

First contract talks to start for four employee groups

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This fall, first contract negotiations are set to begin between the university and four new bargaining units on campus.

The university's post-doctoral fellows voted on whether to be represented by the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) last November and the union was certified as the bargaining agent in July. The university and the union are in the process of preparing for bargaining.

Two additional sets of first contract talks will also take place in the coming months with the United Steelworkers of Canada (USW). That union represents a bargaining unit of academic assistants, tutors and markers and a bargaining unit comprised of the university's general staff (grades 2-9).

Mediation/arbitration continues relating to the membership of the general staff bargaining unit and preparations for collective bargaining are underway.

An initial meeting with representatives for academic assistants, tutors and markers was held late last month and more dates will be finalized shortly.

A fourth new contract involves the Allied Health Care professionals in the Queen's Family Health Team. Those employees are represented by OPSEU, which was certified in July 2010 as their bargaining agent. Negotiations are expected to start this fall.

To date this year, six contracts have been negotiated by the university and several employee groups.

New collective agreements were ratified in August with the [Queen's University Faculty Association](#) and with the three campus locals of the [Canadian Union of Public Employees](#).

In June, the [university and the Ontario Nurses Association ratified a first contract for the nurses in Queen's Family Health Team](#), and in May, the [university and PSAC agreed to a first contract for graduate teaching assistants and teaching fellows](#).

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