

J. Michael Carrick



In 2007, I accepted a decrease in income and moved from Ontario at my own expense to join NAIT's Electrical Apprenticeship Program. I made this choice because I knew I was joining a large, reputable program at a nationally recognized institution. While I had 30 years of successful work experience as a skilled tradesperson, manager, and technical trainer, I was certain that I wished to spend the rest of my working life as an educator. And I wished to work within an institution that valued excellence in teaching.

The primary role of the President of NASA is to represent the interests of NASA members. Sometimes it appears that there is little common concern between the various Schools that make up NAIT. Sometimes it has appeared that the concerns of one School have been given preference over the concerns of other Schools. As President, I will serve the concerns and interests of all NASA members. I will also continue to strive for excellence in teaching. In my view, I can best accomplish this goal through actively asserting and protecting Section 53 of our Association's Collective Agreement – Instruction Design and Delivery

53.01 The Institute recognizes that the primary responsibility for instructional design and delivery rests with academic staff. Explicitly, activities related to the diagnosis of learning needs, the prescription of learning activities and the evaluation of student performance fall within the domain of academic staff members.

Not very long ago, NASA had to adapt to very real changes in our fundamental standing as a legal entity. The task of leading NASA has become increasingly more complex. Now, more than ever, NASA needs a President that will seek out the perspective and counsel of the other elected members of the Executive and the larger NASA membership. While I have significantly less experience working within NASA than either of the other candidates for President, I have learned that there are a great many conscientious and hard-working volunteers on the Executive. Regrettably, it appears that these voices are rarely heard.

I bring a markedly different perspective to the responsibilities required of the President. Another candidate for President has stated that "*perhaps the style and frequency of the communication (between the President and NASA membership) also need to be changed.*" I am genuinely committed to serving all NASA members in a collaborative, transparent, and ethical manner and will change both the substance and frequency of communication with NASA membership.

As President, I pledge to be fully accountable to the NASA membership and to:

- Publish a weekly itinerary documenting all my work activities.
- Compel our Labour Relations representative to publish a comparable weekly itinerary.
- With the cooperation of Executive Council, I will propose to conduct quarterly Town Hall meetings.
- Immediately initiate a thorough user needs analysis process with the goal of implementing a secure, cost-effective, NASA members-only, communication technology system.
- Upon the completion of our current contract negotiations, conduct an open and transparent review of NASA's recent bargaining process from beginning to end. NASA's membership needs the opportunity to learn about the how, when, who, why and where of collective bargaining as an actual union and how it differs from our past experience as a professional association. It is my belief that a formal review would aid us in preparing for future negotiations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Questions or concerns? Please ring me at (587) 920-2414 or email me at jmcarrick@nait.ca.

Regardless of your preferences, please vote in our upcoming election!