

MINUTES of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: May 2, 2011

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on May 2, 2010. The meeting convened at 9:08am, President Gerry Cross presiding, and Rod Corbett secretary.

Members in attendance:

Gerry Cross
Cari Merkley
Gerard Lucyshyn
David Hyttenrauch
Rafik Kurji

Qasim Syed
Rod Corbett (11:00 – 12:00)
David Sabiston (11:00 – 12:00)

Members not in attendance:

Kelly Hewson

Approval of minutes: Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 18 and April 27, 2011 meetings. **Motion carried.**

Unfinished business:

1. Protocol for Applying Ethics Committee Discipline Involving Suspension of MRFA Privileges

- Members not in good standing still pay dues and still have the right to representation by the MRFA.
- The Executive Assistant, President, and Chief Returning Officer are the only ones who need to know the disciplinary measures applied to a member
- During the presentation on the ethics bylaws we will ask members if they think we should be publishing names. If this is the will of the assembly then there can be a motion to direct the executive to review it next year.

Motion THAT on receipt of notification of disciplinary measures enacted, the President shall inform only the Executive Assistant and the Chief Returning Officer.

Vote
Carried

2. Review of Proposed Bylaw Changes

16.2.1.2: 72 hours notice

- Bill stated that the 72 hours in specific to our bylaws and not related to the Collective Agreement in any way
- Removing 16.2.1.2
 - If we require notification there may cause conflict with university policies. It is in the University policies that we must ensure there is due process/notification. We have an ethical obligation (16.6.2) in the bylaws to ensure that the Policies and the Collective Agreement are properly structured so they should require due process but we cannot require

something in our bylaws that goes against the Collective Agreement or Policies.

Move THAT we eliminate 16.2.1.2 and that this be one of the changes highlighted at the AGM

Moved: Gerry Cross

Vote

Carried

16.2.1.3 duty to attempt to resolve the complaint with the colleague before submitting it to an administrator

- There is rationale for maintaining this article but the concern is parallel to 16.2.1.2 and cannot be maintained without an exclusionary reference.

Motion THAT 16.2.1.3 be removed.

Moved Gerry Cross

Discussion

Vote

Carried

16.2.3.4: do we have a definition of conflict of interest or is it as defined in policy?

- If you are prescriptive then you can leave out circumstances: It is better to leave it open and undefined so it can be handled on a case by case basis. If there is ever a situation where it is not understood then the President can provide advice.

Member in Good Standing

- Added clarification: there is disciplinary action that the Ethics committee can take that maintains good standing

“Management and Exempt Support Staff”

- This is how they are referred to but we will use “MRSSA exempt”

Part-time Member Representative

- Added: in the September 2011 election for the Part-time Member Representative a third term will be allowed
- Two separate motions at AGM for this: 1. Increasing the Part-time Member Representative term to two years, and 2. Allowing the current Part-time Member Representative to run again

9.11: Term Restrictions

- Added that partial terms are allowed in addition to full terms

Standing Committees

- The order of the standing committees has been changed. The Negotiating committee still comes first as it is the most important. The rest will be sorted alphabetically.

- This change will not be made prior to approval of the bylaw changes but it will be commented on.

Negotiating Committee

- 10.2.6. Added reassigned time from the board (w/ comment that this was moved to the body of the Collective Agreement from the MOU so it is in our bylaws now). Reference to this article changed to the “Negotiations Article in the Collective Agreement” rather than specific article number
 - Does this reassigned time/release payment need to be clarified in respect to limited re-opener years?
 - Gerard will bring this to the Negotiating Committee (article 21.3.8)
- 10.2.10 redundant
 - Changes made in 10.2.5 make this article redundant
 - 10.2.10 removed
 - Agreed

Ed Grants and Communications Committees

- Executive assistant added to the membership of these committees.

Committee accountability

- Editorial changes

Elections

- Gerry did not add a clause preventing one from being a candidate for more than one executive position. Also, if an incumbent runs for another position then the incumbent should resign their current position but we are not going to require it in our bylaws.
 - If these issues recur we can review it again later.

12.1.7 Requiring campaign statements

- This has been reworded: candidates used to have a right now it is a requirement.
- The maximum length will be removed when the call for statements goes out the anticipated length can be included

Vote Auditing

- We may put it in policy next year: for now it is an executive practice/decision

12.2.3 Committee Voting

- The voting subcommittee decided that with the committee elections having campaign statements posted that we could email out the ballot so that people could sit in their office, read campaign statements and fill out ballots, then sign the sheet to drop them off in the FC
 - This method of voting causes too many control problems and we will defer discussion of it to a later date.
 - Gerry will reverse the change 12.2.3 and we will have a generic motion to explore electronic voting

Motion THAT the MRFA seek approval in principle from the membership to develop an online voting system for committee elections

Moved: Gerry Cross

Discussion:

- This would be emailed out in html format with links to information on the committees and links to candidates submissions and it would also be a fill-able form. This will require extensive set-up and some overhead as well as accurate distribution lists. It will encourage more voters but will also detract from members' use/belonging to the FC.

Vote

Carried

12.3 Negotiating Committee Nominations

- Sentence added to clarify that we do not accept nominations from the floor of the AGM

Fiscal Year End

- Changed to March 31: rationale to coincide with the University's

15.3.2 Financial Statements

- Standards have changed for approval process of financial statements: the auditor will not provide a final version of the financial statements until the Executive Board has reviewed and signed/ approved them. The members receive the financial statements: they receive them the executive approves them.
- We will remove "and approved by" and change "at the January" to "no later than the January." Gerry will also include a note explaining the change
- Agreed

Professional Fees / Contingency Fund

- We agreed to increasing from 50 to 200 thousand and decided not to direct how in the bylaws

Article 18 Parliamentary procedure

18.1.1 and 18.1.2

- "the executive can place new business items anywhere in a meeting agenda and the president can designate any member in good standing to chair a meeting."
- These are statements implying that we are modifying Robert's rules. Being able to do this also allows us the ability to, by a 2/3s vote, suspend our Bylaws even if that is against Robert's Rules.

Agreed

Presenting the Bylaw Changes at the AGM

- All Bylaw changes will all be included in a Bylaw Change Proposal Package with important items highlighted. There can be a motion to sever something from the package if it gets bogged down.

- The dues change is the only one that may be negatively received: if there is pushback we need to have a fallback strategy
 - This would require having a cap. The logical place to have the cap would be top of Associate grid.
- We have separated the financial motions: dues and Contingency Fund increase

3. Development of a checklist of items to be prepared for the agm

- Agenda Revision

Gerry moves THAT the MRFA executive bring to the membership at the AGM a motion to contribute 10,000\$ to ACIFA's legal defense fund out of the current year's operating surplus.

 - Discussion

Vote
Carried, 1 abstention

New business:

1. Request for Student Access to Faculty Centre

- This is an all day event on May 5 with students participating in and volunteering for the event
- These will be credit students so we need to approve this

David Moves THAT the MRFA executive approve this request
Moved: David Sabiston
Vote
Carried

2. Other items

- It is very important that exec start to sign confidentiality agreements: we receive many sensitive issues: this will be done next year.
- Cari, Gerry, Rafik Gerard can help with EAD BBQ
- Cari, Rod, David and Kelly will assist with the voting at the AGM

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

Secretary
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval