

**Mount Royal Faculty Association
Executive Board Meeting
November 18, 2016, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Minutes

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held at Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on November 18, 2016. The meeting convened at 10:00 am, President, Marc Schroeder, presiding.

Members Present:

Marc Schroeder
David Clemis
Shiraz Kurji
Brenda Lang
Guy Obrecht
Sabrina Reed
Allison MacKenzie
Lee Easton
Jennifer Solinas
Roberta Lexier

Agenda – Approved with changes as noted – All in Favour – Carried

Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the Minutes of September 30, October 14 and October 28, 2016 with changes as noted – All in Favour – Carried

Business Arising

1. April 1, 2015 Resolution of the Membership Re: Meeting with Research Office
The President noted that in response to the question regarding a motion made at a regular meeting regarding a meeting with the research office, he confirmed that it was at a meeting held on April 1, 2015 and reviewed the content. The Executive Board did meet with Michael Quinn on October 16, 2015. The President reviewed the content of the meeting noting that the terms of the motion had been met in that the AVP did respond. Further discussion ensued regarding contract funding research in the future. It was suggested that the Executive Board could make a recommendation to the negotiation for 2018 for more research contract fund availability.

New Business

1. Appointments
 - a. Contract Faculty Advisory Committee (x5)
The President noted that the charter for this ad hoc committee was approved at the last meeting and that people were still needed for appointment. Guy noted that three people had expressed interest in the committee, being Patrick Perry, **Goldbert** McLean and Christine Giancarlo. Further discussion on trying to find candidates from health community and education, business and communication

studies ensued. The President noted that with four out of six appointed there would be quorum and the committee could get started. It was further suggested the department communicators also be engaged to search for candidates as well.

Motion: To appoint Patrick Perry, **Goldbert** McLean and Christine Giancarlo to sit on the Contract Faculty Advisory Committee.

Moved: G. Obrecht – Seconded: A. MacKenzie – All in Favour – Carried

b. MRFA Representatives (x3) on Joint Diversity and Equity Committee as per Collective Agreement Article 24.3

The President noted that he and the President of MRU had received a letter from sixty signatories in an email from Mary-Lee Mulholland and Maki Motapanyane requesting that MRU engage in a **pay equity study**. He noted that three appointees were required and that he had also met with the Diversity Committee and they are keen in being the appointees to this committee and that Maki had expressed an interest as well. He wants to make the recommendations soon and noted that the diversity committee would be getting back to him with candidate suggestions. He further stated that the appointees should have expertise in equity issues, strong research and stat skills and suggested that the Executive also try and come back to the next meeting with possible names for this committee.

c. MRFA Standing Committee Vacancies – Deferred

It was suggested that the nomination committee be engaged to search for candidates and a posting in the next newsletter be made.

2. Travel Approval: CAUT Forum for Presidents, January 20 – 21, Ottawa

Motion: To approve sending the President to the CAUT Forum for Presidents

Moved: A. MacKenzie – Seconded: - B. Lang – All in Favour – Carried

3. November Regular Meeting Draft Agenda

The President noted that there is a meeting scheduled, further stating that it has been cancelled in past. Following discussion on agenda items, the necessity and possible lack of attendance for this meeting, it was decided to cancel this meeting. A suggestion was made that when the message is forwarded to members cancelling the meeting **a copy of the President's Report be included**.

Motion: To cancel the November 22, 2016 Regular Meeting

Moved: G. Obrecht – Seconded: A. MacKenzie – All in Favour – Carried

4. Government of Alberta post-Secondary Labour Relations Consultation 2016

a. MRFA Representation at Meetings on November 28

The President gave a brief update on the submissions from other institutions and faculty associations that he had received. He further noted that he had talked to other Presidents at the Western Regional and would be seeing them again at the CAUT meeting and hopefully prepare for the ministry meeting to be held on

November 28th at the McDougall Centre. The President stated that we can send two people and suggested that Roberta Lexier be the second attendee. There will also be a special meeting as well with the Ministry Staff to review the MRFA submission. He further noted that the roundtable Chair is Andy Simms and that the government is looking to bring forward the legislation to the Spring session.

5. Government of Alberta Tuition Review Consultation Draft Response

The President noted that at the last meeting it was agreed that as Roberta was already involved with the review, it was suggested that she be asked to provide a bullet point outline for the next meeting. Roberta reviewed the draft as distributed of the MRFA Executive Comments that included questions on the following topics:

- Guiding Principles
- How Tuition Increases
- Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees
- International Student Tuition
- Exceptional Tuition Increases
- Apprentice Tuition Fees
- Student Aid Supports
- Education Tax Credits

She further noted that these questions were repetitive and a suggestion was made to not follow this format in the written response. Following further discussion on the submission, it was agreed that Roberta would review the guidelines again and asked that the Executive forward any comments or suggestions that they may have to her for the submission via email within the next few days.

6. Funding Request

The President noted that he had received an email request (as attached) for the funding of an MRU Symposium on Racialized, Gendered, Queer and Disabled Bodies in Academia further stating that as there is not a budget line for this type of funding and it is an ad hoc request he invited discussion on the matter. Discussion ensued on ways that could be pursued other than funding to support the request and the possibility of funding from the political action and advocacy fund. It was agreed that a policy aligned with established goals and a budget line was required for future funding requests of this nature. Following further discussion, it was agreed to support this request and a motion was tabled.

Motion: To donate \$1500 from the political action and advocacy fund to this symposium conference and an invitation to book the Faculty Centre

Moved: G. Obrecht – Seconded: A. MacKenzie – Discussion

Amendment: Strike the political action and advocacy fund

Moved: R. Lexier – Discussion – All in Favour

Main Motion: All in Favour of the \$1500 allocation to support the symposium – Carried

Motion: To create a new executive policy on how to handle requests on academic conference funding

Moved: L. Easton – Seconded: B. Lang – All in Favour – Carried

Officers' Reports

Advocacy Officer's Report – Roberta Lexier

The Advocacy Officer stated that she would be speaking to the recent activities of Fair Employment Week and the upcoming events of Advocacy Week.

Fair Employment Week outcomes and contract faculty suggestions:

- Continued push for full time scheduling
- Research office issues – IRG's
- Continue to work with the PD Committee regarding the Retreat and Contract Faculty schedules
- Policy of Adjuncts and how to communicate to Contract Faculty
- Action Item: Possibility of establishing an MRFA Contract Faculty Scholarship Award
The President noted that this would be a by-law change and go to the membership at the AGM. It is an Executive Board function and it was suggested that Roberta propose the language to change the by-law on awards.

It was noted that the above could also be working with other committees.

Advocacy Week – Planned Activities

- Dates: Either March 13 or March 20th – Dependent on Mayor Nenshi who has been invited to attend
- Theme – Access for All Albertans : Higher Education and a Public Good
- Identify four barriers to higher education
- First four days an exploration of each of the barriers
- Final day a panel event and maybe film or other activity that discusses the value of higher education in Alberta – how to improve access

The Advocacy Officer asked for further suggestions and ideas on the barriers and activities to be forwarded to her.

President's Report

1. Western Regional Conference

The President reviewed the agenda of the conference. Items noted:

- CAUT presentation. Bargaining updates
- U of Manitoba Strike – attended picket lines

Announcements

1. November Regular Meeting: Tuesday, November 22, 1:30-3:30pm, Lincoln Park Room
2. PD "Get Cracking" Breakfast Event: Friday, November 25, 8:00-9:15am
3. Scholarships for Dependents Applications Deadline: Friday, November 25
4. Presidents' Discussion Series Event: Thursday, December 1, 1:30-3:30pm
5. Next Executive Board Meeting: Friday, December 2, 10:00am-12:00pm

Adjournment: 12:50pm – Next Meeting: December 2, 2016