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## St. George Campus Candidates

The Negotiating Committee is looking to replace three members from the St. George campus who recently stepped down from the committee. The current Staff-Appointed collective agreement expired on June 30, 2020 and it was extended for one year by mutual agreement. Negotiations for the new collective agreement will occur this year. We need you to elect three members so we may have a full complement of our negotiating team.

Below in alphabetical order, are the five candidates who had been nominated for the Negotiating Committee. Negotiating Committee elections will take place online from **February 19 – 25, 2021**, through Simply Voting, an online election platform. Staff-appointed members will be sent voting information by email.

### Ruth Binns (UTSG)



Alumni Engagement Metrics  
Analyst

Division of University  
Advancement

I have worked at the University since 2016; initially in coordinator roles at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and the Division of University Advancement (DUA), and currently as a metrics analyst at DUA. I have been a staff appointed USW member since 2018.

I value the role USW plays in protecting the interests of our members, especially as it pertains to our collective agreement. I want to prioritise our member's needs for our collective agreement based on the results of our bargaining and COVID surveys. In addition to the results of the member surveys, I will focus is on fair and reasonable wages, benefits and equity, diversity and inclusion. With my skills as a metrics analyst I will bring strong evidenced based arguments to the negotiating committee and the negotiation table to protect and improve our collective agreement.

This round of negotiations will be especially challenging and I will work hard as committee member to achieve the best possible collective agreement for our members.

I would be honoured to represent you and all of our USW 1998 members on the negotiating committee.

## Audrey Fung (UTSG)



Program Completion Officer  
School of Graduate Studies

Having worked at UofT in numerous administrative capacities for the past 28 years, I've had the pleasure of cultivating great working collaborations with faculty, staff and students. Having spent 11 years with UofT public affairs, I have a unique global perspective of the institution. What makes a great university, is great staff. We're the ones who keeps the engine well oiled. After 11 years in public affairs, some of us were re-engineered, displaced from our roles due to a structural reorganization. I have personally experienced this traumatic event so I can empathize with those who had undergone this re-organization which happens so frequently at UofT. Job security is a top priority and so is providing resources for career development, redeployment and skills retention/development.

Pension is another personal priority, as I'm at the age that retirement is in the foreseeable horizon. I need to know how best to preplan retirement strategies. I've dedicated my life to UofT so I hope to optimize those rewards. I've had the recent opportunity be trained as an USWA steward. I hope to give back to other colleagues/constituents.

I hope to be your voice and to advocate for your collective concerns. As a tenacious negotiator, I'm willing to fight for what we equitably deserve. There are many challenges ahead.

## Donna Liu (UTSG)



Multidisciplinary Engineering  
Design & Operations  
Assistant

Mechanical and Industrial  
Engineering

I am writing this personal statement to accept the nomination as a USW Local 1998 Negotiating Committee Member. My name is Donna Liu. I have been involved with our union as a chief steward at the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering since 2014. I am very excited to be nominated for this position.

I have obtained a Master of Economics, majoring in Labour Economics from the New School for Social Research, New York. I chose to study at the New School mainly because it has a long pro-union tradition, something rarely seen in North America. As a chief steward, I have witnessed how our union has helped the members in securing legislated labor protections and rights such as safety and health, overtime, and family/medical leave and in enforcing those rights on the job as well as in fighting against discrimination, workplace bullying and harassment via negotiating a strong collective agreement.

I look forward to working with the Negotiating Committee this year. I promise, if elected, I will serve in this position to the best of my ability. I deeply believe we can achieve more together than we can alone in this year's negotiating process.

## Liam O’Leary (UTSG)



Programming Coordinator  
School of Graduate Studies

Liam O’Leary is a father, husband, USW1998 steward, joint health & safety co-chair and programming coordinator for the School of Graduate Studies.

In his staff role, he helps students build the skills necessary to find meaningful employment and to be successful. Having meaningful, decent, and secure employment is important for our health and wellbeing as individuals and is beneficial for our collective society. He believes that we, USW1998 members, need to work together to maintain the benefits that have been fought for and won in previous negotiations. We also need to enhance our collective agreement to address the many issues that existed before the global pandemic and have been exacerbated by it.

UofT works because we work, and we work with a strong collective agreement.

## Nambogga Sewali (UTSG)



Administrator  
Institute of Islamic Studies

As a racialized woman, with thirteen years of experience working at five different post-secondary institutions, my work has been driven by leadership, advocacy, innovation and teamwork as an administrator, coach and program coordinator.

These experiences have highlighted the importance of having a people-driven approach to the strategic direction of any organization. My core belief is that a union works because we all work together - it is this passion that I would bring to the team.

I want to be on the Negotiating Committee to represent the diverse staff and their dynamic needs to ensure that policies are current, fair and amenable. I am excited to initiate conversations that lead to the implementation of policies that are reflective of the character of our union.