



Saskatchewan Government and General  
Employees' Union

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **SIAST employees set to strike if no tentative agreements**

SIAST employees will walk the picket line on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 if tentative agreements are not reached.

Both the SIAST Academic and Professional Services bargaining units are in a legal strike position and are willing to take job action to back their demand for a fair and equitable wage settlement.

"We need a fair collective agreement in order to recruit and retain the skilled professionals and instructors who provide the education and training that students deserve and value," said Tracey Kurtenbach, Chair of the Professional Services Negotiating Committee. "What we are currently being offered pales when compared to what university professionals and educators received and what teachers have been offered."

Professional staff at the universities received between 7 and 10 per cent and educators received in excess of 14 per cent. Teachers have been offered approximately 9 per cent.

"We train the future workforce of the province," said Jim Steele, Chair of the Academic Negotiating Committee. "Saskatchewan needs a trained workforce for the current boom in the economy to continue."

Instructors and professional services staff at SIAST are worth at least as much as university staff and teachers.

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At this time SGEU is unable to comment further.