Nominee for Chair, Contract Faculty Committee:

Sarika Bose  
Sessional Lecturer (Continuing)  
English  
UBC Vancouver  

Sarika Bose is a continuing sessional lecturer in the Faculty of Arts. She was Chair of her department’s Sessional Committee for 6 years, and she is currently the Chair of the UBC Faculty Association Contract Faculty Committee, Chair of the CAUT (Can Assoc of University Teachers) CAS Committee, which represents contract academics across Canada, and serves on the national CAUT Board.

At UBC, Dr. Bose has been putting several initiatives into action to support contingent faculty. Monthly pedagogy workshops in partnership with CTLT bring together experts to share innovative research and practice. An annual Research Colloquium and publication display, in partnership with UBC Library, showcases research and supports collaborative scholarship. Regular networking events sponsored by the FA CAS Committee bring together contract faculty across UBC. Under Dr. Bose, UBC’s Fair Employment Week activities have become the benchmark in Canada and have inspired record numbers of other campuses to celebrate Fair Employment Week. Dr. Bose has also created the Lower Mainland Coalition for Fair Employment Week, with several member-campuses, as well FPSE and CUFA BC.

Dr. Bose has contributed to strengthening and informing local, national, and international coalitions, giving invited talks at the international Coalition for Contract Academic Labour (COCAL), the national Harry Crowe Foundation Conference, the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators in B.C. (FPSE), the Kwantlen Polytechnic University Faculty Association, the Conference on Precarious Academic Labour at the Okanagan College Faculty Association, the inaugural Academic Freedom Conference at the University of Alberta Faculty Association, the Equity Conference at the UBC Faculty Association, the University of Toronto Faculty Association, and the Contract Faculty Conference at CAUT.

The UBC FA’s Contract Faculty Committee encourages involvement with as many contract faculty as possible at both UBC-V and UBC-O, by providing cross-campus member networking events, such as sponsoring speakers and conference attendance, showcasing contract faculty publications from both campuses, and organizing member lunches for both campuses during Fair Employment Week. Plans to organize more activities that bring together Contract Faculty from both campuses are already in motion, and the Contract Faculty Committee welcomes greater collaboration and communication across both populations.

“I am running for re-election because I would like the opportunity to continue to serve my colleagues and to expand these initiatives I have put in place. Feeling isolated, powerless, and invisible is the fate of too many contract faculty at UBC, but I have found some ways to help bind us together, give us a voice, and help us feel empowered in our work. I hope that we can keep moving forward together.”