

# **2018 OCUFA Service Award**

Citation for Judy Bates

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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## **CITATION FOR JUDY BATES**

*Read by Gyllian Phillips, OCUFA President*

The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations is honoured to present Judy Bates with a 2018 OCUFA Service Award. This award recognizes those remarkable individuals whose work has strengthened OCUFA and advanced the interests of professors and academic librarians across Ontario.

A passionate advocate for faculty, Judy has been a constant source of inspiration for her colleagues. She possesses a calm confidence that reassures those around her that all they have to do is follow her lead to find themselves on the winning side of the battle. As President of the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association for six years, Judy's name was synonymous with that of a faculty association committed to winning fairness for contract faculty. Her dedication to defending and bolstering the collective agreement rights of WLUFAs' members was unquestionable.

In addition to serving as WLUFAs' President, Judy spent fifteen years as the faculty association's grievance officer, served on the negotiating team for full-time faculty and professional librarians, and was a member of the Joint Liaison Committee responsible for resolving disagreements with the university administration. Through her work, Judy tirelessly helped her faculty colleagues navigate their way to tenure, and negotiate fair salaries. Sitting across from the administration, Judy's fearless presence was felt by all in the room.

When concerns were raised about the funding agreements for Wilfrid Laurier's Balsillie School of International Affairs, Judy proved herself a force to be reckoned with. She recognized how acutely corporate interests threatened academic freedom at the school, and brought the arrangement to national attention, nearly resulting in CAUT censuring the university.

At OCUFA, Judy's experience provided a formidable foundation for the organization's provincial advocacy work. As a Board Member, Vice-President, and then President of OCUFA, Judy was a staunch supporter of contract faculty in their struggle for fair working conditions. As a privileged tenured professor, she believed that it was her duty to focus her energies on supporting her precariously employed colleagues. The momentum generated by this campaign is, in no small part, the result of Judy's leadership.

Judy was also instrumental in the work OCUFA has undertaken to raise serious concerns about the validity and reliability of student questionnaires on courses and teaching, an issue that continues to be a major concern for faculty across Canada. Even in retirement, Judy continues to be an important resource for those in the Wilfrid Laurier community. She remains a mentor who is always happy to provide advice, a colleague who isn't afraid to tell it like it is, and a friend with a razor sharp wit.

It is exceedingly difficult to overstate the contributions Judy has made to WLUFAs and OCUFA. For her inspiring and compassionate leadership, her formidable record of accomplishments, and her uncompromising sense of social-justice, we are thrilled to recognize and honour Judy Bates with a 2018 OCUFA Service Award.