



Mount Royal Faculty Association Bulletin January 5, 2021

Highlights this Week:

PSE 2030 Telephone Town Halls

The telephone town halls scheduled **January 6 to 14**, 2021 comprise the final component of the formal consultations for the Alberta 2030: Building Skills for Jobs initiative. At these town halls the Alberta 2030 strategy will be presented and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

The events are organized by stakeholder group to facilitate focused discussions and you should, where possible, attend the event that reflects your role in the system; however, you are also welcome to attend any of the other town halls if they are better suited to your schedule.

Please register for a town hall via the following links

- General public town hall - Tuesday, January 12 at 7 pm - [Register for the general public townhall](#)
- Industry and employers: Wednesday, January 6 at 7 pm
- Students: Thursday, January 7 at 7 pm
- Faculty and all PSI staff: Monday, January 11 at 4:30 pm
- Education: Wednesday, January 13 at 5 pm
- Faculty and all PSI staff: Thursday, January 14 at 5 pm

[Register for a stakeholder townhall](#)

Volunteer List to Support Members Isolating or in Quarantine

MRFA members have volunteered to provide support to colleagues who are isolating or under quarantine due to the pandemic. This support may vary but could include things such as grocery delivery. Members who are isolating and needing support are welcome to contact any of the members, listed [online](#), to get the support you need.

Teaching on Campus?

Members teaching on campus should be aware that the Association's position is that:

- Full time faculty, who have had a choice asking for an exception to deliver in-person, should have the right to change back to remote delivery models if they feel it is unsafe to be on campus,
- Specific information regarding exposure locations could be provided by Deans on an individual basis,

Reminders to ensure your personal safety:

- The best way to ensure personal safety is for members to protect themselves: proper hand washing, do not touch your face etc.,
- Members may also refer to the People Plan and contact HR with any questions about in person safety.

Question of the Week

When are you hoping to be back on campus? [Spring 2021](#), [Fall 2021](#) or [Winter 2022](#).

Please feel free to send comments about the pandemic on our [pandemic comment form](#).



MRFA Upcoming Events

MRFA Spring 'retreat' 2020 – proposal deadline

The MRFA's PD Committee is planning an online 'retreat' for Spring 2021. Proposals can be submitted [online](#) by January 11. Also, please let us know what your preference would be for mode of delivery by filling out a quick form [online](#).

Pre-GFC Drop in Meetings

The MRFA Academic Liaison Committee's pre-GFC meetings are held a day in advance of GFC meetings, from 1:00 – 2:00pm, on the following dates:

- **January 14, 2021**
- February 11, 2021
- March 11, 2021
- April 22, 2021
- May 27, 2021

Zoom Links for all meetings are available in the MRFA Calendar (www.mrfa.net/calendar)

Connect with Colleagues Online – Bollywood Dance Lesson

January 15, 6:15 - 6:45pm - Hosted by Shelliza Murji. Taste some of Calgary's best Indian Cuisine, or try to make your own (a list of restaurants and a recommended recipe will be provided soon). After dinner, participate in an online Bollywood Dancing Lesson. [Zoom Link](#).

Connect with Colleagues Online – Drumming Lesson

Bring your partner, kiddos and friends and learn how to drum on **January 22** at 3:30 – 4:30pm. Hosted by Paul Johnston and Mirjam Knapik. [Zoom Link](#)– This link is also available at mrfa.net/calendar. Other Online Social Events coming soon are available [here](#).

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in the Learning Environment - PD Series

The MRFA's Professional Development and Diversity and Equity Committees are co-hosting a series of sessions relating to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the learning environment. Additional information on each session will be available closer to the date and registration will be required for each session.

- **Jan 22**, 10:00–11:30, Get Cracking - Personal Journey of Anti-Racist Work
- Feb 26, 10:00–12:30, Winter PD Day - Enhancing EDI in the Classroom
- Mar 19, 8:30 –10:00, Get Cracking - Difficult Conversations in the Classroom
- April 26, time TBD, Spring Retreat Panel - Inclusive Online Learning Environments

MRFA Drop in Sessions – You Have Questions? We Have Answers!

Do you have questions about grievances, faculty evaluation, tenure processes, PD funds or other topics? Ask your President, and other Association Officers, at regularly scheduled MRFA drop in sessions:

- Tuesday **January 26**, 11:00 – 12:00
- Friday February 26, 1:30 – 2:30
- Wednesday March 23, 11:00-12:00
- Friday May 28, 12:00 – 1:00

Can't make it to any of the scheduled sessions? Submit your question [online](#), and it will be answered in the session and notes will be provided later. Members who submit questions online will be entered to win one of five 10\$ Starbucks gift cards. (draw to take place in May). Join a session: zoom.us/j/93961554098



Connect with Colleagues Online – Personal & Family Vision Boards

February 5, 5:00 – 6:30pm - Hosted by Pattie Pryma. More information will be available soon.

Connect with Colleagues Online – Dance to the Anatolian Beat

February 19, 7:00 – 7:30pm - Hosted by Gulberk Koc MacLean. Taste some of Calgary's best Turkish Cuisine, or try to make your own (a list of restaurants and a recommended recipe will be provided closer to the date). After dinner, participate in a Dancing Lesson.

Other Social Events to come in Winter 2021 include:

- House Party – Gaming night in March
 - Craft Activism “Craftivism” in the Makers Studio in April
- Stay tuned for more details on these events.

MRFA Reminders

MRFA Comment Form

The MRFA is seeking members' input on any matter relevant to the MRFA: currently we are soliciting members' input specifically related to members' experiences working from home and transitioning to remote delivery. Members are welcome to use this [online form](#) to submit their feedback on MRFA initiatives, communications, and any other matters the MRFA may or should be involved in.

Connect Online on Fridays

The MRFA is hosting weekly open zoom meetings, **Members Rejuvenate on Friday Afternoons**, 3:30 – 6:00pm, for members to get together. Please refer to the [MRFA google calendar](#) (Click on the “+GoogleCalendar” so you can easily access it anytime) for links to MRFA zoom meetings.

Faculty are Asked to Complete a Profile Demonstrating the Value of PSE

Even amidst the current challenges, we need to continue to advocate for PSE. The MRFA Advocacy Committee plans to showcase the value of the work being achieved, thereby illuminating the damaging consequences of diminished funding and support for the post-secondary landscape. If you would like to volunteer to be highlighted as part of this initiative, please fill out the [online faculty profile form](#) or contact our Advocacy Officer Frank Cotaie (fcotae@mtroyal.ca). The Advocacy Committee will also be highlighting the significant impacts these budget cuts have on our students. Members are welcome to share the [online student profile form](#) with students who want to have their voice heard.

Faculty Members are Asked to Provide Their Contact Information

Thank you to all members who have taken the time to provide their private contact information. If you have not yet had a chance to respond please do so now [online](#). It is important that the Association have this information on file in the event of a lockout or strike. Please note – this is just a matter of preparedness and is not in any way related to the current state of negotiations.

Google Calendar

Instructions for how to add the MRFA Calendar to your Google Calendar are available [here](#), and the calendar is always available at mrfa.net/calendar.

CAUT OHCOW Survey - Second Phase of OHCOW Survey of Workers' Experience during a Pandemic

This survey is designed to learn about your experiences as a worker during a pandemic. This survey is a repeat of the survey originally launched in April/May 2020. Things have changed since this first survey, so we thought it would be wise to re-launch the survey again during this second wave of the pandemic. To access the survey please select the appropriate link:

- For healthcare workers (including EMS) working at healthcare workplaces (including homecare): https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pandemic_Survey
- for all other workers either working from home (i.e. remotely), or at a non-healthcare workplace : https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Pandemic_survey2

During the previous survey, just over half of the respondents took less than 15 minutes to complete the survey (the shortest time was 5 minutes). Those who went through the survey slowly and provided thoughtful comments took up to half an hour. If you feel uncomfortable answering a particular question, please just skip it. All the information collected in this survey is confidential. Only the researchers directly involved in this project will see all the answers. The team will not keep any information that could identify you or others. All the data collected will be stored on a secure server. CAUT intends to use the data collected for research and to share with research organizations for the end purpose of improving pandemic working conditions. The data, analysis and related information may be used in presentations, websites, and union, trade, and academic publications. If you have questions, please contact John Oudyk at joudyk@ohcow.on.ca

CAUT Nominations and Awards

- **CAUT Executive Board Nominations** - Click [here](#) to download the nomination form
- **CAUT Committee Nominations** - More information is available [online](#).
- **CAUT Equity Award – Call for Nominations**
- The deadline for nominations is **February 1, 2021**. The nomination form and procedures are available on the [CAUT website](#).

Previous Bulletin (MRFA News)

Covid Measures on Campus

The Association continues to liaise with MRU administration regarding members' Health and safety on campus with respect to Covid19 and we continue to encourage reporting where appropriate. The Association has been informed that when a case is identified on campus all affected areas are marked as closed and appropriate cleaning takes place: these measures have been effective as, other than the recent Cougar team outbreak, there has been no evidence of transmission on campus. **To ensure the campus remains safe for those who need to be there, it is imperative that individuals do not go to campus if they are experiencing symptoms and if you have been diagnosed you should [report it to OH&S](#) so they can support contact tracing. [Read More](#)**

Reminder: Call for Statements of Interest

The MRFA is calling for statements of interest for the following positions. These appointments will be made by the MRFA Executive Board in accordance with the MRFA's Bylaws, Policies and related committee charters. The MRFA encourages expressions of interest from members with a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences. Members interested in serving in either of these positions are invited to submit a statement of interest to office@mrfa.net. Statement of Interest guidelines, as well as the



optional self-identification form, are available [online](#). Eligible candidates must not be anticipating a leave from the University of more than 60 days during the term of membership on the committee.

- **Academic Liaison Committee** - Health, Community and Education Representative: 1 position for 2020 -2022. Eligibility: candidate's home department must be in the Faculty of Health, Community and Education.
- **MRFA Contract Representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee**: 1 position for 2020 -2022. Eligibility: must be Contract faculty
- **MRFA Professional Standards and Ethics Committee**: 1 position for January 1 2021 – June 14 2021. Eligibility: all members are eligible

Dates and Deadlines at a Glance

January

January 14, 1:00 – 2:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

January 15, 3:30 – 7:30 ~ MRFA Social Event – Bollywood Dance Lesson

January 22, 10:30 – 11:30 ~ MRFA PDC Get Cracking at Brunch

January 25 – 29, 2021 ~ Advocacy Week

January 26, 11:00 – 12:00 ~ MRFA Drop in Session – Submit your questions [online](#) and attend the session on [Zoom](#)

January 29, 1:00 – 3:00 ~ MRFA Regular Meeting

February

February 11, 1:00 – 2:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

February 26, 10:00 - 12:30 ~ MRFA Winter PD Day

February 26, 1:30 – 2:30 ~ MRFA Drop in Session – Submit your questions [online](#) and attend the session on [Zoom](#)

March

March 4, 4:00 – 6:00 ~ MRFA Regular Meeting

March 11, 1:00 – 2:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

March 19, 8:30 – 10:00 ~ MRFA PDC Get Cracking for Breakfast

March 23, 11:00-12:00 ~ MRFA Drop in Session – Submit your questions [online](#) and attend the session on [Zoom](#)

March 26, 3:30 – 7:30 ~ MRFA Social Event

March 26, 2021 ~ Scholarships for Dependents Deadline ~ mrfa.net/faculty-ops

April

April 9, 11:00 – 1:00 ~ MRFA Regular Meeting

April 22, 1:00 – 2:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in (hosted by ALC) – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

April 26 – 27, 8:30 – 5:00 ~ Spring Retreat ~ Online

May

May 14, 2021 ~ Contract Service Honorarium Deadline ~ mrfa.net/faculty-ops

May 14, 9:30 – 1:00 ~ MRFA Annual General Meeting

May 21, 3:30 – 7:30 ~ MRFA Golf Tourney, Rec Day & Keg Drain ~ Tentative

May 27, 11:00 – 1:00 ~ MRFA BBQ ~ Tentative

May 27, 1:00 – 2:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

May 28, 12:00 – 1:00 ~ MRFA Drop in Session – Submit your questions [online](#) and attend the session on [Zoom](#)

May 28, 2021 ~ Scholarships for Dependents Deadline ~ mrfa.net/faculty-ops



June

June 12-August 13, 2021

MRFA Office and Faculty Centre Closure

Contact Us

Office@mrfa.net

LabourRelations@mrfa.net

President@mrfa.net

EDI@mrfa.net

Communications@mrfa.net

Negotiations@mrfa.net