

## **Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association**

**Meeting date: March 8, 2017**

**Call to order:** An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on March 8, 2017. The meeting convened at 12:00pm, President, Marc Schroeder, presiding

### **Members Present:**

Guy Obrecht (till 12:30)  
Allison Mackenzie  
Shiraz Kurji  
David Clemis  
Sabrina Reed

Brenda Lang  
Marc Schroeder

### **Absent with Regrets:**

Roberta Lexier  
Lee Easton  
Jennifer Solinas

### **Order of the Day, Guest 12:00-12:45pm (Lunch Provided)**

Elizabeth Evans, Dean of Business and Communications

The following topics were discussed: fostering faculty engagement in the Association, full-time faculty overloads, faculty Annual Reports, and Bissett's grade rounding procedure.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Approved

### **Approval of Minutes**

February 24, 2017  
Deferred

### **Business Arising**

1. Appointments  
Deferred
2. Donation for Flight Instructors  
Deferred

### **Unfinished Business**

1. MRFA Bylaws: Changes to Consider for 2017 AGM  
The Executive Board will consider proposed changes at its next meeting and discussion of these changes will be on the agenda for the April Regular Meeting.
2. Communications Committee: Request for Direction from the Executive Board Regarding Video Series  
This video series would be more directly aligned with the Advocacy Committee. The Communications Committee's mandate is to develop and implement internal communications strategies: the committee does not have the resources to also do externally focused work. However, work does need to be done to increase content on the MRFA's public facing communications.

### **New Business**

1. Topics for Meeting with Jonathan Withey (March 24, 2:30-3:15)  
Topics were considered: additional topics are to be sent to Marc and Chantelle.
2. Association Organization, Planning and 2017-2018 Budget Directions
  - Spending is being reduced as much as possible, without significantly impacting services, in order to reallocate resources to the contingency fund. The MRFA also plans to hire a new staff member and to increase reassigned time provided for the VP Policy and Senior Grievance Officer.

- We are expecting a large surplus for 2016-17 due to the lack of Negotiating Committee reassigned time, lower staff salaries (80% FCC role), and higher membership dues than expected. This surplus will be allocated to the Contingency Fund and, when needed, will be used to pay for the CAUT Defense Fund initial joining fee the first year of annual dues.
  - Fund balance targets have been considered and these will be brought to the AGM as Bylaw changes: Operating Fund – six months’ operating expenses, Building Fund - \$35,000, and the Contingency Fund - \$2,100,000. The target balance for the contingency fund is significantly increased in anticipation of return to strike/lockout and also to provide resources in the absence of Directors’ Liability Insurance. Without increasing dues, reaching this target will take a very long time. A dues increase should be considered in the coming years.
3. Terms of GFC Councilors  
The question of a GFC Bylaws interpretation limiting Councilors’ terms is being sent to the GFC Bylaws and Striking Committee for consideration. For the time being, councilors are being permitted to run for re-election. Setting limits on Councilors’ terms would need to go to GFC for approval.
  4. March Regular Meeting Debrief – Review of Draft Minutes  
The minutes were reviewed and approved for posting to the website.

### **In Camera Session**

March Regular Meeting Debrief

President’s Report

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

Negotiations Report (Vice-President, Negotiations)

### **Officers’ Reports**

President’s Report

1. Faculty Centre Coordinator 3-month Evaluation
2. Peer Evaluation Training
3. Letter to MRU Board of Governors
4. MRU Category 1 Schedule Exception Procedure - Deferred
5. MRFA Input on Alberta Government Funding Model Review
6. Update: Draft Tenure and Promotion Handbook
7. Update: Member Census
8. Other

Academic Liaison Officer’s Report

Deferred

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

---

Communications Officer,  
Mount Royal Faculty Association

---

Date of approval