

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: March 6, 2013

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in MRU, Calgary, Alberta on March 6, 2013. The meeting convened at 3:30pm, President Gerry Cross presiding.

Members Present:

Gerry Cross
David Sabiston
Scott Murray
Elaine Mullen
Pat Kostouros

Marnie Kramer-Kile
Marc Schroeder
Brenda Lang
Shiraz Kurji

Members not Present:

Kit Dobson

Order of the Day, 3:30pm

Guests, Randy Genereux and Manuel Mertin

1. Budget

We have developed the budget based on the expected 2% increase in government funding. We will know the situation we face when the provincial budget is released on March 7.

2. Transition to the New Provost

The President's Executive Committee is on board with the changes currently being made and is aware that these changes will take more than one year to put in place.

3. MRFA Position on Applied Research and Diversification

It is good that the MRFA is making such statements: it has a role to be an advocate for post secondary education.

4. Governance

a) Overlap between the Collective Agreement and Academic Policies

There is interest in developing a process to resolve potential disputes about matters that pertain to the work of both the MRFA and GFC. This will be discussed with the next Provost.

b) ALO on APPC

APTC has a substantial amount of work yet to complete regarding the role of Chairs and the complete review of the tenure and promotion process. Until this work is complete the Academic Liaison Officer will remain on APTC.

5. Process for Review of Tenure and Promotion Criteria

The main concern is how to best coordinate the work of all parties involved in the creation and implementation of the system. Marc Schroeder has drafted plan for how this may work, and it will be shared with Randy, Manuel, David, APTC and UTPC.

6. Fixed Term Contract Reappointments

All reappointment decisions will be carefully considered. If the needs of departments can be met while sustaining the fixed term contract appointments within those departments, these contracts will not be moved. There are a lot of variables involved in these decisions. We need to keep some flexibility to ensure that we have faculty available and able to teach the courses offered.

Agenda

Added: Child Care Survey to President's Report

Moved: New Business item 2 to follow approval of minutes

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2013 meeting as amended. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2013 meeting as amended. **Motion carried.**

New Business

Advocacy Committee Spending Approvals

- a) Donation to Quebec Students Legal Defense
The Executive Board considered this at length in Spring 2012. Since there have been no significant changes in the circumstances, we would need a motion to reconsider our previous decision.
There was no motion to reconsider.
- b) Donation to aboriginal legal fund
Our policies restrict us from donating to charities and this would be a 'charitable donation.' We require more information about this request before making a decision. Moreover, given the current fiscal climate, our advocacy committee should be focussing on post secondary issues.
- c) Student Contract
We need more information about this project before we can make a decision, and the contract needs to have specific outcomes and deliverables. We, also, need to ensure that the MRFA is not paying less than the University does for student research projects. The Executive Board supports this in principle but requires a more specific proposal.
- d) Reference Materials
The committee will be asked to provide a list of books for the Executive to consider
Gerry will meet with the Advocacy Committee to discuss these matters.

Officer's Reports

President's Report

1. President's Discussion Series on Faculty Divisions
The discussion series announcement was revised and will be sent out on Friday.
2. Meeting with Jennifer Boman and Michelle Yeo regarding meetings with new faculty
Deferred
3. Infosilem Audit Update
Deferred
4. Process for Review of Tenure and Promotion Criteria
The Executive Board will meet on March 13, 3:30 – 4:30pm, to discuss the draft plan.
5. Child Care Survey
Leading statements and unnecessary questions removed. Minor editing changes made.
6. Alberta Federation of Labour Press Release
Deferred

New Business

1. Recruiting for Executive Board Positions
Deferred
2. Don Watts Memorial Scholarship
Deferred
3. Progress Report on Executive Goals
Deferred

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Communications Officer, MRFA

Date of approval