

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association
Meeting date: January 27, 2017

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on January 27, 2017. The meeting convened at 2:30pm, President, Marc Schroeder, presiding

Members Present:

Marc Schroeder
Jennifer Solinas
Guy Obrecht
Allison Mackenzie
Shiraz Kurji

Sabrina Reed
Brenda Lang
Lee Easton
David Clemis (3:00pm)
Members not present:
Roberta Lexier

Agenda

Added: Inviting Guest to PSGC Session on IP
Messaging Related to Transitioning to the New Tenure System
Revised: Appointment to Contract Faculty Advisory Committee removed
Next Meeting: RS&CE - Funding Opportunities for Contract Faculty
Approved

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Marc Schroeder to approve the minutes of the January 13 and January 19, 2017 Executive Board meetings, as amended. Motion Carried.

Business Arising

1. Letter to MRU Board of Governors
Deferred

2. Travel Authorization: CAUT 4th Equity Conference, February 24-25, Toronto
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the expenses for Christian Cook to attend the CAUT Equity Conference.
Moved: Brenda Lang
Seconded: Sabrina Reed
Discussion
Vote – Carried Unanimously

Unfinished Business

1. Appointments
 - a. MRFA Awards Committee, Member Emeritus
Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board appoint Marlene Kingsmith as Member Emeritus on the MRFA Awards Committee
Moved: Allison Mackenzie
Seconded: Jennifer Solinas
Vote – Carried Unanimously
 - b. MRFA Standing Committee Vacancies
The Committee Contact list will be updated and the Executive Board will consider filling Committee vacancies.

2. Discussion of MRFA Bylaws Relating to the Advocacy Committee
Deferred

New Business

1. Committee Charter Approvals

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the charter revisions for the Nominations Committee, Professional Standards and Governance Committee, Grievance Committee, and Academic Liaison Committee.

Moved: Lee Easton

Seconded: Brenda Lang

Discussion

Vote – Carried Unanimously

2. Report from CAUT New Activists Workshop
Christian Cook attended this workshop in the Fall and provided a report summarizing the activities at the workshop.
3. Topics for Meetings with Senior Administrators
 - a. February 8, Jeff Goldberg
Potential topics to be sent to Chantelle and Marc.
 - b. February 24, David Docherty
 - c. March 10, Elizabeth Evans
 - d. March 24, Jonathan Withey
Deferred
4. Issue Regarding Taxation of Benefits
A potential change in tax legislation will result in all portions of health benefits being recorded as taxable income. This is not an MRFA matter and the Association will not be involved in communicating it to members; however, messaging the University sends out should not be supportive of the interests of a private insurance company.
5. MRU Policy Consultations
 - a. Sexual Violence Policy Draft
This is a good policy overall, though there are still some improvements which could be made. Sabrina will submit the MRFA's response on January 28, 2017.
 - b. Code of Conduct
The MRFA will submit a response, to be drafted by Sabrina based on feedback from members of the Executive Board.
6. Guest at PSGC Event
The MRFA Executive Board agreed that certain members of the MRU community should be allowed to attend MRFA events as appropriate.
7. Messaging Related to Transitioning to the New Tenure System
While there is uncertainty in some departments regarding this transition and the implementation of online dossiers, the Collective Agreement is clear that the tenure criteria for the full probationary period are the criteria in place when hired. Moving to the online dossier does not change the criteria.

In Camera Session

President's Report

Grievance Report (Vice-President, Policy and Senior Grievance Officer)

Negotiations Report (Vice-President, Negotiations)

Officers' Reports

President's Report

1. Update: MRFA Submission to MRU Task Force on Student Evaluation of Learning
An updated draft has been developed and will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting with the MRFA Executive Board and Faculty Evaluation Committee.

2. Update: Provost and Dean HCE Searches
The second round of interviews for Provost Candidates have been delayed: the rescheduled interviews cannot be held during reading week.
The dean appointment committee will be shortlisting next week.
3. Budget Advisory Committee / Strategic Enrolment Management
Decisions with academic impacts should be considered at GFC and should be in accordance with MRU's Academic Plan.
4. Outstanding Department Visits
There are three department meetings to be scheduled.
5. Member Census
Deferred
6. Association Organization and Planning
Deferred
7. CAUT Staff Strike
CAUT staff are doing rotating strikes and have withdrawn service for forums and conferences.
8. Other

Advocacy Officer's Report

1. Plans for Advocacy Week
Deferred

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20pm.

Communications Officer,
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval