

Minutes of the Mount Royal Faculty Association

Meeting date: October 25, 2012

Call to order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA, was held in Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on October 25, 2012. The meeting convened at 2:03pm, President Gerry Cross presiding and Kit Dobson, Communications Officer

Members Present:

Gerry Cross
Brenda Lang
Elaine Mullen
Scott Murray
Kit Dobson

Marnie Kramer-Kile
Marc Schroeder
Valerie Kinnear

Members not present:

David Sabiston
Pat Kostouros

Order of the Day, 2:00pm

Guest, David Docherty, MRU President

1. The MRFA Academic Liaison Officer on APPC
 - David will discuss this with Robin
2. Governance
 - The ALC's request that major items of business come to GFC twice is not the best solution. With such a practice GFC could get caught up in a lot of issues and this would enable the proper process to not take place. If the process was followed correctly all GFC councillors should have already, at least at one level, discussed policy changes coming to GFC. If policies have not been discussed at a faculty council then they should be deferred at GFC.
 - Policy changes come out of discussions with the Deans, the VP Academic and/or the President. Then, ideally, the Deans would discuss it at their Deans and Chairs meetings. Then, it should go to Chairs Assembly and Chairs should bring it back to their Departments for discussion. After it has been discussed at these levels, it should be brought to Faculty Councils for discussion before it gets to GFC.
 - There should be best practices document in the appendix of GFC bylaws for developing policies. When someone prepares a motion to submit to the GFC Executive they could include a description of the consultation that occurred. GFC councillors could compare that statement of consultation to the best practices appendix and that could be used to consider a deferral.
 - This is a very good idea. David will draft something up that Bylaws and Striking could look at or that could be discussed at GFC.
 - Major policies could be brought, at the outset, to GFC for information.
 - Bylaws and Striking would be asked to provide advice on what would be considered a major policy decision
 - Reports at GFC could be used as an initial signal to let people know something is coming and that it should be discussed at the faculty council. Councillors could then ensure it gets discussed.
3. Budget Building
 - There will be a Town Hall, shortly after BAC's third meeting on November 14, at which David will present the budget assumptions (this is three months earlier than last year).
 - BAC has discussed and generated several possibilities in terms of reducing expenses and increasing revenues but none of the ideas have been fully considered or finalized.
4. Diversity in the Administration
 - This is a shared concern
5. Ombudsperson Position

- David agrees that this is an important position but the case load is low. To recreate the position we need to look at finding a faculty member to do this on course release as a part time position.
6. Strategic Plans
- This will be coming to the Board sometime in the Spring and there will be consultation on it prior to that.

Agenda

Added: MRFA Strategic Plan to New Business

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Gerry Cross, and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2012 meeting as amended. **Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business

1. Staff Evaluations (Closed Session)
 - Darlene Windrem's Staff evaluation was completed
2. Winter General Meeting Schedule
 - Brenda will send her requested schedule to Chantelle.
3. Draft Profile for the Provost and Vice-President Academic
 - Draft profile revised
 - Gerry will make the changes and present it at the General Meeting
4. MRFA Stance on Committee Service Restrictions for tenurable members
 - There will be a motion at the General meeting for item 2 to be referred to the MRFA Organization Committee
 - Motion for items 3 and 4 to go through broader consultation with the statement that the Executive Board does not have a position
 - Gerry and Kit will present the arguments on either side.
 - Gerry will clarify that tenurable members do, in fact, have a voice in the hiring process. Tenurable members have the opportunity to provide their input and take part in deciding hiring qualifications.
 - Item 5 deferred till items 3 and 4 are resolved, and Gerry will look into item 6.
5. Institution Specific ACIFA Questions
Deferred
6. Follow up on Meeting with Robin and Randy
Not required
7. Preparation for Meeting with Jeff Keshen
Gerry will send ideas to the Executive and they can provide input

New Business

1. Fair Employment Week
 - Brenda did not think it was appropriate to hold an event while negotiations are still ongoing. The work the MRFA is doing on behalf of part-time members in being done at negotiations
 - Gerry will respond to the inquiry on behalf of the Executive
2. MRFA Strategic Plan
 - Deferred: added to retreat agenda

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:41pm.

Communications Officer
Mount Royal Faculty Association

Date of approval