

MRFA Weekly Bulletin

June 13, 2022



In Memoriam David Taras

Last week, the School of Communication Studies lost a kind and brilliant colleague, Dr. David Taras. At 72, David was still working, mentoring, researching, and of course writing. As co-editor, his next book (one of many), is soon to be released. David, in his role as Ralph Klein Chair in Media Studies, was known as a generous colleague, teacher and public commentator. He was always willing to make time to help others. Cancer took him from us long before he was ready to go. He died June 9, surrounded by loved ones in hospice. The community will miss his always insightful and sometimes humorous commentaries. His family and friends will of course miss his love and gentle nature. His last recorded interview was with his MRU colleague Sally Haney on May 25, which can be accessed in [today's MRU story](#).

[Listen to the interview here](#)

Call for Statements of Interest

Call for Statements of Interest - MRFA Vision, Mission, and Values Steering Committee

MRFA 2025: Building an Inclusive, Diverse and Equitable Organization committed the Association to an organizational review to enhance member engagement and inclusivity across the Association and in the MRU Community. Moreover, more than a decade has passed since the Association last reviewed its mission vision and values. The MRFA therefore now seeks to engage all members in reflecting on our identity, values, and core principles. This ad hoc committee will coordinate a generative and consultative process through which members may engage in this important review process.

Committee Election/Appointment Process:

- **September 15** – Deadline for Statements of Interest
- **September 16** - Election - conducted by online ballot
- **September 20** - Appointments made by the Executive Board

[Submit a Statement of Interest](#)

Policies open for comment

MRFA Policies Recently Approved and Policies out for Member Comment

Thank you to all members who have taken the time to provide feedback on the policies during the member comment period. Your feedback is very much valued and appreciated!

Recently Approved Policies:

- [Community Agreements Policy](#) (ongoing Pilot - being piloted by MRFA Executive, PDC and EDI Committees and other MRFA committees that choose to opt in to the pilot).
- Please note - other policies recently out for comment are still being revised to incorporate member comments. The final versions of the Complaints Policy and the Retired Members Policy will be provided in Fall 2022 once approved by the Executive Board. Thank you again to members who provided their insights on these policies!

Policy and an interim Committee's Terms of Reference out for Member Comment

- [Standards of Professional Conduct](#) (to be considered by the Executive Board in connection to related policies under development - i.e., the Complaints policy which was out for consultation in the Spring, the Community Agreements Policy which was recently approved, and the existing MRFA Meeting Policy) - **Open for Member Comment from June 12 - August 26**
- [Interim IDEA Council Terms of Reference](#) - **Open for Member Comment from June 12 - August 26**

[Provide your comments on the policy and terms of reference](#)



MRFA Social Events Save the Dates

MRFA Social Events
2022 - 2023

September 10, 11:00am - 1:00: Family BBQ, Crafts and Games

September 14 & 15, 12:00 - 1:00: Welcome Luncheons - Meet MRFA Officers and Staff, learn about MRFA and Triads

September 16, 3:30-7:30: Welcome Social Event

September 29, 11:am - 1:00: New Members Social Event

October 7, 4:00-7:00: Faculty Achievement Celebration (LPR)-Reception and toast to all members recognized in 2020 - 2022 in the Faculty Centre

November 15, 8:30 - 10:00: Breakfast w/ MRFA Executive & Staff

November 18, 3:30 - 7:00: Craft night in the centre (bring your family)

December 9, 3:30 - 7:00: End of Semester Event (bring your family)

January 20, 11:30-2:00: Envision your Year (with Lunch)

February 17, 3:30 - 7:00pm: Family Day Weekend Dance

Annual Spring Events:
May 25, 11:00-1:00: Member and Staff Appreciation BBQ
June 9, 12:00-7:30: Recreational Day

Faculty Centre (W315)
Hours & Information and MRFA Bistro Lunch Service

Fall 2022 lunch service
Wed-Fri, 11:00am - 1:00pm
August 31 - December 16

W/S 2023 lunch service
Wed-Fri, 11:00am - 1:00pm
January 4 - June 2

Lunch Menu: bit.ly/3M6I6Xg
Contact: 403-440-6193
facultycentre@mrfa.net




[View and Add the MRFA Calendar to your Google Calendar here](#)



Reminder - PSEC is seeking Faculty Experiences of Robert's Rules of Order

The MRFA's Professional Standards and Ethics Committee is currently engaged in a critical review of Robert's Rules through an EDI lens as part of the Association's ongoing work outlined in the MRFA 2025 Plan. The purpose of this survey (emailed to all members at 11:00am on May 27) is to better understand faculty members' experience using Robert's Rules. This survey will remain open until September 15, 2022 - Thank you too all who have provided feedback.



LAPP Information Session

MRU has an upcoming webinar on the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP) - June 16, 1:00 - 3:00pm

A representative from LAPP will be hosting this 2 hour event and will explain everything anyone would want to know about LAPP, from what is a defined benefit plan to how your pension is calculated and what is a buy back (and the pros and cons of purchasing).

The Association does not normally convey messages from the University, however this message has been approved for inclusion here due to its broad applicability to MRFA Members. The Association encourages all members to recognize that half of our members who are on contract are not eligible to participate in this pension plan due to their precarious employment.

[Register here to attend the LAPP information session](#)



Faculty Centre and MRFA Office Closure

The Faculty Centre and Offices will be closed from June 15 - August 16 (inclusive).

The centre will re-open with limited hunch service on August 17 and full lunch service will resume August 31. If you would like to book any meeting rooms for catering for 2022-2023 please contact facultycentre@mrfa.net.

[Association staff and contact information](#)



Update - the Joint EDI Taskforce is now Fully Constituted

Thank you again to all members who put their names forward to serve on the EDI Taskforce. This committee is now fully constituted with the following representatives:

MRFA Representatives:

- Joseph Osuji, Professor, School of Nursing and Midwifery
- Jebunnessa Chapola, Instructor, Department of General Education
- Paul Varella, Professor, Bissett School of Business

MRSA Representatives:

- Steve Kootenay-Jobin, Iniskim Centre
- Eva Gonzalez, Faculty of Health, Community and Education, Office of the Dean
- Enny Ajayi, Environmental Health and Safety

MRU Management and Exempt Representatives:

- Sarah Imran - Manager, Career Services
- Monazza Shabbir - Manager, Resource Planning
- Richard David - Payroll Administrator (exempt)

Members are welcome to review the terms of reference for the Taskforce [here](#) and to submit any comments to the MRFA at edi@mrfa.net

[View the Terms of Reference here](#)



MRFA Bistro

No Lunch Service this week

MRFA Bistro – Lunch Service: available in the Faculty Centre Wednesday – Friday 11:00am – 2:00pm - RESUMES - AUGUST 31, 2022

- [Faculty Centre Lunch Menu](#)
- [MRFA Bistro Takeout Order Form](#)

Reminders:

- Members must use their campus cards to access the centre
- Members bringing guests into the centre must sign guests in with Robert (W-F), with Joy (M-T), or [online](#)

[View the MRFA Bistro menu here](#)

[Send us your feedback](#)

[View the webpage on mrfa.net](#)

[Request a Meeting Room](#)