

MINUTES of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: June 12, 2012

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on June 12, 2012. The meeting convened at 12:00pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Kit Dobson, Communications Officer.

Members in attendance:

Cliff Werier
Elaine Mullen
Kit Dobson
David Sabiston
Qasim Syed
Gerry Cross
Gerard Lucyshyn
Rafik Kurji

Guests, Incoming Executive Board Members

Marc Schroeder
Marnie Kramer-Kile
Scott Murray
Valerie Kinnear

Members not Present:

Pat Kostouros

Agenda

Community Consultation on Strategic Directions Document to be discussed in August
Added to President's Report: Letter to Federal Minister Regarding loss of the national archival development program

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2012 meeting. **Motion carried.**

Officer's Reports

President's Report

1. Grievance Report (Closed)
2. ACIFA Conference Report
 - Gerry did a presentation on "CAUT Policies of interest to ACIFA Members." It may be useful to discuss these topics and policies at general meetings in 2012-2013.
 - ACIFA Executive: Gerry did not run again for ACIFA's VP External
 - Letters concerning position abolishment and how it is carried out are being sent to the President and Board of Governors at Keyano, where this is particularly egregious, and to the Minister.
 - The provincial government is talking about performance based budgeting. An ACIFA Advocacy group is going to advise the government on what we think this should or should not entail and why.
3. Letter to Federal Minister Regarding Loss of National Archival Development Program
 - This letter was written on behalf of the membership which Gerry is permitted to do under the MRFA policy as it is a non partisan issue. The letter will be emailed to the Executive Board

Business Arising

1. Review of May 22, 2012 Meeting

Motion 1: Motion THAT Lee Easton receive the 2012 MRFA Distinguished Service Award, in recognition of his years of service on our Negotiating Committee.

Discussion

Vote

Carried

Motion 2: Motion THAT the MRFA Executive develop an MRFA Distinguished Service Award policy during the 2012-13 academic year.

Vote

Carried

Motion 3: Motion THAT the MRFA Executive write to the CAUT to endorse their rejection of Bill 78 as well as to endorse their previous support for the principles of the Quebec students' movement.

Discussion

Vote

Carried

Motion 4: Motion THAT the package of changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual be adopted, subject to the President's consultation with the Treasurer regarding whether the dollar figure be included, and subject to the President's consultation with the Faculty Centre Administrator about the need for a guest book.

Vote

Carried

2. Inquiries with CUPE for Individual Staffers negotiations

- Staff at other Associations have their own CUPE locals and have negotiations with the Associations. Kit was looking into this because the manual says that we provide an opportunity for our staff to unionize: this will be an item of business for next year.

New Business

1. Interfund Transfers

a) Furniture Purchase

Motion THAT the Executive Board approve the transfer of \$2,900.10 from the Building fund to the Operating fund to cover the purchase of the 60 chairs which was approved at a previous meeting.

Moved Gerry Cross

Seconded: Gerard Lucyshyn

Vote

Carried

b) Legal Costs for review of the IP Article

Motion THAT The MRFA Executive Board approve the transfer of funds from the Professional Fees / Contingency fund to the Operating fund in order to pay for the invoices related to legal review of the IP article

Moved: Gerry Cross

Seconded: Cliff Werier

Discussion

Vote

Carried

2. Negotiations Report (Closed)

3. Negotiations Support Committee

- Job action may still have some value but we need to determine where it belongs in the process of mediation/arbitration: the committee should be struck to consider this and decide how to move forward on it and how to make faculty to feel safe in participating.
- The Committee name and mandate will be revised.
- Discussion:
 - We can withdraw extra work, not necessarily service, by not working overtime etc.
 - Amend Preamble: "selected forms of service, [and information campaigns]"

Motion THAT the Negotiations Support Committee be renamed to the ad-hoc MRFA Job Action Research Committee.

Moved: Cliff Werier

Seconded: Gerry Cross

Discussion

Vote

Carried

4 in favour, 0 opposed and 2 abstentions

Motion THAT the ad-hoc MRFA Job Action Research Committee be activated in the Fall 2012.

Moved: Gerry Cross

Seconded: Kit Dobson

Vote

Carried

4 in favour, 0 opposed and 2 abstentions

4. New Faculty Support Program

- MRFA Wine & Cheese
 - August 16, 2012 2:00 – 4:00pm
 - This event will be catered by Sunterra
 - Members of the Executive Board will attend and make a short speech
 - The Members at Large will go to the orientation with Gerry if permissible. August 16, 2012 at 11:15am in EC2010.
 - Gerry will inquire about the Members at Large attending.
- First Social Event will be September 7. Chantelle will arrange this
- Other workshops will be discussed in the fall

5. Department Visits

- As soon as we are back in August, Gerry will request time at Department meetings. Gerry will go to all of the meetings, the Members at Large will go to meetings within the areas they represent and other Executive Board members can attend when available

6. Topics for Two Presidents' Discussion Series

- Topics and times to be set by labour day and publicized.
- Possible Topics:
 - Ethics approval for research studies.
 - Access copyright from the presidents' perspective
 - Role of Liberal Arts education in times of pressure toward more utilitarian and instrumental kinds of education funding
 - Difference between acrimonious debate and collegial dissent
 - Concept of University governance: educational institution or corporation?
 - balance of input in policy development
- These topics will be finalized in August

7. MRFA Representative on Diversity Plan Development

- If Scott is the Executive Board liaison with the MRFA Diversity Committee it would make sense for him to be appointed to the University's Diversity Plan Development Committee as it would provide continuity for the University's committee and continue liaison between the MRFA and University Committees.

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board appoints Scott Murray, the Executive Board Liaison to the MRFA Diversity Committee, to the Diversity Plan Development Committee.

Moved: Qasim Syed

Seconded: Gerard Lucyshyn

Vote

Carried

8. Approval of 2011-2012 Audited Financial Statements

Deferred to June 15, 2012

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Communications Officer
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval