

2019 OCUFA Lorimer Award

Citation for Dr. Geoffrey Hudson

The logo for OCUFA, consisting of the letters 'OCUFA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des associations des professeurs des universités de l'Ontario



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Read by Rahul Sapra, OCUFA President

The Lorimer Award was established in honour of Doug and Joyce Lorimer, who were instrumental in advancing faculty association collective bargaining in Ontario. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to improving the conditions of employment of university faculty through bargaining.

Dr. Geoffrey Hudson serves as an associate professor at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and has been involved in academic union negotiations since 1986. A founding executive officer of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine Faculty and Staff Association, Geoff was instrumental in the successful certification of the school's academic staff bargaining unit in 2006.

Serving as the faculty and staff association's Chief Negotiator since 2006, Geoff has played a crucial role in: negotiating five collective agreements, including the association's first; securing four successful strike votes; negotiating a transfer agreement with the Ontario Public Service Employees Union; improving part-time faculty promotion and appointment policies; and negotiating an agreement with the Physician Clinical Teachers' Association.

His service to NOSM faculty extends beyond collective bargaining. Geoff has regularly served on the faculty and staff association's Grievance Committee since 2009 and as Chief Grievance Officer for five academic years. Geoff has been President of the NOSM Faculty and Staff Association, OPSEU 677, Unit 1 and as a union representative on several NOSM committees, including the Joint Consultative Committee and Joint Benefits Committee. He also actively supported the successful effort to organize a new support staff bargaining unit at NOSM as part of NOSMFSA/OPSEU 677.

Geoff has regularly participated in the Canadian Association of University Teachers Annual Forum for Chief Negotiators since 2006 and OCUFA's Collective Bargaining Committee since 2010. From 2010 to 2013 he was a member of the CAUT's Collective Bargaining and Economics Benefits Committee.

In addition to his work within the academy, Geoff has committed himself to building solidarity with labour organizations in and around Thunder Bay, serving as a Delegate to the Thunder Bay and District Labour Council since 2006 and as a member-at-large of the Labour Council's Executive Committee.

For his commitment to bargaining improved terms and conditions of employment for his colleagues at NOSM, his principled stand on labour issues, his enthusiasm for organizing, his continuing mentorship, and his commitment to building solidarity among all workers in Thunder Bay, it is an honour to present Dr. Geoffrey Hudson with the 2019 Lorimer Award.