



**Mount Royal Faculty Association
Executive Board Meeting
June 4, 2019
Minutes**

Call to Order: An Executive Board meeting of the MRFA was held in the Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta on June 4, 2019. The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1 of the Faculty Centre. President, Melanie Peacock, presiding.

Members Present

Allison MacKenzie
Brady Killough
Derrick Antson (MRFA Staff)
Lee Easton (phoned in 10 – 10:15)
Melanie Peacock
Rafik Kurji

Absent with Regrets

Brenda Lang
Guy Obrecht
Megan Lalonde

Absent

David Clemis
Michael Truscello

Approval of Agenda

Moved: Melanie Peacock and Seconded: Allison MacKenzie

Approval of Minutes - May 24, 2019

Motion THAT the minutes from May 24, 2019 MRFA Executive meeting be approved as presented.

Moved: Melanie Peacock and Seconded: Brady Killough

All in Favour
Motion Passed

Unfinished Business:

1. Proposed amendments to benefits program:
An update was provided to the Executive Board. Negotiation Committee nominated a sub-committee to discuss the proposed changes to the benefits plan with the representatives from MRU. MRU kept insisting that changes must be cost neutral. Next week the sub-committee will be meeting to continue the discussion regarding proposed changes to STD. The sub-committee will be reporting back to the Executive Board at the next meeting. Based upon what it decided (status quo, proposal supported, or proposal with amendments supported) a ratification vote with/for members would have to occur in August 2019 or if status quo (i.e. proposed changes not accepted) a detailed communication would have to be sent to members.
2. Cameras on campus: update – Deferred to fall
The matter has been discussed at GFC and other communities at MRU and the MRFA has forwarded questions to MRU's Joint OH&S Committee. Response to our questions is anticipated in early Fall 2019.
3. Application to CAUT defense fund: update. No further information at this time.

4. Academic freedom meeting on May 28th: Brady reported that a meeting took place between Tim Rahilly, MRU President; Lesley Brown, Provost and Vice-President, Academic; and MRFA members to discuss the topic of academic freedom as it relates to a recent statement by MRU. Lesley affirmed that the postponed speaker does not have academic freedom but that the postponement did affect members' academic freedom because it "regulated access to topics that members might want to engage with". Tim concluded that he plans to release a blog clarifying the difference between academic freedom and freedom of expression. Melanie will contact Tim to offer her support in drafting of the blog, in order to ensure that the MRFA's understanding of academic freedom is expressed. The Executive Board has also asked PDC to work with CAUT to put on an academic freedom event in the fall.
5. Code of conduct
This is an MRU policy and we are continuing to monitor this through CAFA. MRFA staff are expected to abide by the code of conduct and will be sent an email to follow the code of conduct.
6. Board of Governors: year-end update and summary
An update was provided and noted that the Budget was passed. It is hoped that in the fall the BOG will meet with members of the SAMRU, MRSA, and MRFA boards. Discussions through the MRU Coalition will continue to see if this is viable.

In Camera Session:

1. Grievance report (VP Policy and Sr. Grievance Officer)

Out of Camera Session:

1. Expressions of interest: Finalize committee appointments
Members who expressed interest in the various committee positions were discussed and the Executive Board made decisions regarding members who will be appointed to sit on the various committees.
 - An email will be sent to the members congratulating them and the committee contact list will be updated and posted on the MRFA website in the fall.
 - A spreadsheet is being created to track members who are not elected so that the nominations committee can consider them as committee positions become available.
2. Wording for MRFA President's release time
Suggested wording was provided to the Executive Board with regards to the MRFA President's release time as well as points to note. A possible solution and a suggestion to amend the wording in the Collective Agreement (and subsequently the MRFA Bylaws) was approved. Information will be presented to the negotiating committee for the upcoming round of collective bargaining.
3. Release time for MRFA BOG Representative
The MRFA's legal opinion was provided to the Executive Board and discussed. The Executive Board expressed the importance of having the MRFA's representative on the BOG as someone who has previous experience on the MRFA Executive Board and knows the Collective Agreement. While not pleased, based upon the legal opinion(s) received, the MRFA representative on the BOG cannot sit (even as non-voting) on the MRFA Executive Board.

Amendments to the Bylaws will be presented to the membership at the special meeting on September 27, 2019. As well, the current member voted into this role will be



updated and given the opportunity to continue in this role or to withdraw their name. If their name is withdrawn, a new MRFA representative to the BOG will be elected at the by-election in the fall.

4. Approval of 2019/2020 Department Liaisons

Motion THAT the Executive Board approve the 2019-2020 Department Liaison List as presented.

Moved: Melanie Peacock and Seconded: Rafik Kurji
All in Favour
1 Abstention
Motion Passed

5. June 12th Executive meeting: proceed as scheduled [10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in FC Room 1].

For Information

The Executive Board was provided with copies of the Diversity and Equity Committee minutes (April 26, 2019, and May 24, 2019), Faculty Evaluation Committee minutes (May 7, 2019), Grants Committee minutes (May 24, 2019), Advocacy Committee minutes (May 24, 2019), and Social Events Committee minutes (May 29, 2019).

Motion THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Melanie Peacock and Seconded: Rafik Kurji

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

B. Lang
Communications Officer, MRFA

Aug 23/19
Date of Approval