

## Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award

On April 12, 2013 the first Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award was presented. The Dooley Award is intended to recognize and celebrate champions of collegial self-governance and to ensure that the role Peter Dooley played as such a champion in making the USFA what it is today is not forgotten.

### The Man and the Legacy

Peter Dooley was Chair of the USFA when it became a certified trade union in the 1970's and he was intimately involved in writing our first Collective Agreement. His simple, yet revolutionary, view that the collegium is the primary decision-maker at a university is a central premise of the document.

This vision was not Peter's alone. It was also the vision of others that signed the first Collective Agreement. These individuals created something that has been passed to us. We are stewards of this vision and, whether we realize it or not, much of what we do at the university every day is a result of that vision. The way we participate in decisions about hiring, about tenure, about promotion; these are all parts of the vision to engage faculty in key decisions at this University.

The Collective Agreement is an agreement between members of the USFA and the Board of Governors. It's a living document that is regularly reviewed and revised.

Over the years there have been many people who have been signatories on our Collective Agreement, on behalf of the USFA and the Board. These people, by signing those agreements continue to endorse the vision of Peter Dooley and agree that collegial decision-making is central and appropriate for our workplace. These people recognize that the collegium has the collective knowledge to make the best decisions and should be the major decision maker at the university.

At many universities around the country, major decisions are not made by faculty but rather by a small group of Administrators. As soon as that happens, individual members of the faculty feel less vested in the consequences of decisions and they are less engaged in process. Without input into key decisions, there is a tendency towards apathy and that is not in anyone's best interest. An apathetic and disengaged collegium is not in the best interest of members of the USFA nor is it in the best interests of the Board of Governors of this university. There are over 1100 members of the USFA. The collective knowledge of this group is unmatched in this province or elsewhere in the country. A truly insightful administration should engage those people in debate, active vigorous debate, to solve problems. A truly insightful administration should tap into the collective knowledge of over 1100 people to make key decisions to move this university forward.

Peter Dooley's vision to include in our Collective Agreement and thereby make it a right to have members of the collegium engaged in key decision making was revolutionary in the 1970's.....and it has served us well.

### The Award

The USFA Member Development Committee is charged with oversight for the Pe-

ter C. Dooley Legacy Award. The Committee was directed by the USFA Executive to come up with Terms of Reference for the Award, to annually call for nominations and to decide on the recipient.

Peter left us with a great legacy and when we think of making this award we will, as was the case last year, consider what nominees have done to champion collegial decision-making and collegial self-governance and ask, "What is their legacy and is it deserving of the honor of this award?"

In 2013 there were two recipients of the Peter C. Dooley Award. One of the recipients made a cumulative contribution, and continues to contribute, to collegial decision-making. Don Hamilton has championed collegial governance for decades. He is an almost permanent fixture at University Council and stood with Peter to sign our first Collective Agreement.

But, as we recognize in the Dooley Award Terms of Reference, it doesn't take a lifetime to become a champion or create a legacy. A legacy of collegial governance can be created by making a single major contribution that changes how people think. The other recipient of the Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award was a group of U of S faculty, Drs. Tom Wilson, Vern Bennett, Marcel D'eon and Claire Card. These four people engaged our community and put nearly 300 people in a room to discuss serious problems in the College of Medicine. An event that heralded the first time the General Academic Assembly has met quorum in decades, possibly the first time ever.

Terms of Reference for the Dooley Award can be found at <http://www.usaskfaculty.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Peter-C-Dooley-Legacy-Award-Terms-of-Reference.pdf>

Questions about collegial decision-making?

Please contact the USFA office:  
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Or 966.5609

The Collective Agreement is available at:

[www.usaskfaculty.ca](http://www.usaskfaculty.ca)

[www.usask.ca/hrd.employees\\_agreements.php](http://www.usask.ca/hrd.employees_agreements.php)