

12th September 2018

Dear Colleagues,

The Board of Governors last meeting was on 28th May 2018. The Board receives information on many matters with which Faculty members will be familiar with through the reports of other bodies (GFC minutes, Faculty Councils' minutes, MRFA general meeting minutes, Town Halls, communications from the Administration, etc.). Accordingly, this report focuses on matters brought to the Board's particular attention or upon which the Board has deliberated and acted in its public sessions. Some elaboration is provided on matters not reported elsewhere. Please note that the Board's agendas and minutes are reproduced on the MRU website at: <http://www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/OfficesGovernance/BoardofGovernors/>

Please note that my report for Board meetings can be found on the MRFA website.

Board of Governors' Meeting 28th May 2018.

At this meeting the Board received the following reports:

- The Chair of the Board of Governors Report (Sue Mallon)

A written report was submitted to the Board. Key matters raised were: the provincial rollout of the "Indigenous Learning Initiative"; the commencement of the presidential search; and professional development activities for Board members. It was noted that the Chair had received a letter from the President of the Treasury Board announcing the new compensation regulations for the position of President of Mount Royal University. This office is listed at level 3 under the regulations, mandating a salary range of \$238,700 to \$305,000.

- Finance Committee Report (Susan Swan)

The recent activities of the Finance Committee have focused on the 2018-19 budget plan.

It will be noted that the approved line item for credit instruction fell by 0.8% from the previous year (2017-18) and the non-credit instruction line fell by 16%. The Academic Affairs division had a reduction target of 2.25%. The notes to the budget indicate that \$1.1 million has been added to the instructional budget. For further details: <http://www.mtroyal.ca/CampusServices/CampusResources/FinancialServices/BudgetDevelopment/index.htm>

- the following reports were received from the University's executive officers:

- the President (David Docherty)

The President provided a report on the proceedings of the Universities Canada. The following matters were briefly discussed: a report from U Sport (formerly CIS); and, a keynote address on Freedom of Expression. The President noted the launching of the Indigenous Strategic Plan and his attendance at an evening of community engagement on Tsuut'ina land hosted by Xakiji Chief Lee Crowchild. The President identified copyright as an emerging issue given the federal government's review of Copyright legislation. It was also noted that review of the goals and performance of senior executives was underway and would be completed by the end of June.

- The Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs (Lesley Brown)

The Provost commented that MRU is in Phase One of a two-phase plan to increase enrolment. An enrolment of 10,275 FLE is projected for 2018-19. It was noted that in Phase Two, increased student intake will be considered in relation to demand, capacity, and pedagogy; and that efforts will be made to secure funding for growth.

It was reported that there were 253 international students studying full-time in Winter 2018. This represents a 9.5% growth since 2016-17. A revamp of the International Student Support Centre and its activities is under way.

It was announced that Megan Bowler and Jennifer Pettit were respectively named University Librarian and Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

- Vice-President, Administrative Services (Annalise Van Ham)

Updates on a three-year budget planning process were provided. It was reported that the drafting of a Charter for the Resource Advisory Committee is underway.

The upgrade to Banner 9 is underway and will be completed by June 2019.

It is expected that updated Provincial Funding and Grant regulations will be forthcoming shortly.

- Interim Vice-President, Student Affairs and Campus Life (Steven Fitterer)
- Vice-President, University Advancement (Paul Rossman)

It was reported that the Foundation donation revenue as of 20th April was \$2.15 million.

- Report of the President of the MRFA (Marc Schroeder)

The MRFA President's written submission updated the Board on various MRFA activities including its being granted intervener status (together with the University of Alberta FA) in an Alberta Labour Relations Board hearing between the University of Lethbridge and the ULFA, which found in the ULFA's favour in the matter of employee designation. The MRFA's continuing concerns were noted with respect to over-reliance on contract appointments and the fulfillment of the University's core academic mission. There was particular emphasis, and some discussion with Board arose, on the matter of budget and financial reporting to ensure that resource allocations align with the University's core credit instruction role.

- Report of the President of the MRSA (Baset Zarrug)
- Report of the President of the SAMRU (Andrew Nguyen)
- The Board received or approved the following reports or statements:
 - Third quarter financial reports to 31st March, 2018.

Further information on these reports will be found in the Board minutes on the "Agendas and Minutes" page of the Board's web pages, see: <http://www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/OfficesGovernance/BoardofGovernors/AgendasMinutes/index.htm>

Presentations

- Elenor Finger, Director of Alumni Relations presented an overview of the current state and planning for MRU alumni engagement.

Policy and Resolution Approvals

- The Board approved the Comprehensive Institutional Plan for 2018-19 to 2020-21.
- The Board approved the Budget Plan: 2018-19 through 2020-21.
- On the recommendation of GFC, the Board approved an adjustment of the minimum degree for faculty members in the Social Work Program to "normally, a Ph. D. in Social Work."

- The Board approved minor renovations in Wyckham House.
- The Board approved a resolution appointing Keri Smith as a member-at-large on the Presidential Search Committee.
- The Board approved a revision to the asset mix component of the MRU Investment Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

David Clemis
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