

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: February 13, 2015

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on February 13, 2015. The meeting convened at 10:30am, President Marc Schroeder.

Members Present:

Scott Murray
Tracy Powell
Richard Sutherland
Brenda Lang
Marc Schroeder

Andreas Tomaszewski
Karen Manarin
Shiraz Kurji
Elaine Mullen

Members not present:

April McGrath

Agenda

Approved

Minutes

Motion was made by Marc Schroeder to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2015 meeting as amended. Motion Carried

In Camera Session, Grievance Reports

VP Grievance Officer's Report

Officers' reports

Presidents Report

Updates

1. Arbitration Preparation
A final draft of our arbitration submission will be sent to our lawyer for review in March.
2. MoU Committee Work
The original ratification deadlines were March 1. These have been pushed back to March 10. This gives us time for the March 6 Special Meeting and for online voting.
3. Advocacy Week and Related efforts
The week went fairly well with good attendance and participation in most of the events, and there was some significant media coverage. To increase coverage in the future we need to build relationships and follow up with the media.
4. Code of Conduct Policy Draft
PEC dismissed most of the input provided by Marc and Scott. The draft is very broad and could be enforceable through discipline. The MRFA needs to make faculty aware of this so they can voice their concerns. It will be brought up at GFC and will be discussed at the March General Meeting.
5. Planned Reorganization of Academic Affairs
Scott and Marc recommended a joint committee to look at the effects of the reorganization on the Collective Agreement. Randy drafted an MoU on this and the committee is to be struck.

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the appointment of three of the following members, in order of preference and pending their availability, to the Joint Committee on the Academic Affairs Reorganization Committee: Marc Schroeder, Lee Easton, Jennifer Boman, Roberta Lexier, Melanie Rathburn.
Moved: Andreas Tomaszewski
Seconded: Tracy Powell
Vote
Carried Unanimously
6. Right to Strike or Unionize
Recent rulings in the Supreme Court may impact Faculty Associations in Alberta. Further legal counsel is required before any action could be considered.

Academic Liaison Officer's Report

1. Faculty Caucuses

These are working better than in previous years. ALC members will be asked to track councillors' attendance at Caucus and report on this in the Committee's Annual Report. ALC members will also be given email lists for their Faculties to assist in promoting the caucuses.

2. Pre-GFC meetings

These are going well, more people are coming, more people are informed and engaged, and they are bringing forward important issues at their Faculty Councils.

3. Open House

The Committee had an open house on February 6 which was well attended. There is another one scheduled on April 17, 2:30 - 3:30.

APTC Update:

The committee is in the final stages of updating forms for tenure and promotion.

Unfinished Business

1. Ad hoc Contract Faculty Committee

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the creation of an ad hoc contract faculty advisory committee.

Moved: Richard Sutherland

Seconded: Scott Murray

Discussion and charter revision

Vote

Carried Unanimously

Appointments to the Committee deferred to February 27

2. Appointment to Communications Committee

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board Appoint Brenda Lang to the Communications Committee till June 14, 2015.

Moved: Richard Sutherland

Seconded: Andreas Tomaszewski

Vote

Carried

New Business

1. MRFA Input to the Academic Scheduling Committee

Deferred

2. Teaching and Learning Grant Information Session

If members want to pursue this research it is their right to do so: the MRFA cannot have a position against this. We can speak to it if it comes up at a meeting.

3. Chief Negotiators' Workshop

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board authorize the expense of sending a member of the Negotiating Committee to the CAUT Negotiators' Workshop. The committee is to select the attendee.

Moved: Brenda Lang

Seconded: Scott Murray

Discussion

Vote

Carried

4. ACIFA Climate Survey Results

This information is to be kept confidential within the institution till ACIFA makes it public. Marc will discuss the results with David.

5. Faculty Centre Hiring

Darlene has officially submitted her resignation effective September 14, 2015.

a. Position Description

Deferred

- b. Search Committee Charter
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the Charter for the MRFA Search Committee

- Moved: Brenda Lang
 - Seconded: Shiraz Kurji
 - Vote
 - Carried

- c. Appointment to Search Committee
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board appoint Melanie Peacock to the Search Committee

- Moved: Scott Murray
 - Seconded: Karen Manarin
 - Vote
 - Carried

- 6. Recommendation to Upgrade Website
Deferred

- 7. MRFA Budget, Directions and priorities.

- Chantelle and Shiraz are working on the next year's budget with the goal to increase funds for negotiations, arbitration, and legal defence. We also need to budget for decreased member dues. A draft of the budget will come forward at the next Executive Board meeting

- 8. March GM Agenda
Agenda revised

- 9. Planning Upcoming Meeting topics
Topics considered for meeting with the MRSA.
Others deferred.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.

Communications Officer,
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval