

MRFA Weekly Bulletin

October 31, 2022



Save the Date - MRFA 2023 Retreat

April 24-25, 2023 with a Writing Residency co-sponsored by ADC and the MRFA on April 25-27.



November 15 - Breakfast with the Board

Members are invited to attend a breakfast with members of the MRFA Executive Board and Association Staff on November 15, 8:30 - 10:00am. This is an opportunity to hear what Association Officers are working on, to ask questions, and to provide any input to the current work of the Association. We look forward to seeing you there!

[Register here to come for breakfast](#)

November 18 Social Event

Join us on Friday, November 18, 4:00 - 8:00pm to make buttons, play trivia, and watch Canada's Drag Race (no registration required).

- Share your pronouns, show your support, and express yourself in any way you like at this social button making activity. Supplies and assistance provided.
- Test your knowledge of drag history and the most popular RuPaul tunes while sharing great food and company with colleagues. Prizes for trivia game winners!
- Watch Canada's Drag Race: Canada vs. the World, a celebration of diversity and fabulous talent! The premier of this international competition showcasing drag performers from Canada and the world is starting at 7:00pm in the Faculty Centre.

Hosted by the MRFA's Social Events and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committees.

[View the Event Poster 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](#)

What to do with the Fair Employment Door Signs

First, please feel free to leave your sign up. But, we're also interested in compiling all of the messages you've shared. So, when you have a moment, please snap a photo of your sign and send it to office@mrfa.net (no names need to be visible in the picture). The Advocacy Committee will be reviewing messages to better understand emerging perspectives and themes. And, if you feel comfortable doing so and haven't already, please share on social media, tagging the post with #MakelFair, #Fairness4CAS, and @MRUFaculty. When you wish to take your sign down, we encourage you to give it to your department's MRFA liaison, so that signs can be collected for a display in the Faculty Centre. (To find out the name of your department's liaison, see the MRFA's [contact list](#) under the "Department Liaisons" section.)

Thanks again for adding your voice to this collective initiative.

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](#)

Reminder - Policies and Bylaws

The following policies and bylaws are out for Member consultation:

- *Bylaw 5-Membership* and delete references to all other categories of members and membership ([Rational/ 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](#)



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 Night - November 18, 3:30 - 7:00pm (family members welcome) in the Faculty Centre
 - 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. (registration will open closer to the date)
- 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 19, 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

We are assessing members' awareness of recent changes in the MRFA Bistro. Please select all that apply from the list below.

[I am aware that the Bistro has...](#)

- [lunch service Wednesday - Friday](#)
- [Gluten Free menu items](#)
- [vegetarian and Vegan options](#)
- [Kosher and Halal options](#)
- [appetizers, such as chicken wrings etc., on Friday evenings](#)
- [a form I can use to request takeout or order in advance](#)

Last Week's Results

Members indicated the following ranking to guide the Association's Actions moving forward:

1. Defending members' rights
2. Defending tenure and academic freedom
3. Advocating for PSE
4. Maintaining high standards of professionalism
5. Enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion

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

[Send us your feedback on the MRFA Bistro](#)



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](#)