

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: November 29, 2012

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on November 29, 2012. The meeting convened at 2:03pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Kit Dobson, Communications Officer

Members Present:

Gerry Cross
Valerie Kinnear
Brenda Lang
Elaine Mullen
Scott Murray

Kit Dobson
Marc Schroeder
David Sabiston

Members not Present:

Marnie Kramer-Kile
Pat Kostouros

Order of the Day, 2:00pm

Guest, Carlton Osakwe, Chair of APTC

APTC has received two requests to look into policies and procedures with respect to tenure and promotion. The committee wants to open up discussion on these two issues. The first request was that we allow applications for early tenure from new hires who do not have previous limited term or tenured experience credited to their probationary terms. This would require a change in the Collective Agreement. The UTPC is a creation of and is bound to abide by the Collective Agreement. There is no early tenure in the Agreement so UTPC cannot grant early tenure. APTC should consult with all appropriate groups (all faculty, UTPC, TPC chairs, and the negotiating committees) and make recommendations to the Negotiating Committee on this as part of its five year review of tenure and promotion criteria. Marc Schroeder has offered to assist the committee in developing a procedure for the review. The other, and possibly more contentious, issue was that faculty should be able to change their work pattern pre-tenure. According to 10.6 they cannot. This would be very difficult as members would be evaluated on different standards. Going from TSS to TS while on tenure track may be doable but going from TS to TSS is less so. In the former situation you are taking away the scholarship requirement and teaching criteria for both patterns are the same. It would be more problematic to go from TS to TSS as they would be behind in establishing their research agenda.

Agenda

Added: report from the Advocacy Committee to Officers' Reports

Announcement

Valerie has been selected to be the new Associate Dean of Bissett. She will remain a member of the Executive Board till December 31, 2012. We will elect a new Treasurer at a Special Meeting to be called during the January General Meeting. Gerry will announce this in his President's Report.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2012 meeting. **Motion carried.**

President's report

1. Grievance Report (Closed)
2. Noise Level in Kitchen
Duane Schaffer, MRU's health and safety officer, measured 59 decibels which is no danger to hearing. Nevertheless, it is a bad design: Gerry is going to put in a request for a renovation estimate to either enclose that area or to build an office outside.
3. CAUT Council Report
This will all be included in the November President's report.
4. Director's Liability

Motion THAT the MRFA purchase Directors' liability insurance in light of it being a minimal expense and a common practice and because of the high defence costs in a law suit.

Moved: Valerie Kinnear

Seconded: Marc Schroeder

Vote

Discussion

Carried, 1 abstention

5. Teachers Aid Program in Continuing Education

Education and Schooling is supportive of this program. There are related concerns around de-designation of credit courses. We need to talk to administration about this when Pat comes back as there are similar things happening in Child and Youth Studies programs.

6. General and Special Meeting follow up

Members were very satisfied with the agreement

Sessional faculty will not be referred to as those without rank. The standard terminology is *Contract academic staff*. This is the language we should use.

Vice President Negotiations

1. Compensation Recommendation for Observers

Motion THAT the MRFA purchase a \$100 gift certificate for each Negotiating Committee observer.

Moved: David Sabiston

Seconded: Scott Murray

Vote

Carried, 1 abstention

Secretary's Report, Advocacy Committee Update

The Advocacy Committee recently hosted a talk on racism at Canadian Universities. Michael Ma, a faculty member at Kwantlen University, presented on this, and the event was very well attended.

Unfinished Business

1. June Part-time representative Negotiations Stipend

Motion THAT the MRFA Executive affirm its understanding of the term *prorated* and stands by the decision to pay 12/30^{ths} of the June Part time Member Representative's Stipend as he worked from June 1 - June 12, 2012.

Moved: Valerie Kinnear

Seconded: Kit Dobson

Vote

Carried Unanimously

Clarification of this article in the Bylaws referred to Bylaws Committee.

2. Approval of the 2012-2013 Executive Board Goals (att.)

Added: Preparation for five year review of tenure and promotion

New Business

1. Conference Attendance

a) OCUFA Age of Austerity

Motion THAT the MRFA fund Michael Truscello in the amount of \$800.84 to attend the OCUFA Austerity Conference. In return for this he will submit a report to the Executive Board within two weeks of his return.

Moved: Gerry Cross

Seconded: Marc Schroeder

Discussion

Vote

Carried Unanimously

b) H Crowe Academic Freedom

Deferred to December 6. Gerry will mention this to Jenn Pettit.

2. Instructional Hours

Deferred

3. Review of Criteria for Part-time Opportunities for Service (atts.)

Deferred

4. Guiding Principles for University Collaborations (att.)

Deferred

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

Communications Officer
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval