

MRFA Weekly Bulletin

November 29, 2021

Highlights this Week

The Association mourns the loss of Dr. David Cann

As noted at the regular meeting on Friday, Dr. David Cann unexpectedly passed away November 24.

Dr. Cann came to Mount Royal University in August 2009 as a specialist in human memory and more specifically in false memories. Dave taught Cognitive Psychology, and Human Memory. He excelled at supervising many Honours students across his career and helped to establish the Honours Program in Psychology, teaching the Honours Seminar courses. He had a long-standing commitment to the Human Research Ethics Board (HREB), serving as the Chair, vice-chair, and member for a span of nearly a decade.

Dave had often expressed that his greatest passion was for teaching and working with students and he excelled at this. This passion and enthusiasm was evident in both the classroom and in conversations with colleagues. Dave was beloved by his students and colleagues both on a professional as well as on a personal level. He had an incredible sense of humour that was infectious. His warm smile and laughing eyes made everyone he met feel welcomed and accepted. The Association sends its condolences to Dr. Cann's family, friends and colleagues in the Department of Psychology.



1 Alberta 2030: Transforming Post-Secondary Education in Our Province

The Alberta 2030 plan seeks to align education and research more closely with private sector wants. Come learn what's at stake. This Advocacy Committee event unpacks this political project's specific goals, elements, and strategies.

Panelists:

- Trevor Harrison, University of Lethbridge
- Richard Mueller, University of Lethbridge
- Kevin Kane, President, Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations (CAFA)
- Brenda Austin-Smith, President, Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)

Date: November 30, 2021

Time: 11:00 - 12:00pm

Join Zoom Webinar [here](#)

2 MRU Financial Trends

Last week Meg Wilcox interviewed Marc Schroeder on the information slides he had prepared on the MRU financial trends. The videos are available [here](#) and we would love to hear your feedback on them.

- [Enrolment](#)
- [Expenses and Surplus](#)
- [Revenues](#)



3 Important Dates and Upcoming Events

Course Withdrawal Date has been Extended to Dec 9, 2021

At its October meeting, GFC enacted a number of changes related to the academic year. The withdrawal date for students has been shifted to **December 9, 2021**. Please note that while faculty are expected to be back on campus Jan 4, 2022, the start of classes has been changed to January 10, 2022.

Social Event Organized by MRFA Triad Committee

Looking to connect with fellow faculty? Are you currently in a Triad? Interested in learning more about Triads? Would you like to do this over a free lunch?

If yes to any of the above, join us for a complimentary lunch.

- Date: January 12, 2022
- Time: 12:00 - 1:00pm
- Location: Faculty Centre

Register [here](#) to attend the event. Registrations close on January 7, 2022

New Year Event Organized by the Social Events Committee

Celebrate the New Year with Colleagues. To accommodate varied schedules and allow for social distancing, prior registration is required for one of the two sessions: Lunch or End-of-Day servings

- Date: January 21, 2022
- Time slots: 12:00 - 2:00 pm (lunch serving) or 4:00 - 6:00 pm (end-of-day serving)
- Location: Faculty Centre

Register [here](#) to attend the event. Registrations close on January 13, 2022.

[View MRFA Calendar →](#)



4 MRFA Faculty Centre Updates

Access and Hours:

Monday – Tuesday: 9:00 – 4:00pm – by appointment only (email office@mrfa.net to inquire about access; use your campus card to get in on these days and knock when you arrive at the office)

Wednesday – Thursday: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday: 9:00am – 7:30pm

See Faculty Centre COVID Protocols [here](#)

"The Faculty Centre now serves lunch Wednesday through Friday, from 11:00am to 2:00pm"

We will have an expanded menu with various dietary options (Halal, gluten free, Kosher, pescatarian, vegetarian, vegan & etc.), and all food will have a full set of ingredients available for review in the centre and online. That menu will be published soon, but we want to include your favourites first.

Members are invited to let us know [what cultural cuisine you would want](#) as a feature of the month and in each month that we have that feature we would also welcome your stories to share about your cultural traditions. Provide your suggestions

Thank you for taking the time to suggest possible features and to provide your stories.



5 Fast Facts for Faculty: Technical Help for Students

Active learning is an ever-present topic in teaching and learning. However, the question remains: How can we go beyond a surface approach to active learning?

To learn more:

<https://sites.google.com/mtroyal.ca/ali/home>

[Connect with the ADC Sandbox for more information →](#)



6 MRFA Question of the Week

Barring any major changes in pandemic regulations, the MRFA Office and the Faculty Center will resume regular in-person operations starting January 4. However, as part of the Association's drive to be more inclusive, it has decided that its membership meetings and committee meetings and social events will be help both in person and on-line. Help us prepare for this new approach by letting us know:

How will you participate in MRFA meetings and events next semester?

- [In person only](#)
- [Mostly in-person](#)
- [Some on-line and some in person](#)
- [Mostly on-line](#)
- [Entirely on-line](#)

"Last week we received mixed responses from our members on their plans to visit the Faculty Centre to try the new items on the menu. Whilst the majority of members have not planned on visiting the Faculty Centre anytime soon, we encourage everyone including those who are still unsure about their decision to please do visit the Faculty Centre to experience the new menu items that have been introduced."

Thank you for your ongoing engagement in the Association despite the busy time of year! We look forward to seeing you again in the Faculty Centre if you are able to come up this fall or, if not, in 2022!

Thank you to all members who take the time to respond to these questions.

[How will you participate in MRFA meetings and events next semester?](#)



MRFA 2025 - Towards a more Inclusive, Diverse and Equitable Association

This academic year (2020-2021) was a difficult year with escalation of racist attacks against racialized groups in Canada and discovery of further evidence of Canada's horrific violence against First Nations, Metis, and Inuit. During this year the Association made a number of structural changes to make the Association more inclusive and welcoming. As part of this continuing effort, the Executive Board approved in principle the draft version of the Association's four-year plan MRFA 2025. The Board also endorsed a consultation plan that will offer members the opportunity to discuss the Plan. Members of the Association can review the draft Plan and offer comments below (Please Note: to see the draft plan you will need to [log in to your mrfa.net account](#)).

You can view the Plan and submit the feedback form below or access them directly here:

- [Draft Plan – MRFA 2025: TOWARDS A MORE INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE AND EQUITABLE ASSOCIATION](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)