

## **Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association**

**Meeting date: April 3, 2013**

**Call to order:** A General Meeting of the MRFA was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on April 3, 2013. The meeting convened at 4:05pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Kit Dobson, Communications Officer.

### **Members in attendance:**

See attached Attendance Sheets

**Agenda:** Approved

### **Approval of minutes:**

Motion was made by Gerry Cross to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2013. **Motion carried.**

### **Officer's Reports**

President's Report

#### 1. Budget Development and Mandate Letter

Members discussed the position of Campus and E-Campus Alberta, the expectations letters, the potential for salary cuts or increasing MRFA dues to subsidize the university, drafting an open letter to the public, and drafting a letter to MRU's Board of Governors.

Motion THAT the MRFA write an open letter to the Calgary Herald, to be published by virtue of purchasing space, which shall articulate the values of PSE at MRU and provide statistics in support of the message.

Moved: Jane Drover

Seconded: Kelly Hewson

Discussion:

-It would be best to send this by April 8, but April 9 is the latest it could be sent.

-David Clemis, Richard Sutherland, Janice Paskey, and members of the Advocacy Committee will draft this letter.

Called the Question, Scott Murray

Vote

Carried

Vote on motion, to replace motion above, to write a letter to the citizens of Alberta describing the value of PSE, particularly in relation to MRU, which is to be distributed to all local media and the Globe and Mail

Carried, one abstention

Motion THAT the MRFA draft a letter to be sent to the MRU Board of Governors outlining some of the faculty concerns with the letter of expectation and the University's budget plans.

Moved: Roberta Lexier

Seconded: Kelly Hewson

Discussion: This needs to be sent before April 11

Vote

Carried Unanimously

#### 2. ACIFA Survey Results

The survey results are posted [online](#).

#### 3. LAPP Report

Our pension plan is in good shape compared to all other Alberta pension plans, but we still have a deficit caused by the market collapse in 2008. Approximately 30% of our contributions are now going toward reducing the unfunded liability. LAPP's goal is to have the plan fully funded in the next 15 years.

## **Committee Reports**

1. Organization Committee  
Changes will be proposed at the AGM pertaining to the VP Policy position and the relationship between the Negotiating Committee and the Executive Board. Once these changes have been reviewed by the Executive Board, they will be posted online for members' consideration.
2. Awards Committee  
The MRFA's ad hoc Awards Committee has developed two teaching awards: one for full time and one for contract faculty. The committee has also developed a formal procedure for the MRFA's Distinguished Service Award. Both documents are available [online](#) and will be brought to the membership for approval at the AGM.
3. Child Care Committee  
The committee developed another survey to assess child care needs but determined that this is not the right time to administer it. The survey will be sent to members, and hopefully staff and students, in the Fall.

## **New Business**

1. Contract Faculty PD Claims:  
The form is available on the [website](#) and it lists all the eligible expenses. Members are asked to encourage sessional colleagues to apply for this funding.
2. Funding for Advisors and Coordinators  
There is money in the Collective Agreement for advising and coordinating but some faculty are being told not to use it, that it has all been spent or that it is to be reduced. If asked to cut this members need to argue that it is protected in the Collective Agreement (14.9.1.4).

## **Announcements**

### Rally Supporting Post Secondary Education

The Student Empowerment Committee has organized a rally on April 10 at 10:00am. Faculty are invited to participate in the rally and are asked to encourage their students to participate. Also, there is a meeting on Friday April 5 at 1:30pm in the Faculty Centre to talk about strategies faculty may want to pursue.

The MRFA's AGM is on Friday May 10, 9:00am – 2:00pm in Jenkins Theatre (I115).

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:06pm.

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Communications Officer  
Mount Royal Faculty Association

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Date of approval