



Mount Royal Faculty Association Bulletin May 10, 2021

Highlights this Week:

Question of the Week - Fall 2021 Delivery, Timetabling and Accommodations Concerns

What are your concerns about Fall 2021 delivery? As we are approaching the end of a very challenging academic year, we are now looking forward to 2021-2022 and are seeking your thoughts on the return to campus. Specifically, other than the mandatory masking and traffic control, we want to hear about the safety measures you want in place. Please take a moment to provide your thoughts in our [member comment form](#). Your input provided via this form throughout the pandemic has helped the Association represent your interests as we faced the many challenges throughout the past year, moving forward the Association will continue to solicit and follow up on your concerns.

Almost all respondents to last week's question indicated that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the MRFA's new consultation processes for policies and bylaws. When policies are bylaws are being amended and are open for comment this will be noted in the Weekly Bulletin and the draft policy and comment form will be available [here](#).

Thank you to all members who take the time to respond to these questions. The Association continues efforts in representing your concerns and your feedback is very helpful in this process!

Service through MRFA Committees.

One of the many advantages of being a member of the Mount Royal Faculty Association is that it brings together a diversity of wonderful, talented, and highly knowledgeable scholars and teachers from every discipline. One way that I have discovered this is by learning to know them through work on MRFA committees, where people apply their unique skills and insights to advocating for excellence in education and scholarship, fair treatment of members and students and promoting knowledge about the value of post-secondary education, not to mention welcoming people and giving them the opportunity to natter over a glass of wine and a meatball at the Faculty Centre.

When surveyed, Faculty members have reported a high degree of satisfaction (nearly 90%) from their work on MRFA committees. In addition to providing opportunities to fulfil faculty service requirements, these committees allow faculty to demonstrate they value the Association, feel they are making a difference at the university, share their expertise on a relevant committee, or learn new skills. In addition to these motivations, many committee members say they joined another committee because they had such a positive experience serving on MRFA committees in the past.

Spring term gives many faculty an opportunity to review the past term and look forward to autumn, and it coincides with the call for nominations for MRFA committees. As you plan for the new year, consider putting yourself forward for one of the many [committee opportunities available](#). Chat with current and former members to see if it is a good fit for you or call 403.512.9295 to discuss the available positions. If you enjoyed serving on a committee, please share your experience with colleagues and offer to nominate them for a position.

Committee Nominations are open until May 14. Nomination forms, committee descriptions, and candidate guidelines are available [online](#).

Michele Holmgren, Department of English – on behalf of the MRFA's Member Engagement Committee

MRFA AGM and Elections:

Annual General Meeting

The MRFA's AGM is being held on **May 14, 9:15am – 12:30pm** on zoom. The agenda package is available [online](#) and you must [register in advance](#) to attend.

Committee Nominations Reminder

Members are encouraged to put their names forward to serve in the many available committee and positions. Not sure which committee to be nominated for? Call Chantelle at 403.512.9295 to discuss the available opportunities.

- **May 14, [Committee Nomination](#) Deadline**
 - Download and open the forms to fill them out (you cannot sign the forms if viewing them in a web browser) and email forms to office@mrfa.net. If you have difficulties signing the form, an email confirming the attached nomination would be accepted as well.
- [Summary of MRFA Standing Committees](#) and [committee web pages and charters](#).
- [Campaign Statement Guidelines](#)
- [MRFA Policy on Association Representatives](#)
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Executive Board All Candidates' Forum

Voting for [Executive Board Candidates](#) will take place by online ballot immediately following the adjournment of the Special Meeting which is scheduled to start at 11:30am on May 14. Online voting will be open to all meeting attendees until 6:00pm on May 14 (please [register in advance](#) to attend the meeting). If you are not able to attend the meeting on May 14, you may request to vote in the advance voting period which will be open from 9:00am on May 11 to 5:00pm on May 12.

Reminders, Updates and Deadlines

For all event details visit mrfa.net and/or view details on the [MRFA's google calendar](#).

- **May 14, [Contract Service Honorarium Application](#) and [CSH Extension Application](#) Deadline**
- Remember to claim expenses under your [PD allocation](#) by **June 1**
- Volunteer List to Support Members Isolating or in Quarantine: Members who are isolating and needing support are welcome to contact any of the members, listed [online](#), to get the support you need.

CAUT News

CAUT Call for nominations for the Sarah Shorten Award.

The award was established in 1990 in honour of Sarah Shorten, who served as Vice-President (1982–83) and two terms as President of CAUT (1983–84 & 1984–85), to recognize outstanding achievements in the promotion of the advancement of women in Canadian universities and colleges.

Nominations for the award may be submitted by academic staff associations, status of women committees, or any other interested parties. **The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2021.**

The nomination form and procedures are available on the [CAUT website](#). Nominations will be reviewed by CAUT's Equity Committee and recommendations will be forwarded to CAUT Council. The number and frequency of awards will be as the Committee and CAUT Council deem appropriate.

CAUT Call for Nominations for the Academic Librarians' and Archivists' Distinguished Service Award.

The Award was established in 1994 to recognize outstanding contributions by academic librarians and archivists, other academic staff, or groups to the advancement of the status and/or working conditions of academic librarians and archivists at Canadian universities and colleges.

Nominations for the award may be submitted by academic staff associations, or any other interested parties or individuals. **The deadline for nominations is June 1, 2021.**

The nomination form and procedures are available on the [CAUT website](#). Nominations will be reviewed by CAUT's Librarians' and Archivists' Committee and recommendations will be forwarded to CAUT Council. The number and frequency of awards will be as the Committee and CAUT Council deem appropriate.

MRFA Reminders

MRU Policy Consultation - *Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention*

In accordance with the University's policy framework, a draft of the proposed new *Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention* policy has been posted on the policy website for the 30-day consultation period. The draft may be downloaded [here](#). Feedback can be sent directly from the [website](#) or to policy@mtroyal.ca by May 14, 2021.

@mrfa.net Spam Email Filtering

It has been brought to our attention that some MRFA emails are being filtered to spam when they are sent from the Association's @mrfa.net server. Please take a moment to ensure that you have not missed messages and mark @mrfa.net as safe if any messages have been filtered to spam (the most recent message was sent from negotiations@mrfa.net on April 13). Moving forward, the Association will be sending more communications from its server; so, it is important that you keep this in mind should you suddenly stop receiving our messages.

Send us an Image of your Lawn Sign

The MRFA recently delivered over 200 lawn signs to faculty members and other members of the campus community. Local and provincial efforts continue to get these lawn signs out.

- If you have not yet signed up for a lawn sign – [request your lawn sign today!](#)
- If you have a lawn sign – take a photo of it in front of your house and send the picture in to office@mrfa.net

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.

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.

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 Cotae (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 or other Association initiatives which require a high level of member engagement. 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.

Dates and Deadlines at a Glance

May

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

May 14, 9:15 – 12:30 ~ MRFA Annual General Meeting

May 26, 2:00 – 3:00 ~ Pre-GFC Drop in – refer to [Google Calendar](#) for Zoom Link

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

June

June 12-August 13, 2021 MRFA Office and Faculty Centre Closure

Contact Us

- Office@mrfa.net – All inquires can be directed here.
- facultyrelations@mrfa.net – all inquiries relating to member services, meetings, elections, MRFA Committees, and Association governance can be directed here.
- LabourRelations@mrfa.net– All inquires relating to the Collective Agreement and Grievances can be directed here.
- President@mrfa.net– All inquires related to Association governance and external affiliations can be directed here.
- EDI@mrfa.net– All inquires and comments relating to equity, diversity and inclusion matters can be directed here.
- Communications@mrfa.net– All inquires relating to MRFA communications can be directed here
- Negotiations@mrfa.net– All inquires relating to collective bargaining can be directed here