

Campaign Statement for MRFA President – Marc Schroeder (Computer Science and Information Systems)

It is my sincere hope that I will be given the privilege of serving you as MRFA President at the AGM on May 9.

I have been a proud faculty member at Mount Royal for over twelve years, and received tenure in 2005. Throughout my time here, it has been obvious that our Association has had a strong, positive influence on the quality of our work life. Prior to being elected to the MRFA Executive Board in 2012, I often said that I slept better at night knowing the Association and its representatives were working on my behalf. Now, having spent two years on the Executive, I am even more convinced of the Association's necessary role. I am seeking the position of President so that I can play my part in continuing this work. As someone who intends to remain faculty at our university for a few decades to come, I have a keen interest in helping to make Mount Royal as faculty-friendly as possible.

Despite the importance of a President's duties, it is not my belief that the strength of our Association derives from the strength of an individual, nor even primarily from the strength of the Executive Board, although of course having a dedicated Executive is vital. Fundamentally, our core strength derives from the entire membership as a collective: the extent to which our Regular Members participate in the Association, engage with institutional governance and are politically aware is the extent to which we can be a significant force. It is true that there are many matters the Executive Officers attend to so that most members don't have to. But, my foremost vision for the Presidency to be someone who fosters the participation of all members.

To this role I bring experience in academic leadership at the GFC level, including as a past Chair of the Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee. I also bring several years of active participation in the MRFA. This includes multiple terms on our Educational Grants Committee, including a year as its Chair, multiple terms on our Bylaws Committee as Chair, and two years on the MRFA Executive Board as a Member at Large. I have performed various duties as a member of the Executive. These include representing the Association on the five-year Tenure and Promotion Review Steering Committee. They also include the initiation, together with our other Member at Large, of an Association outreach to new members.

Campaign Statement for MRFA Treasurer – Shiraz Kurji (Accounting)

I have served as the MRFA Treasurer for the past year and a half and look forward to continuing in this role if elected. I am a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) with many years of experience in industry and as faculty member at Mount Royal University. In my professional capacity, I have had the privilege of working on the boards of various not-for-profit organizations as director, treasurer and president. I am familiar with the financial reporting and budget requirements of such organizations. I have always maintained that sound financial record keeping and reporting are the key cornerstones of a well managed and administered organization. In the past few years, the financial records and reporting of the MRFA have been very well administered by a very capable team of effective treasurers and with the tireless assistance of Chantelle Anderson. I would aim to continue with this positive trend.

It is with a genuine desire to keep the financial affairs of your Faculty Association organized and healthy that I have put my name forward for the position of treasurer. I believe I have the qualifications and the experience to be able to handle the task.

Campaign Statement for MRFA Communications Officer – Richard Sutherland (Policy Studies)

I have spent the past two years as a member of the Mount Royal Faculty Association Communication committee, working with committed and insightful colleagues from different parts of the institution. I would welcome the opportunity to continue this work as the next Communication Officer for the MRFA

As Communications Officer for the Mount Royal Faculty Association, I will work to increase the engagement of all our members, full-time and contract, across all faculties. I will work with the committee, the executive and members to ensure that the interests and positions of the association and, above all, the value of its members' contributions are clearly articulated and effectively conveyed to the institution and to the wider community in Calgary and Alberta.

**Campaign Statement for MRFA Member at Large – Tracy Powell (Nursing)
Member at Large Bissett School of Business, Faculty of Communication Studies, Faculty of Health and Community Studies and the Library.**

My name is Tracy Powell and I am seeking re-election for a the position of Member at Large -Bissett School of Business, Faculty of Communication Studies, Faculty of Health and Community Studies and the Library. I am an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, and have been a full-time faculty member at Mount Royal since 2006. Since that time, I have been an active faculty member both at the department level and in the MRFA including being part of the 2010-2012 Negotiating Committee and currently as the First Year Curriculum Lead in the Bachelor of Nursing program. For the 2013-2014 academic year I also held a one-year term for the position of Member-at-Large on the MRFA Executive Board and during this year, I was able to gain insight into the role and was an active participant in achieving the goals established by the MRFA Executive Board. While in the Member-at-Large position, I was also the Executive member representative on the Faculty Centre Management Committee.

After having only one year in the role, I am seeking re-election as Member at Large -Bissett School of Business, Faculty of Communication Studies, Faculty of Health and Community Studies and the Library in order to build on experience and initiatives including the 'New Faculty Outreach' program. If re-elected, I will continue to be an advocate and strong voice for our members. Thank you for your consideration of my nomination for the position of 'Member-at-Large'.

Sincerely,
Tracy Powell

Candidates for Member at Large from the Faculty of Arts, Teaching and Learning, Science and Technology, or Counselling

Campaign Statement for MRFA Member at Large – April McGrath (Psychology)

My name is April McGrath and I would like to serve as a Member at Large for the MRFA. I began working at MRU in 2011 as an assistant professor in the Psychology Department. In addition to being active within my department, I have served as a member of GFC and the Assessment Seminar for the past two years. I would like to extend my service contributions by being part of the MRFA Executive because I have great respect for Gerry and the other faculty members who do the incredibly important work of the association. I care deeply about post-secondary education and the efforts of the MRFA to voice the concerns of faculty. Thank you for your consideration of my nomination.

Campaign Statement for MRFA Member at Large – Michael Truscello (English)

Below, I outline some of my recent forms of service to the MRFA, the university, and the Department of English. I am cross-appointed in English and General Education, and could serve on behalf of either Arts or FoTL. I have strived in the past four years at MRU to advocate for a variety of forms of social justice. I believe our vision of the university must be congruent with our vision of society.

How, for example, can we as educational workers pretend to educate young people on the nature of a just society, when we ourselves have been stripped of the right to unionize? How can we as university faculty lecture students about racial, gender, and sexual equality, when our own ranks, and the ranks of administrators especially, do not reflect the diversity of the country and community in which we live? How can we as employees of an institution that accepts large financial donations from corporations that destroy the environment and abuse human rights tell our students and community members to be vigilant regarding such abuses, if we have not done enough to change such practices in our own house?

For the past two years, I have served on the MRFA Advocacy Committee. In that time, I organized visiting lectures by Michael Ma of Kwantlen Polytechnic University, who spoke on the issue of racism in Canadian higher education, and Harsha Walia, a noted social justice advocate who discussed advocating for a sustainable world as part of the Sustainability Week conference put on by SAMRU. I have also organized with MRU students to fight the budget cuts and advocate for accessible, affordable, and socially just higher education in Alberta.

This year, I also served the MRFA on the Job Action Committee. We discussed the affordances and constraints of our labour situation at MRU, in particular what legal actions may be taken by members if management should become intransigent in negotiations. Given the very limited and ineffectual range of possible actions under the current laws, I support a constitutional challenge to the provincial law that prohibits our right to unionize and strike.

I recently completed a two-year appointment to the Scholarship Review Committee. I was also the Undergraduate Adviser for First Year Students in English this past year.

As a member of the Women's Studies at MRU Working Group for the past two years, I filmed and edited a four-minute promotional video for the Women's Studies program. This video, recently completed, includes interviews with students, notable Calgary landmarks, and famous feminists in Canada and abroad. Women's Studies would like to use the video as a basic introduction to its program.