

MRFA Weekly Bulletin

November 7, 2022



MRFA
MOUNT ROYAL
FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Support for CUPE Education Workers

The Association is supporting Ontario CUPE Education Workers in their resistance to the notwithstanding clause which is being used to violate their charter rights. See the MRFA Statement [here](#) and support the call to action below:

Call to Action - What MRFA Members can do:

- Learn more about the issue (links provided below)
- Learn about the **"Don't Be A Bully"** campaign and what you can do support it
- Post on social media
 - Use hashtags: #39kIsNotEnough #ISupportCUPE #ISupportCUPE #OntEd #solidarity #cupe #osbcu #onpoli @CUPEOntario @OntEdWorkers
 - Link to the [MRFA statement](#) and/or other PSE statements provided below
- Join their [Ontario picket lines](#) (if possible)

MRFA Affiliated PSE Association Statements:

- [CAUT Statement condemning Ontario government's back-to-work legislation of CUPE's underpaid education workers](#)
- [CAFA letter of solidarity with Ontario Education Workers](#)

Related Posts and articles:

- [CUPE Ontario Post](#)
- CBC News Article: ['We need our voices to be heard': Ontario education workers walk off the job as strike begins](#)
- [CBC Front Burner episode](#) (provides background on the issues)
- [The Conversation article: Ontario school strike: Government's use of the notwithstanding clause – again – is an assault on labour relations](#)



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Reminder - Policies and Bylaws

The following policies and bylaws are out for Member consultation. Please note, following feedback received to date, there have been significant revisions to the complaints policy and standards of professional behavior. There are new links provided below to these policies.

- [Bylaw 5-Membership and Delete references](#) to all other categories of members and membership ([Rationale / Draft Proposed Amendments](#))
- [Individual Associates Policy](#) to replace and better define types of Associates of the MRFA ([Rationale / Draft Proposed Policy](#))
- [Replace Bylaw 16 with a Standards of Professional Behaviour policy](#) ([Rationale / Draft Proposed Policy](#)) and create a set of policies that better define how the Association deals with internal complaints that comply with legislation and the *Alberta Labour Relations Code* including
 - [Operations Complaint Policy and Procedures \(Draft Proposed Policy\)](#)
 - [Member Conduct Policy and Procedures \(Draft Proposed Policy\)](#)
 - [Policy Against Abuse Of MRFA Staff \(Draft Proposed Amendments\)](#)

[See the draft policies and Bylaw changes here](#)

[Submit Comments on the proposals here](#)

Get Cracking (at brunch) on Being Observed in Peer Evaluations

These are opportunities for members to attend training on how to conduct peer evaluations; however, there is no similar opportunity for members going through the peer evaluation process. At the informal discussion we will consider how best to be observed and what can help those being observed to better understand the process.

Speakers:

- Archie McLean will provide his perspective on being observed in peer evaluations
- Jennifer Boman will provide brief overview of best practices for peer observation
- Stephen Price will provide an overview of related policy matters and will be able to answer your questions

Please note - this is an in-person event only and notes will be taken and made available for those who could not attend.

Get Cracking at Brunch on Being Observed in Peer Evaluations

November 18, 9:30 - 11:00am, with brunch provided in the Faculty Centre (W315)

There are opportunities for members to attend training on how to conduct peer evaluations; however, there is no similar opportunity for members going through the peer evaluation process. At this informal discussion, we will consider how it feels to be observed and what can help those being observed to better understand the process.

Speakers:

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[Register here](#)



MRU Study on Building Connections

Do you want to participate in a study about building cross-disciplinary connections? Twenty MRU faculty members are being sought to participate in a SoTL study about building connections across disciplines and how we find surprising crossover points when we have intentional discussions outside of our own siloes. Participants will be matched up with someone outside of their home discipline for a guided conversation. The total time requirement is under 3 hours over the whole year and could inspire new avenues in your teaching. This opportunity is open to any full-time or contract faculty. You can find more information [here](#) and if you would like to participate, please contact Sarah Hewitt - sahewitt@mtroyal.ca by Dec. 1, 2022.

[Contact Sarah Hewitt](#)



Upcoming MRFA Events

Reminder: Members Rejuvenate on Friday Afternoons

The MRFA hosts weekly Socials every Friday in the Faculty Centre from 3:30 - 7:00pm.

Members are invited to come up to connect and socialize with colleagues, enjoy good food, drinks, and company, and listen to (or participate in) the Faculty band.

Upcoming MRFA Events and Meetings

- Remaining MRFA Fall Regular Meetings:
 - November 28, 10:00am - 12:00pm
- Remaining Fall Social Events:
 - **Social Event - November 18, 3:30 - 7:00pm** (family members welcome) in the Faculty Centre See the [event poster](#) for more information
 - **End of Semester Party - December 9, 3:30 - 7:00pm** (family members welcome) in the FC
- **Breakfast with the Board, November 15, 8:30 - 10:00am in the Faculty Centre.** Come meet, eat, and discuss items of interest to you with members of your MRFA Executive Board. Register [here](#)
- **PDC Get Cracking at Brunch on Peer Evaluations** - Discuss best practices, policies, and what it feels like to be the faculty member being evaluated. **November 18, 9:30 - 11:00am. Register Here.**
- **Pre-GFC Drop in Sessions - Online and in-person (in the Faculty Centre - Peggy Brydon Room) on Wednesdays 1:00 - 1:50pm** (see mrfa.net/calendar for links): November 23, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 15, and May 17.

Resources from Recent MRFA Events

- [Slides from the Contract Faculty Hiring Information Session](#) held last week
- Event [notes from Panel on Supporting Students](#) from the Fall PD day (page 1 is a summary of key takeaways from this session)

Question of the Week

Are you satisfied with the implementation of the new [Student Code of Conduct](#) Policies?

- [Yes](#)
- [No](#)

Last Week's Results

Members indicated they were aware of all the services provided in the MRFA Bistro, with the Friday afternoon appetizers being the least well known. An appetizer menu will be developed and made available in s subsequent bulletin. Thank you for the positive feedback on the food quality and prices!

Thank you to all members who provide feedback in our Questions of the Week. *Feel free to suggest your own question of the week!*

[Are you satisfied with the implementation of the new Student Conduct Policies?](#)

Covid Monitor

The Association continues to monitor the Covid situation watching hospitalization rates and developments elsewhere in the country.

Reminders:

- CO2 monitors are available that members can [borrow](#) to test their instructional spaces: we recommend that several readings be taken. Read the [Covid Update](#) for information about placement and use of monitors and please complete this [form](#) to submit the readings you get when testing CO2 in instructional spaces.
- The seasonal flu shot and the bivalent vaccine are both currently available.
- You can work with your Chair if you are not feeling well and are able to continue work remotely.
- Faculty are similarly asked to encourage students to stay home when ill, and faculty can ask students to mask in classrooms (but cannot require it).

[Borrow a CO2 monitor](#)

[Submit CO2 readings here](#)



MRFA Bistro

MRFA Bistro – Lunch Service is available Wednesday – Friday, 11:00am – 2:00pm

- [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](#)