

MINUTES of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: January 21, 2011

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on January 21, 2010. The meeting convened at 11:00am, President Gerry Cross presiding, and Rod Corbett secretary.

Members in attendance:

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

Agenda

The last 30 min for closed session

Accessing Deans Comments on Annual Reports added under Unfinished Business

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2011 meeting. **Motion carried as amended.**

Officers' reports:

President

Round Table Report

If anyone has anything they want included send to Gerry before Monday

Business Arising

1. Ranking Items to be sent to the Negotiating Committee

Top four Executive Priorities in order as they appear in the Collective Agreement

- All Definitions and Titles
- All of the Part-time Issues
- Language around Tenure and Promotion: Revised Article 11
- Appointments and Duties of chairs and Assistant Chairs

2. Fixed-Term Part-time Appointment Payroll Errors

- Gerry got emails from four Fixed-term Part-time members
 - For two of them the error came from HR not having a form that states which courses are included in the 384 and which are classified as overload.
 - Gerry is meeting with another member on Monday to discuss her payment.
 - The fourth Fixed-term Part-time member who initially responded has not sent any more information to Gerry
- Gerard also spoke to a few Part-time faculty with payroll issues
 - One member's concerns may result from an issue with HR or from the member not understanding how she should get paid

- Another member's contracts were not submitted in time
 - Gerry will meet with her.
- Discussion:
 - Gerard to provide Gerry with more info or direct the member to Gerry
 - Future cases will be dealt with on a case by case basis, if a trend appears (and upon further investigation regarding the dates the documents were signed) it may be sent to Robin to solve it through the Dean

Unfinished business:

1. Department Visit Action Items

Deferred

2. CAUT Academic Freedom Fund: Recommendation from Mgmt Committee

\$5,000 donation now with \$1,000 budgeted donation per year for five years

This is in part a recommendation and also to provide a basis for exec to discuss

Process:

- The Committee took the average pledge per member at institutions of comparable size (\$24.00)
- Applied this amount to Full-time members which came to \$10,000
- We cut this in half since we are not an individual member: we are a federated member
- To show our commitment to CAUT we contribute the remaining half over the next five years

Discussion

Cari Moves THAT the Executive recommends to the membership that the MRFA donate \$5,000 to the CAUT Academic Freedom Fund this fiscal year.

No discussion

Vote

Carried

Cari Moves THAT the Executive recommends to the membership that the MRFA commit to a further contribution of \$5,000 over the next five years.

No discussion

Vote

Carried

3. Grievance Updates

Moved to Closed Session

4. Payroll Category for UofC Law Degree

Background

- Under pressure from the Law Society, the University of Calgary has renamed their law degree from LLB to JD (a doctorate). A four year Law degree is really an undergrad degree but we consider them Master's degrees
 - The components of the course are the same: only the name has changed
- Because of this change a PT member asked to be moved from the D to the E category

- There is a substantive difference between a masters and doctorate
- Robin and Gerry agree on this

Discussion

- Gerry will get more info and we will come back to this

New business:

1. Release time Accounting

- If anyone feels their release time is inadequate or excessive please meet with Gerry to discuss
 - Kelly feels there should not be release for the Faculty Representative to the Board

2. Format of Tenure Celebration

- The presentations take a long time with so many faculty getting tenure and this event is taking a significant portion of the committee's overall budget
 - All tenured members could be announced by exec in the future to make it shorter
 - The board could fund this event partially: the board grants tenure
 - Exec buys a couple bottles and Robin buys a keg and the food comes from SEC
- We will come back to this at some point

3. ACIFA PAC Representative

- Elaine has represented the MRFA on ACIFA's PAC for many years and she is phasing out of ADC and going to half time re-appointment in English. Rod has been going with Elaine for phasing in: ACIFA will pay for one member's travel expenses (currently Elaine). Will the MRFA pay for Rod to go to these.
- Discussion

Gerry Moves THAT the MRFA fund Rod's expenses to attend ACIFA's PAC meeting in Edmonton on March 5 2011

Seconded Rafik Kurji

Discussion

Vote

Carried

1 opposed 1 abstention

4. Spring PD Retreat Presentation on Bicameral Governance

- Topics:
 - Convey what exactly is GFC supposed to do and how this does not always coincide with faculty interests. Why do GFCs not work and what we can do to make them work better.
 - Issues with Academic and Budgetary Decisions and how should they be dealt with
 - Knowing the principles of Robert's Rules makes the details follow naturally
 - Should there be faculty caucuses (reporting back to faculty councils)

- Possible presenters:
 - Gerry Cross
 - Marc Schroeder
 - David Hyttenrauch
- Discussion

5. Identification of Outstanding Issues in the Draft Bylaws

Exec needs to review the procedures

Particularly we need to look at the Third Party Complaints section.

Closed Session

Management Committee Recommendations: Staff Compensation

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

Secretary
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval