

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: January 13, 2017

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on January 13, 2017. The meeting convened at 2:30pm, President, Marc Schroeder, presiding.

Members Present:

David Clemis
Lee Easton
Brenda Lang

Roberta Lexier
Shiraz Kurji
Allison MacKenzie
Guy Obrecht

Sabrina Reed
Marc Schroeder
Jennifer Solinas

Approval of Agenda

Added: COFAS Travel Expense and Donation Request Approval – New Business item 12
Approved

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Marc Schroeder to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2016 Executive Board meeting, as amended. Motion Carried.

Business Arising

1. December 13, 2016 Meeting with Michael Quinn, AVP RS&CE, Regarding Funding Opportunities for Contract Faculty
At the request of the membership, Marc and Guy met with Michael Quinn in December to discuss funding opportunities for contract faculty. Some possibilities were considered and will be discussed further by the appropriate groups.

Unfinished Business

1. Appointments
 - a. Contract Faculty Advisory Committee (×1 remaining)
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board appoint Kris Hans to the Contract Faculty Advisory Committee, pending confirmation from Kris.
Moved: Guy Obrecht - Seconded: Allison Mackenzie
Vote – Carried Unanimously
 - b. MRFA Representatives (×3) on Joint Diversity and Equity Committee as per Collective Agreement Article 24.3
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board appoint Tom Buchanan, Christian Cook and Rachael Pettigrew to the Joint Diversity and Equity Committee.
Moved: Allison Mackenzie - Seconded: Roberta Lexier
Discussion
Vote – Carried Unanimously
 - c. MRFA Standing Committee Vacancies
Deferred

New Business

1. Appointment
 - a. MRFA Awards Committee, Member Emeritus
Marc will discuss this with a potential member to see if they are interested.
2. Interfund Transfer Approval
 - a. \$84,000 for Educational Grants and Contract Service Honorarium
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board Approve the transfer of \$84,000 from the Operating Fund to the Grants Fund for the 2016-2017 Tuition Refunds and Contract Service Honoraria.
Moved: Brenda Lang - Seconded: Sabrina Reed
Discussion
Vote - Carried Unanimously
3. Travel Authorizations (budget estimate att.)

- a. CAUT Forum for Chief Negotiators, March 31 – April 1, Ottawa
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve expenses for sending Lee Easton to the CAUT Chief Negotiators Workshop in Ottawa.
Moved: Sabrina Reed - Seconded: Roberta Lexier
Discussion
Vote - Carried Unanimously
- b. CAUT 4th Equity Conference, February 24-25, Toronto (att.)
Marc will inquire with the three MRFA appointees to the Joint Diversity and Equity Committee. If one of them is able to attend, we may then consider approving the expenditure.
- c. CUFABC University Governance Conference, March 3-4, Vancouver (att.)
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve expenses for sending Allison Mackenzie to the CUFABC University Governance Conference, March 3-4, in Vancouver.
Moved: Sabrina Reed - Seconded: Shiraz Kurji
Discussion
Vote - Carried unanimously: 1 abstention
4. CRA Signing Authorization
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approves the delegation of authority to the Association's Executive Assistant, Chantelle Anderson. THAT Chantelle Anderson shall be the Association's Authorized Representative with the Canada Revenue Agency
Moved: Allison Mackenzie - Seconded: Shiraz Kurji
Discussion
Vote - Carried Unanimously
5. Review of Contract Service Honorarium Form (att.)
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the Contract Service Honorarium form as revised and with amendments.
Moved: Guy Obrecht - Seconded: Jennifer Solinas
Discussion:
 - We will announce this change at the AGM and the new process will be implemented in the 2017-2018 academic year.
 - Funding will be allocated at the end of each May for the Summer/Fall/Winter/Spring periodVote - Carried Unanimously
6. Compassionate Fund Report
 - a. 2015-2016 Fiscal Year (att.)
 - b. 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Interim Report (att.)Reports were presented and discussed.
7. January Regular Meeting Draft Agenda (att.)
The agenda was discussed and revised. Further changes or additions are to be submitted to Marc by email.
8. Proposal for Executive Board-Sponsored Session at PD Retreat
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve, to the maximum of \$1,000, the travel, accommodation and food expenses for the President of the University of Manitoba Faculty Association to attend the MRFA Spring Retreat and participate in an MRFA panel on strike preparedness.
Moved: Roberta Lexier - Seconded: Lee Easton
Discussion
Vote - Carried Unanimously
9. MRU Sexual Violence Policy Draft (atts.)

This is a good policy, but some clarification is needed around application, process, and confidentiality. Sabrina will circulate a draft MRFA response to the Executive. Input on the Policy and the response is to be sent to Sabrina

10. Discussion of MRFA Bylaws Relating to the Advocacy Committee (att.)
Deferred
11. Executive Board Meetings with Administrators
The Executive Board will meet with the President, Provost, Dean of Bissett, and the Dean of Science and Technology during the winter term.
12. COFAS Request
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve expenses for Chantelle to attend the COFAS June 2017 Conference in Banff.
Moved: Allison Mackenzie - Seconded: Jennifer Solinas
Vote - Carried Unanimously

In Camera Session

President's Report, Grievance Report, and Negotiations Update

Officers' Report

President's Report

1. Update: MRU Code of Conduct
The draft version will be going out for consultation soon; however, the proposed timeline should be moved up so it can go to the February meeting of the Board of Governors.
2. Update: MRFA Submission to Government Tuition Consultation
The MRFA's feedback was submitted to the government in December.
3. Update: MRFA Submission to MRU Task Force on Student Evaluation of Learning
The MRFA's input was submitted to the Jim Zimmer in December.
4. Update: MRU 2017-2022 Academic Plan
The working document will be sent to faculty by January 17 and there will town halls on January 18-19. Faculty will be encouraged to attend.
5. Update: Provost and Dean HCE Searches
The Dean position was posted and candidates were shortlisted for the Provost position.
6. Outstanding Department Visits
We will be scheduling four outstanding department visits this winter.
7. Member Census
Brenda, Marc and Chantelle will work on this
8. Other
Post Doc employees will not be represented by the MRFA or MRSA.

Advocacy Officer's Report

1. Op. Ed. on Value of Higher Education (att.)
This was submitted to newspapers and will be in the Calgary Herald on January 14.
2. Plans for Advocacy Week
Advocacy week will be March 13 – 17. There will be a panel discussion at the John Dutton Theatre at the Calgary Public Library on who should pay for PSE.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

Communications Officer,
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval