

Nego Bulletin

FNEEQ Seeks to bring International Activities into the Collective Agreement. But are the proposals specific enough?

In recognition of growing International programs across the CEGEP network, FNEEQ is seeking to acknowledge and regulate this type of work in the Collective Agreement. Thus far, the proposed demand remains somewhat vague. It reads:

- Define the appropriate working conditions for professors involved in the international activities of CEGEPs, both in Quebec and abroad

This begs the question of whether the demands should be further specified before finalization, and, if so, how?

Background and Analysis

As many representatives attested at a recent FNEEQ Regroupement, so-called 'international activities' are becoming increasingly prevalent in the CEGEP system. Many colleges rely on internationalization as part of their marketing. Professors are often the ones who facilitate these programs: they teach foreign students in their classrooms; they offer courses and fieldwork abroad to Quebec students; sometimes, they are even sent abroad to by their colleges to teach in foreign institutions. As actual recent instances at John Abbott have shown, the lack of protection by the Collective Agreement leaves teachers vulnerable, in areas such as working conditions, their professional autonomy and basic health and safety.