



### **President's Update – May 3, 2021**

Good morning! I want to start by thanking the members of the Professional Development Committee for organizing an incredible PD Days event. At last count, 135 members registered to attend the two-day retreat. Despite the pandemic and its restrictions, the Association is helping us stay connected and engaged. Thank you PD Committee! Thank you also to Chantelle Anderson who ably supported the whole event!

### **Return to Campus Work Plan**

The University's plans for returning to work on campus in Fall 2021 have been released and there are number of questions faculty have expressed around the determination that between 70 and 80 percent of classes are being planned for on-campus delivery. We have seen that the University is planning to accommodate faculty with underlying conditions that may preclude in-class delivery. All faculty regardless of employment category should complete these accommodation requests, if appropriate. While decisions about which courses will be delivered remotely will be made mid-May, the Association is working to

- Assess the workload implications that might arise when some courses are delivered remotely and others in person.
- Work through CAFA to hear other universities Fall return to work plans and see what we might learn.
- Assess the possible role of Occupational Health and Safety regulations with respect to safe workplace
- Understand the University's plans with respect to mandatory masks and social distancing

Further conversations about the return to campus plans will occur at GFC later this month. Be sure to raise your concerns with your faculty representatives. We have set aside time at the AGM next week to discuss the return to campus and to hear your concerns.

### **Pay Equity Update**

The Joint Diversity and Equity Committee (JDEC) held its town hall on Friday April 30 to answer questions about the pay equity study and to outline anticipated next steps. If you have questions about the consultant's report and its findings, please email the JDEC. Questions arose about the JDEC's membership going forward. In June 2021, the MRFA will be appointing three new members with staggered terms to serve on the Committee. The Association will be distributing expressions of interest for this committee and other joint committees shortly. Consider putting your name forward.

### **Unfair Labour Complaint Update**

The notice of the Association's unfair labour practice complaint has been posted on [its HR "Important Announcement" link](#). The Association pointed out that this notification would not reach many members and requested the Labour Board work with the Employer to send out the notice via email. Meanwhile, if you applied for a sabbatical and were denied, you can write to the Alberta Labour Relations Board to inform them of how your application may have been affected by the University's determination that it would make 26.5 leaves available instead of 31.5 leaves.