



**Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association**  
**Meeting date: June 14, 2017**

**Call to order:** An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on June 14, 2017. The meeting convened at 12:00pm, President, Marc Schroeder, presiding.

**Members Present:**

Lee Easton  
Sabrina Reed  
David Clemis  
Brenda Lang  
Shiraz Kurji

Roberta Lexier

Guy Obrecht  
Marc Schroeder

**Absent with Regrets**

Jenn Solinas  
Allison Mackenzie

**Approval of Agenda**

Added: Business Arising item 2. Update on Annual Report System

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Marc Schroeder to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2017 Executive Board meeting as amended. Motion Carried.

**Business Arising**

1. Input to Government Consultation on ABC Review Phase 3 – PSI Roles and Mandates  
The Executive Board reviewed the draft provided by Marc and Roberta. The draft will be revised and distributed to the Executive Board for input and revision before being submitted to the government by the June 18 deadline. The MRFA submission will emphasize the difference between governance and mandate, the importance of institutional autonomy and academic freedom, and the different implications on teaching and research at BASIs and related concerns. Moving forward, we will need to advocate for legislative changes to strengthen bicameral governance

2. Update on Faculty Annual Report System

In accordance with article 12.1.3, when ITS is done implementing changes in the summer, Marc will be asked to review the system before it goes live on August 15. Further to these functional changes, the MRFA agrees that the following items can be added to the Annual report system: reporting on any institutional, provincial, national and international awards on teaching, advancing a discipline or higher education and reporting on recognition of leadership in undergraduate teaching. Reporting on “peer reviewed publications by undergraduate authors under faculty supervision,” however, may fall under 12.1.2 and the Joint Interpretation Committee may be asked to consider this. In the interim this additional item of reporting can be added to the system as requested, not required, information.

Workshops will be provided in August to assist faculty in filling out the Annual Report. Jim Zimmer is considering how questions of an academic nature be answered at these sessions.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Discussion of a Letter of Understanding re: the Tenure and Promotion Handbook  
The Executive Board agreed that an LoU was unnecessary at this time. There is common understanding of the matters identified and in the unlikely event that one of these issues leads to a grievance it will be handled at that time.

**New Business**

1. Approval of MRFA Office Staffing Plans for 2017-2018
  - a. Office Staff Position Descriptions  
Motion THAT the Executive Board approve the committee charter and job descriptions subject to clarification of item 7 and confirmation of pay grid.



Moved: Brenda Lang  
Seconded: Roberta Lexier  
Vote – Carried Unanimously

- b. Ad hoc Hiring Committee Charter  
Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Christian Cook to the ad hoc Hiring Committee subject to her availability.

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

## 2. Appointments

- a. Labour Code Transition Committee

The communicator will be appointed at the Department Communicators Meeting, and Scott Murray was appointed by the Negotiating Committee.

- b. Long-Term Bargaining Goals Review Committee

Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Brady Killough to the Long-term Bargaining Goals Review Committee.

Moved: Roberta Lexier  
Seconded: Guy Obrecht  
Vote – Carried Unanimously

- c. Sabbatical Leave Committee – One Tenured Member, 3 Year Term (Outgoing: Sabrina Reed) – Appointment to be Communicated by June 14, 2017  
Deferred

## 3. Fall 2017 Meetings with Senior Administrators and Others

The Executive Board will meet with Stephen Price, Jim Zimmer and Lesley Brown in the Fall, and with David Docherty and the incoming VP Admin Services and the University Librarian in the Winter.

## **In Camera Session**

### **Officers' Reports**

#### President's Report

1. Regular and Special Meetings, September 29, 11:30-2:00  
Once a package is developed for the Special meeting regarding membership in the CAUT Defense Fund and MRFA Member Dues, it will be distributed to members and open houses may be held to address members' concerns in advance.
2. Update: Vice-President, Administrative Services Search Committee  
The committee plans to have someone in place for January 1, 2018. The policy allows for the committee to be expanded, and they are considering adding a department Chair.
3. 2017-2018 MRU Budget  
While it is clear that the budget is driving the strategic goals, it is positive to note that there is a commitment to hire 20 full time faculty in 2017-2018. 13 of these hires will be to fill long standing vacancies and 7 will be new positions.
4. MRU Budget Process
  - a. Interim Response to MRFA Recommendations  
While this is an interim report, some of these items require an MRFA response.
  - b. Resource Planning Task Force Update  
Reviewed
5. Reply to MRFA Letter from AE Minister Schmidt  
It was made clear that they do not agree that there should have been a phase out for arbitration. For associations who are bargaining right now, government is very keen on keeping costs down.



6. Provincial Solidarity and Association Matters  
Deferred

7. Other

We have received confirmation that the money is rolling forward for the chairs support program and that contract academic benefits will be ready for the Fall.

Contract Member Representative's Report

1. Ad hoc Contract Faculty Advisory Committee

There is constant affirmation of the disparate interests of contract faculty; however, job security, regularization and benefits are common to all of them. In 2017-2018 more work will be done in analyzing contract faculty census data and considering the implications of regularization for contract faculty.

2. Benefits Committee

Due to the number of current LTD claims we can anticipate an increase in our premiums as of July, 1 2017.

Board of Governors – Faculty Representative's Report

If MRU were to successfully submit a bid for the 2021 Congress, there would need to be discussion about what this involves: 10,000 people would be on campus for 2-3 weeks.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm.

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Communications Officer,  
Mount Royal Faculty Association

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Date of approval