

Strike Flash

Professional Services

President Bymoen worked throughout the day Saturday with SIAST and government officials to reach agreement on a mediation process that preserved our right to strike and the employer's right to lock us out. We convened Monday morning at 10:00 am and waited until 4:30 pm for SIAST to decide if they actually would participate in the mediation. We were unable to get them to sign the mediation agreement that was agreed to Saturday. Although we didn't have a formal mediation agreement we made every effort to resolve the outstanding issues and reach a collective agreement. At midnight the employer sent the mediator to us with an ultimatum to sign a mediation agreement removing our right to strike or they were leaving the hotel.

At 1:30 am SIAST presented the bargaining committee with an altered mediation agreement signed by management which took away our right to strike and our ability to terminate the mediation process.

The employer's final offer remains on the table.

The bargaining committee chairpersons will be returning to the campuses.

In solidarity,

The Professional Services Bargaining Committee