

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: May 16, 2014

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on May 16, 2014. The meeting convened at 12:00pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Janice Paskey, Communications Officer.

Members Present:

Gerry Cross
Marc Schroeder
Scott Murray
Karen Manarin
Brenda Lang

Janice Paskey
Elaine Mullen
Shiraz Kurji

Members not Present:

Andreas Tomaszewski
Tracy Powell

Agenda

Added: New Business 7. Dismissal of a Dean at the University of Saskatchewan

Minutes

Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2014 meeting as amended. **Motion carried.**

Officer's Reports

President's Report

1. 2013-2014 Compassionate Fund Report (In Camera Session)
The policy on the Compassionate Fund and the allocations from this fund for the 2013-2014 academic year were reviewed. The Policies and Procedures Manual is to be updated based on decisions made at the AGM regarding Child Care.
2. Faculty Representative for the Chief Information Officer Selection Committee
Duane Anderson has selected Ricardo Hoar as the faculty nominee to this committee. While Ricardo is a good choice for this committee, the faculty rep should be selected by the MRFA. Also, there should be more than one faculty member on this committee.
3. List A Update
The allocation of List A funds across Faculties needs to be formalized in the Agreement. Faculty members have a responsibility to ensure that this fund is being allocated within their departments. The MRFA would support members who have concerns in this regard.
4. Proposal for Calgary PC Caucus
Gerry and Janice will develop a factually supported two page brief to be submitted to the Calgary PC Caucus within the week of May 19-23.
5. GFC Elections
There were multiple calls for GFC councillors. This is indicative of the lack of importance placed on Academic Governance at MRU. This is why caucus does not work and why we are not getting nominees. The Academic Liaison Committee, Nominations Committee and the Department Communicators need to be more active in this: they should encourage colleagues to be involved in institutional governance.

Unfilled Contract and Limited Term positions are partially related to the fact that these members do not want to lose the opportunity to teach a course at this time. Contract Members could ask Chairs to respect the importance of GFC and allocate courses not held at this time. Kathy and David would support this. Or, if needed, the member could resign from the GFC position if it conflicted with a course they are offered.

6. CAUT Council Report
David Robinson will be the next Executive Director of CAUT.
7. Meeting with Jim Turk and Tristan Smyth
Jim provided some practical advice about establishing ongoing relationships and on how students and faculty can work toward mutual goals, both internally and externally. Working with the students on advocacy is absolutely necessary for faculty to be effective.

In Camera Session

Vice-President, Policy and Grievance Officer Report

Vice-President, Negotiations Report

Business Arising

1. Faculty Centre Renovation - Cooler Area

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the expenditure of up to \$11,675 for the kitchen renovation.

Moved: Gerry Cross

Seconded: Scott Murray

Vote

Carried Unanimously

New Business

1. AGM Debriefing

It was well attended and we got through the business. There will be an attempt to limit the number of contentious items of business at the AGM so that they may be dealt with in a reasonable amount of time.

2. Implementing the Motions Regarding External Benefits

Gerry will send an official letter to ACIFA in the week of May 19-23 and will speak about the MRFA's decision to leave ACIFA at the May Presidents' Council Meeting.

The MRFA will seek membership in CAUT at its Council meeting in May 2015. Prior to this we will speak to the CAFA Presidents about our decision: we will clarify our motivations and mention our numerous attempts to reform ACIFA which were rebuffed.

3. ACIFA Silent Auction

The MRFA will donate CAUT's books on academic freedom.

4. Appointment of Department Communicators

These are now two year appointments. To facilitate the transition of these positions the Executive Board has appointed new members to these positions for roughly half of the departments.

5. Model Equity Clauses

Deferred

6. ADC Contract Faculty Needs Assessment Survey

Deferred

7. Dismissal of a Dean at the University of Saskatchewan

The Dean has since gotten his tenure back and is now a faculty member so there is no need to send letter of support

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.

Communications Officer,
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval