

MINUTES of the Mount Royal Faculty Association
Meeting date: March 3, 2011

Call to order: A General Meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on March 3, 2010. The meeting convened at 3:30pm, President Gerry Cross presiding, and Rod Corbett secretary.

Members in attendance:

See attached attendance sheets

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2011 meeting. **Motion carried.**

Agenda

PD Committee announcements added to agenda
Agenda approved

New Business

CAUT Academic Freedom Fund Donation Approval

- CAUT has created a fund to support local associations and CAUT in vigorous defense of academic freedom. Their target is to maintain this fund at \$1,500,000 they have \$1,055,000 pledged thus far.
- Suggested donation:
 - \$5,000 now with an additional \$1,000 to be paid in each of the next five years
- Rationale:
 - The average donation per member at comparable institutions was 24\$. The executive took that average and multiplied it by the number of Full-time members of the MRFA which came out to about \$10,000

Motion to approve the Executive recommendation THAT the MRFA donate \$5,000 to the CAUT Academic freedom fund from this year's budget

Moved: Kelly Hewson
Seconded: Lee Easton
Discussion
Vote
Carried Unanimously

Motion to approve the Executive recommendation THAT the MRFA commit to donating \$1,000 per year in each of the next five years

Moved: Lee Easton
Seconded: Kit Dobson
No Discussion
Vote
Carried Unanimously

Officers' reports:

President

For more information on some of these items please see [March 1, 2011 Monthly Report](#)

ACIFA Report

- ACIFA Legal Defense Fund
 - This defense fund is being established to support the SAIT Charter Challenge. We are going to bring a motion to the AGM to donate \$10,000 to this fund.
- ACIFA PSE Advocacy Initiative
 - Organizing a meeting for June 2 with reps from all of the provincial post

- secondary organizations: ACTISEC, ACIFA, CAFA, &c.
- o The MRFA has been working with SAMRU to develop some sample goals

Task Force on Faculty Leaves and the Academic Year

- Membership
 - o Gerry Cross and Janne Holmgren, Robin Fisher, and Chad London
 - o The committee has expanded into a task force to broaden the discussion.
 - The call has gone out for nominees to this task force
- Academic year added as it is related to scholarship

Honorary Members

Motion THAT the MRFA make Dave Marshall a lifetime honorary member of the MRFA and that the MRFA present this to him at "Farewell to the Marshall"

Moved: Bruce Ravelli

Seconded: Kenna Olsen

No Discussion

Vote

Carried Unanimously

Executive Elections at the AGM

- Five positions open and there will not be incumbents for some of them: Secretary, Academic Liaison Officer and Faculty Representative to the Board of Governors
- Consider running for these positions:
 - o Secretary and ALO do not require tenure: we have a lot of new faculty hired in the past few years and it would be beneficial to have that group represented.

Treasurer

Renovation Loan Update

In 2007 we took on the renovation and subsequently added 10\$ a month in special dues for all members. The target was to pay that for seven years; however, we have officially paid it off three years early and, starting July 1, 2011, you will no longer be paying those special dues. Any money collected from now to July 1, 2011 will be used to replenish the building fund that we depleted in doing the renovations.

Dues change discussion

- Current Dues: Full-time: 1% of C13 (\$95,000 approx.) Part-time: 1 % of salary
- Rationale for Dues Change:
 - o C13 does not exist anymore so we need to alter our dues structure.
 - o We do not want to base the dues on a grid level as it results in some members paying more or less dues proportionate to their earnings.
- Alternate Dues structure:
 - o 1% of gross salary
- Rationale
 - o Average salary is approximately \$95,000, which is similar to step C13, so this change would be revenue neutral.
 - o Changing our dues to a percent of gross pay will make us in line with other peer and ACIFA institution member dues which range from 0.55% to 1.5% of salary with the majority being at 1% or higher.
- This will come to the AGM as a bylaw change. Until it is approved there will be no change to your dues.

Board and committee reports:

Negotiating Committee Report

The teams have met once and are meeting again tomorrow. There will be another [Negotiations Bulletin](#) coming out soon: hopefully we will be able to report back to you on the timelines for promotion to professor.

Review of Survey Responses

- The [response summary](#) is posted to the website under negotiations
- Discussion
 - How much weight can you put on these answers in making decisions?
 - We cannot ignore what people are telling us so we will be using the data and input that we have gotten so far from all sources
 - Can we get clarification on the promotion to professor?
 - Deadlines in place in the CA are to be adhered to
 - Our goal is to bring something at the end of the month to be ratified

Vision statement review

We are identifying people to be on the committee.

Announcements:

45th anniversary committee

- Deadline to RSVP for these events is April 22, 2011
- The committee is looking for old photos of MRFA Members: please send them to Chantelle

PD Announcements

- The committee is pleased to announce that it has forwarded to ACIFA Kenna Olsen and Kit Dobson's nomination for the ACIFA Award in Innovation in Teaching
- Reminder: registration is open for the Faculty Retreat being held May 10-11 at the delta lodge in Kananaskis. The deadline for registration is March 15

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

Secretary
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval