

28 February 2017 – EA Bargaining Update

There have now been 25 enterprise agreement negotiation meetings at Curtin since the bargaining process started in April 2016. Our most recent meeting was on 25 January 2017 and the next meeting will be scheduled soon.

Prior to the end of year break, the Provost John Cordery and the Chief Operating Officer Ian Callahan provided a series of more than 20 briefings to update staff on the progress of the negotiations and the issues that remain outstanding. In the period since these updates there has been little change, with several key items in dispute where there are differences between the parties that remain unresolved.

The University is committed to working towards a negotiated agreement with the combined unions and bargaining representatives. Our goal is to present staff members with a draft of a new agreement which is supported by all parties to the negotiating process.

We are therefore making an application to the Fair Work Commission (as the independent umpire) to request assistance to help Curtin and the combined unions to work through the outstanding matters. While this is a formal request to the Fair Work Commission, each party can choose how it will participate in the process. We do, however, hope that the NTEU and other unions will embrace the process as an attempt to resolve the matters that are outstanding.

As the application to the Fair Work Commission is processed, we will continue with the bargaining process and provide updates on any progress.