

MINUTES of the Mount Royal Faculty Association
Meeting date: December 3, 2010

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on December 3, 2010. The meeting convened at 11:00am, President Gerry Cross presiding, and Rod Corbett secretary.

Members in attendance:

Rafik Kurji
David Sabiston
Rod Corbett
Gerry Cross
David Hyttenrauch
Kelly Hewson
Gerard Lucyshyn
Qasim Syed

Members not in attendance:

Cari Merkley

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2010 meeting. **Motion carried.**

Agenda

Added to New Business
Setting up a Pay Pal Account for the MRFA
Ad-hoc committee on General Violations of the Collective Agreement

Officers' reports:

President

1. Sub-Committee on Budget and Curriculum Approval Policy

- a) Reviewed budgets for the last four years and the projected budget for this year
 - Conclusions:
Some economies are required to pay for TSS and the new Professor Grid, and possibly to pay for smaller third and fourth year courses.
- b) Discussion
- c) At the moment we will take no further action on this

2. CAUT Report.

- See President's report (pg. 3) in the December 1 Monthly Report

3. CAUT Academic Freedom fund

- a) Background
- b) Should the MRFA pledge money to the Academic Freedom Fund?
 - Discussion.
- c) We will discuss further in January and bring a recommended amount to the General Meeting in January

4. Report on Meeting with SAMRU Exec

- a) MRFA Interests
 1. Developing Goals and Lobbying
 - Develop a common message and have individual associations/ faculty lobbying at the riding level to try to establish some long terms goals for

the Alberta post secondary learning system, such as having our tuition fees in the lowest third of the provincial average, and that we try to work with the students and the Universities to achieve these goals

- Each member of the exec should develop two or three sample goals and we will meet with them again sometime in January
 - The MRFA and SAMRU can agree on 6 goals or so would make communicating the goals to other associations and ACIFA much more effective.
- 2. Request from CAUT Council
 - They have requested that during the next federal election (which they think will happen between February and late spring) we hold an all candidates forum. They will send us a package of information that will help us organize this.
 - We will work with the students to organize this.
- b) SAMRU Interests
 - 1. Sustainability Committee
 - They have a sustainability committee driven primarily by the students and they want to have an MRFA rep on it. This does not have to be from the executive though it could be.
 - Gerry will get more information from them and we will send out a call for volunteers—stating that the MRFA supports this initiative and wants to be more involved: we are looking for someone to participate at the invitation of the SAMRU
 - 2. SEIs
 - They do not like the fact that faculty get to chose classes that they get SEIs done in
 - It biases the data set as people will generally have the courses evaluated that are going to be good.
 - The place to talk about this is through their representatives on Faculty Councils & GFC
 - They brought it up to Gerry because they thought it was a CA issue
 - Article 4.1.6 “All employees shall be evaluated according to the existing policies and procedures in place for each category of appointment.”
 - Since the word “existing” is here it means that such policies and procedures need to be approved first by the bargaining teams. We need to keep our involvement here.

5. Recognition of Part-time Semesters Prior to September 1, 1999

- This is done now. A total of 48 PT members had semesters prior to this date credited. Some of these were already on step five but it will help them get to step six next year, others were not immediately effected, and quite a few got grid steps and will receive back-pay for this term.
- Apparently they are planning to shred some of their old records.
 - Gerry will inquire about this
- If there are any faculty members effected by non-monetary issues (i.e. Long Service Awards) have them contact Gerry.

6. Step 1 Grievance Report

- No further info available on the grievance discussed at last meeting
- There are two other grievances at step 1

7. Presidential Search Committee

- a) Benchmarking Exercise was disappointing
 - There was a short list meeting scheduled for December 17 but it has been

deferred to January (this is four weeks over Christmas so the list may not improve)

- This is far too important an appointment to accept someone who we are not sure about

Unfinished business:

Communications Policy Approval

Motion to Adopt the Communications Policy

Moved David Hyttenrauch

Gerard moved to amend:

- 1.a.1 add another point “e. the distribution of the Part-time Issues Update and the Did You Know...”
 - Discussion
- Vote
- Defeated

Clarification regarding divisive issues and consultation with members: is this all members or members of the exec.

- Leaving it as it is allows anyone who has an issue to feel free to bring it forward.

Gerard moved to amend c. 1. ii. 1. Add Reports

Vote

Carried

Vote on approving the Communication Policy as amended

Carried unanimously

New business:

1. Voting Procedure Review

- Members of the exec to consider the suggestions included in the doc.
 - Mail ballots allowed for ratification votes for people who are out of town
 - Online voting for MRFA committees but not for the executive.
- Discussion:
 - However we do it we need a record of who voted
 - Sub-committee

Gerry moves that we form a sub-committee composed of Gerard, Rod, and Gerry to explore online voting procedures.

Vote

Carried

2. Part Time Benefits (16.8.1.1)

- Gerry will discuss this with Bill on Monday
- This could also go to the CA interpretation committee

3. Vision Statement Review

- We will create an ad-hoc committee to revisit and possibly revise the MRFA vision statement. Members: Gerry Cross, Kelly Hewson and other volunteers from the membership.
- We will initiate this in January and it is to be completed by the AGM

4. Ethics Committee

a) Vacant Position Winter 2011

- Gerry will ask David Clemis, Shiraz Kurji and Karim Dharamsi if they would

- like to be appointed to the committee for the Winter term
- b) **Ethics Committee Budget Request**
Gerry moves that the MRFA Executive support, in principle, the provision of a budget for the Ethics committee for training purposes.
Seconded Gerard
Vote
Carried

5. MRFA and MRSSA Executive meetings with Dean of Health and Community Studies candidates 11:15 – 12:00 on December 8-10

6. MRFA and MRSSA Executive meetings with AVP Enrolment Management candidates 11:15 – 12:00 on January 10, 11, 12 and 13

- All interested exec members to attend (no more than 4 or 5) in room 1 RSVP to Chantelle

7. Department visits

- MPE: December 10 at 1030 Kelly to attend with Qasim
- Advanced Specialty Health: Dec 17 Gerry and Gerard

8. PayPal Account

- Rafik meeting with Alice to discuss the possibility of setting up a PayPal account
- Other options: e-mail money transfer/ using the ticket office
- Will look into this further

9. Ad hoc committee

- Deferred

10. Department visit action items

- Deferred

11. Part-time Service Honoraria Form

Motion to approve the revised form

Vote

Carried

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

Secretary
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval