING FOR COURSES TAUGHT IN THE 2020-21 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Parties agree that this Letter of Understanding forms part of the 2018-2022 Faculty Collective Agreement and remains in effect for the life of this Collective Agreement.

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic and the March 17, 2020 Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, as extended, may have caused disruptions to Members’ working conditions in the final months of the 2019-20 academic year and into the 2020-21 academic year;

WHEREAS the Parties agreed in the Letter of Understanding Evaluation of Courses and Teaching that Student Questionnaires on Courses and Teaching provide information about student experience in the classroom, but have limitations as an indicator of performance in teaching;

The Parties agree to the following provisions:

1. Student Questionnaires on Courses and Teaching (SQCTs) were not administered according to usual practices for courses taught in the Winter Term of 2019-2020;

2. Student Questionnaires on Courses and Teaching (SQCTs) will be administered according to usual practices for courses taught in 2020-21;

3. Inclusion of results of SQCTs for courses taught in the 2020-21 year in submissions for evaluation processes mandated in the Collective Agreement will be optional, at the Member’s discretion;

4. Specifically, for courses taught in the Winter Term of 2019-20 and/or the 2020-21 academic year during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic and the March 17, 2020 Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, as extended, Members will not be required to include results of SQCTs in their submissions for processes mandated in the following clauses:

   a. Applications for Limited Duties Appointments (Appointments 12 a)

   b. Teaching Dossiers for Standing Appointment consideration (Appointments 18.2.1 j), k), 18.2.3)

d. Promotion, Tenure and Continuing Status files (Promotion, Tenure and Continuing Status 3.2.1)

5. If a Member elects not to include SQCT results for a course or courses taught in the Winter Term of 2019-20 and/or the 2020-21 academic year during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic and the March 17, 2020 Declaration of Emergency under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, as extended, in a submission for a process mandated in the Collective Agreement, those SQCTs may not be added to the submission by the Unit.

Signed this 31st day of August, 2020

For the Association:  
Jeff Tennant

For the University:  
Ella Forbes-Chilibeck