

# MRFA Weekly Bulletin

August 29, 2022



## Call for Statements of Interest - ad hoc Covid Advisory Working Group

The Association considers the full return to campus with few restrictions in fall 2022 as having the potential to pose considerable risks to members' health and safety. Moreover, because COVID has become a long-term disability, the Association has an ongoing interest in ensuring that members' rights are protected with respect to workplace accommodations.

Given the range of responses to return to campus this academic year, the Executive Board is tasking this working group with advising the Executive Board on changing health and safety provisions and requirements across the country and to make recommendations about how to align our practices at MRU with practices here in Alberta and across the country. The group will also make recommendations on how best to respond and support members with Long Covid.

Interested members with relevant medical, scientific, and/or health and safety expertise are asked to submit a [statement of interest](#) to serve on this working group. There are currently three vacant positions to be filled.

[Submit a statement of interest to the MRFA by September 1](#)

There are many other vacant positions available. Please review available positions [here](#) and submit a [statement of interest](#) to the MRFA.



## Seeking Members' Comments on the Interim Idea Council Terms of Reference

[Interim IDEA Council Terms of Reference](#) - Open for Member Comment from June 12 - September 16 (deadline extended to permit more time for member feedback)

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

## Seeking Members' Comments on their experiences with 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.

[email facultyrelations@mrfa.net](mailto:facultyrelations@mrfa.net) if you cannot locate the survey link

## Seeking Members' Comments on the FEC Recommendations on Peer Evaluations

The MRFA's Faculty Evaluation Committee has developed a set of [recommendations](#) relating to peer evaluations and is seeking member input. Please view the recommendations below and submit your comments and/or questions to the committee via this [form](#) by August 31, 2022.

[View the Recommendations here](#)

[Send us your Comments here](#)



## Upcoming MRFA Events

- **Pay Equity Information Session - August 31, 10:00 - 11:20am** - Hybrid (online and in the Faculty Centre). [Registration](#) is required for online attendance. Attend the info session to hear the current status of pay equity concerns as identified in the [Consultant's Report](#) and what lies ahead. Provide your thoughts on what next steps could be taken to address this issue.
- **Pride Parade - September 4, 10:00am - 12:00pm**. Join the MRU community in celebration of Pride. [Sign up](#) for information on where and when to meet up.
- **Pride Luncheon - September 9, 12:00 - 1:00pm**, join us for a Pride Luncheon, supporting the SAMRU Pride Centre, in the Faculty Centre (W315) with a tea tasting that supports local business. [Register here](#).
- **MRFA Family and Friends BBQ and Fun Day - Saturday September 10, 11:00am - 1:00pm**. Join us for the return of our annual Family and Friends BBQ. All families and all ages welcome. [Register here](#).
- **Tenure and Promotion Workshops** (Faculty Centre W315 - Peggy Brydon Room and online)
  - August 29, 2:00 - 4:00pm
  - September 23, 11:00am - 12:50pm
  - October 3, 2:30 - 4:30pm
    - While these sessions are intended, and required, for members who are serving on Tenure and Promotion Committees, all members are welcome to attend. Each session will be offered in hybrid format. The physical location may change depending on registrations. Register [here](#).



## Did you get a parking ticket at MRU this month?

The Association has received complaints from members about parking tickets in August 2022. Due to MRU process changes, the parking permit periods shifted from the prior August 1 - July 31 to be effective now from September 1 - August 31. This meant that all employees would have had to purchase an August Pass and then an annual pass to start in September. Unfortunately, the communication on this came out over the summer and many members may have missed it.

The Association would like to follow up on this concern; to do so effectively, we need to know how many of our members have been adversely affected by this. If you got a ticket in MRU parking lots in August, please let us know.

[Let us know if you got a parking ticket at MRU in August 2022](#)



## CAUT Defence Fund Covers Cost of Mediation!

At a meeting of its Board of Trustees last week, the CAUT Defence Fund approved covering the MRFA's expenses relating to mediation. These expenses were incurred for formal mediation which was undertaken by both parties in February 2022 after over two years of bargaining and a Collective Agreement which had been expired since June 2020.

[Find out more about the MRFA's CAUT Defence Fund Benefits here](#)



## Question of the Week

[Please indicate your level of support for MRU instituting a mask mandate for Fall 2022?](#)

- [Strongly supportive](#)
- [In favour](#)
- [Neither in favour nor against](#)
- [Against](#)
- [Strongly opposed](#)

### Last Week's Results

Most respondents to last week's question indicated that they wanted to learn about what should or should not be included in annual reports. Members also wanted to know about the role of the Deans' comments and how to import data. Answers to these questions are available in the [notes from the PD session](#) which was hosted last week by the MRFA's PD and Faculty Evaluation Committees and presented by MRFA President Lee Easton and Faculty of Arts Dean Jennifer Pettit.

Thank you to all members who provide feedback in our Questions of the Week.

[Let us know if you think MRU should have a mask mandate for Fall 2022](#)



## MRFA Bistro

*No Lunch Service this week*

MRFA Bistro – Lunch Service: available in the Faculty Centre Wednesday – Friday 11:00am – 2:00pm - RESUMES - September 7, 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-R), or [online](#)

[View the MRFA Bistro menu here](#)

[Send us your feedback](#)

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

[Request a Meeting Room](#)