



July 30, 2009

Dr. Roseann O'Reilly Runte
The President and Vice-Chancellor
503 Tory Building, Carleton University
1125 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6

Dear Dr. O'Reilly Runte:

The Canadian Labour Congress appreciates that universities are critical parts of our civil society.

One of the fundamental tenants of your institution is to not only uphold, but to practice a commitment to what it means to have a civil society.

A critical element of such a society is our inherent freedom of presumed innocence until such time that our judicial system fairly and without prejudice proves otherwise.

Your university and its workplaces must demonstrate what this principle means in practice.

Likewise, universities have a profound responsibility to provide a fair minded learning environment to its students, its workers and the broader community.

Universities must not be swayed by one sided arguments. These are not easy tasks.

However, choosing to renege on your contract with Professor Hassan Diab appears to have been an easy choice. It was also wrong.

The Canadian Labour Congress strongly urges the university administration to respect the rights of its workers; to follow your agreements with CUPE and CAUT; and, reinstate Mr. Diab and honour his contract agreement.

Sincerely,

Karl Flecker
National Director
Anti-Racism and Human Rights Department

cc: Dr. John Osborne, Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences
Dr. Peter Gose, Chair of the Department of Sociology & Anthropology
Hassan Yussuff, Secretary-Treasurer, Canadian Labour Congress
Hassan Diab