

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: November 25, 2013

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on November 25, 2013. The meeting convened at 2:07pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Janice Paskey, Communications Officer.

Members present:

Marc Schroeder
Scott Murray
Andreas Tomaszewski
Tracy Powell
Elaine Mullen

Gerry Cross
Shiraz Kurji
Janice Paskey

Members not present:

Brenda Lang
Karen Manarin

Agenda: Approved

Order of the Day, 2:00pm

Guests: Randy Genereux and Kathy Shailer

1. Evolution of Mount Royal to a University
MRU has offered University transfer courses since 1937 and applied degrees since 1995. Throughout its history MRU has been an academically focused institution generating excellent students who have done very well in their continuing studies. Mount Royal College always considered itself to be the best and, as a new University, we are receiving good ratings from students and the *Globe and Mail*. However, we have much yet to improve upon.
2. Tenure and Promotion Review
The principles of the tenure and promotion system, as agreed to by the negotiating committees and included in the Collective Agreement in Appendix A, were used to develop the current system and will be used in the review. The five year review of the system is necessary, and we are glad that this process is supported by the new Provost.

Two key issues are clarifying the scholarship expectations for those on TSS and ensuring the equity between TS and TSS. We need to actively participate in the determination of the appropriate level of scholarship for a teaching focussed institution. And, to achieve MRU's mission and goals, we must live up to our rhetoric by encouraging hiring into TS positions.
3. Criteria and Process for Sessional Reappointments and Workload Allocation
Inconsistencies in criteria across departments are an issue. This could be addressed by making parts of the process institutional while still allowing for the required departmental autonomy to meet program needs.
4. Administration of the Collective Agreement by the MRFA, Deans and Chairs
The more the MRFA is involved in advising members on the Collective Agreement the fewer problems we have. Without a partnership in administering the Collective Agreement many more problems will escalate to grievances.
5. Associate and Assistant Dean Positions
The system of administration around Deans is under review. Decisions will be made on this and clarification provided in the coming months.

Minutes

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

Officer's Reports

President's report

1. Suggested Changes and Process for Revising Policy 1305
The memo sent by the MRFA Executive Board to David Docherty will be distributed to the President's Executive Committee. There will likely be a full review of the policy.

New Business

1. Advocacy Committee Funding Request

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the request to spend \$500 from the Political Action and Advocacy budget to support Harsha Walia’s visit.

Moved: Gerry Cross

Discussion

Amendment: “up to \$500 subject to submission of a budget”

Restated Motion: Motion THAT the MRFA Executive Board approve the request to spend up to \$500, subject to submission of a budget, from the Political Action and Advocacy budget to support Harsha Walia’s visit.

Vote

Carried

Unfinished Business

1. Honoraria for Contract Faculty Instructional Support Program

Deferred

2. Tenure and Promotion Process and Criteria

The MRFA response to the Tenure and Promotion review survey will be submitted after Gerry has added explanations where needed and made the revisions as discussed.

3. Priorities for Negotiations

Deferred to January

4. Job Action Research Committee Charter (att.)

Deferred

5. 2013-2014 Executive Board Goals (att.)

Deferred

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:59pm.

Communications Officer,
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval