



MAUT Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 12:00 pm
In-person meeting with hybrid option

Approved Agenda

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Approval of Council Minutes of [2023-09-13](#)**
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes (Action Items)**
 - CASC Brief Statement on Merit Reduction Inconsistencies (Y. Winter)
 - Pcard & QST (M. Hendricks Absent)
 - Invite C. Manfredi to present at Council in November (P. Grutter)
 - Poll to implement social events (P. Grutter)
 - Asbestos Steward Committee – chair and additional members (J. Ristic)
 - Town hall on unionization next spring (R. Sieber)
 - Invite new head of Legal Services, JF Legault to Council meeting in fall (V. Muniz-Fraticelli)
 - Social Engagement Survey (B. Forest)
 - Advisor’s Information and Training Workshop (J. Varga)
 - Motion - MAUT-MURA MOA amendment (J. Varga)
4. **VP Internal [J. Ristic]**
 - i. **[Stewart Asbestos Report](#) (guests: Abigail Gerhold & Rosemary Bagot)**
5. **President’s Report [P. Grutter]**
 - i. **University Tuition Hikes in Quebec
[Mobilization](#)**
6. **Past-President’s Report [R. Sieber]**
 - i. **RAC Chair, Appointment (seat on Council)**
 - ii. **CAS Call for Nominations**
7. **President-Elect’s Report [N. Quitoriano]**
 - i. **Collegial governance landscape (Faculty/Librarian/CAS) after the formation of AMPL & AMPE**
8. **VP External [V. Muniz-Fraticelli]**
 - i. **[Motion AMPE](#)**
9. **VP Finance [K. Bevan]**
10. **VP Communications [S. Jordan]**
11. **CAS [C. Riches]**
12. **Library Section [M. Hague-Yearl]**
13. **Retiree Affairs Committee [F. Ferrie]**

14. Other Business

- i. [Motion to pass a statement reaffirming academic freedom](#) (Y. Winter)

Or if all in agreement, publicly endorse and distribute the [CAUT statement](#)

15. Adjournment



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Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 12:00 pm
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Attendees:	<u>Executive Officers</u> Peter Grutter, President Nate Quitoriano, President-Elect Renee Sieber, Past-President Jelena Ristic, VP Internal Victor Muniz-Fraticelli, VP External Steve Jordan, VP Communications	<u>Council Members</u> Ben Forest Caroline Riches Catherine Lu Lisa Munter Michael Hendricks Yves Winter Mary Hague-Yearl, MAUT-LS Frank Ferrie, MAUT-RAC
Members:	Dennis Wendt, MAUT Member & AMPE President	
MAUT Office:	Jo-Anne Watier, AO and Joseph Varga, PLO	
Regrets:	Executive: Kirk Bevan, VP Finance Council: Jill Boruff, Richard Gold, Ipek Tureli, Sandra Hyde	

Approved Minutes

P. Grutter called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm

1. Approval of Agenda

B. Forest moved to approve the agenda, seconded by J. Ristic. Council approved unanimously.

2. Approval of Council Minutes of [2023-09-13](#)

J. Ristic moved to approve the agenda, seconded by M. Hendricks. Council approved unanimously.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes (Action Items)

- ✓ CASC Brief Statement on Merit Reduction Inconsistencies (Y. Winter)
It was reported that the scenario inconsistencies has been addressed by the Associate Provost (A. Campbell) and she sent instructions to the chairs.
- Pcard & QST (M. Hendricks Absent)
It is an ongoing issue.
- Invite C. Manfredi to present at Council in November (P. Grutter)
C. Manfredi and C. Buddle will attend the Council meeting on November 23, 2023.
- Poll to implement social events (P. Grutter)
- Asbestos Steward Committee – chair and additional members (J. Ristic)
See report below under item 4. VP Internal
- Town hall on unionization next spring (R. Sieber)
- Invite new head of Legal Services, JF Legault to Council meeting in fall (V. Muniz-Fraticelli)
He was invited but did not respond despite Victor having followed up twice. Another email will be sent to JR Legault's office with his assistant in copy.
- Social Engagement Survey (B. Forest)

Ben circulated the draft on October 10th to Council - no additional questions were added to the survey. The survey has been uploaded to Lime Survey and will be ready for dissemination. JA Watier will obtain the latest list of eligible MAUT members and MAUT members from HR Services.

- **Advisor's Information and Training Workshop (J. Varga)**

Joseph reported that the workshop has been added to the MAUT website and registrations are coming in. The workshop will be held in December for Advisors seeking training.

- **Motion - MAUT-MURA MOA amendment (J. Varga)**

The document is currently being updated and will be signed by both parties soon.

4. VP Internal [J. Ristic]

- i. [Stewart Asbestos Report](#)

M. Hendricks went over the report with Council and gave a brief summary. Every year, they are asked to sign responsibility documents, saying that they're personally responsible for ensuring that all environmental safety measures are identified for students. Which is fine but when asking for facilities to service certain parts of the lab and it does not get done, professors are yet held accountable in a situation that can quickly lose control. Such as asbestos posing a risk because it hasn't been properly managed. Most of the provincial guidelines and McGill's procedures around testing prospectus are based on the highest risk activities (occupational exposure during renovations and demolitions creating a gap where McGill assumes everyone can recognize asbestos and the dangers). Asbestos at the university dates back several years. The situation was becoming unmanageable and presented a risk to health and safety of the occupants and permanent solutions were needed in the next three to five years as a very high priority in 2014. EHS and Facilities formed a working group in 2016 to manage the situation. The costs were higher than expected so McGill divided the jobs into smaller lots hoping to get lower bids from general contractors (bids came back even higher than the initial cost for the one job – they were unable to save money). There was also the issue of capacity and where to place people during the asbestos removal. Other issues were, poor communication, lack of project managers, incorrect processes, etc. There were burst pipes, cement falling from ceilings creating dust, etc. which was not properly handled. This increased risk to those accessing these areas. The priority should be to remove people. Meanwhile, M. Hendricks has been speaking with The Gazette who are interested in writing an article on the asbestos situation at McGill (perhaps approach La press as well). Read the full report [Stewart Asbestos Report](#). The 3 P's will bring this up at their next meeting with the Principal and Provost.

5. President's Report [P. Grutter]

- i. **TLS**

P. Grutter met with TLS and IT Support and discussed the different challenges that professors have (technical support, recording system, changing of software, etc.). Possibly have a direct service line for teachers only. They were unaware of these issues and were going to look into the matter.

- ii. **University Tuition Hikes in Quebec - Mobilization**

P. Grutter presented a motion to Council regarding a mobilization on the university tuition hikes in Quebec. Students from several universities will be going on strike for one day on Monday, October 30th. It was asked if MAUT would be willing to [circulate an email](#) in support the movement and to accommodate students who miss class. Council discussed and made modifications to the text. N. Quitoriano proposed, seconded by B. Forest. Y. Winter asked to modify the text, a friendly amendment was accepted by N. Quitoriano and B. Forest. Council reviewed the motion further, made a few more modifications, Nate and Ben accepted the additional changes. **Council voted and all were in favor. The motion passed.**

6. Past-President's Report [R. Sieber]

i. RAC Chair, Appointment (seat on Council)

R. Sieber welcomed Frank Ferrie, new RAC Chair. He won by acclamation.

ii. CAS Call for Nominations

Call for nominations is going out today. One nomination has been received to date. The goal is to have CAS representation on Council and Chair for a CAS Standing Committee.

iii. MAC Asbestos is ongoing

The asbestos reporting is ongoing and they have decided to rent mobile units.

iv. Computer software to replace Omnivox

R. Sieber met with IT support earlier today to have the Omnivox set up with MAUT's election requirements. There has been little institutional memory because the position changes person every year. IT support is looking into purchasing a new voting software and they should take MAUT's needs into consideration. R. Sieber volunteered to be part of the process when they implement the new system.

7. President-Elect's Report [N. Quitariano]

i. Collegial governance landscape (Faculty/Librarian/CAS) after the formation of AMPL & AMPE

N. Quitariano talked about how the collegial governance landscape with the unionization/potential unionization of faculties such as with law and education are with MAUT. What should collegial governance look like with fractionalized representation? One model that was talked about was where you have different member organizations to another organization, and that organization speaks on behalf of faculty. Or committees be formed by each organization with a formal process and statements from that committee. Nate asked that others share their input. R. Sieber suggested, 1. Do not forget town hall on how best faculty should be represented (Special Council meeting from last spring) 2. Those two proposals won't work – could be conflictual without potential resolution (no consensus voice) and go to bilateral meetings with MCC. Victor mentioned a coalition government (portfolios are given to the different parties) but what are the issues legally. Collective agreement is still in the works for AMPL – no committee structure at this time. CAUT model is composed of unions though it is not one itself – it does not have any legal conflict with collective agreements from its constituents. MCC could be that coordinating body for McGill's associations & unions. Depending how it is set up, it could be similar to CAUT. Council discussed and shared their thoughts and how to develop this example moving forward – to be continued. C. Lu volunteered to get involved.

8. VP External [V. Muniz-Fraticelli]

i. [Motion AMPE](#)

V. Muniz-Fraticelli explained that the motion being presented is exactly the same as a prior motion that was approved for AMPL but now with one additional change to make it clearer (MAUT will not oppose AMPE in seeking assistance from our membership and FQPPU or its member associations). Victor moved, seconded by Steve. Speaker rights were given to Dennis Wendt, President of AMPE and MAUT member. Council asked for a some background of AMPE and was directed to read about in the [Tribune](#). However, in summary their request to unionize and mostly based on widespread dissatisfaction with workload, leadership, etc. It was pointed out by a Council member that MAUT should not have a position. There was an error in reference to the date for AMPE (should be November 16, 2021), Council accepted the correction to the motion. **Council voted. One apposed, one abstained. Motion passed.**

ii. **Report on CAUT CAS Conference and FQPPU**

V. Muniz-Fraticelli and C. Riches attended the CAUT Conference on CAS on October 20-21, 2023. The FQPPU is holding a workshop on psycho-social risk (new Quebec legislation - occupational safety regime where employers set up a health and safety committee with one representative to attend the workshop). Victor asked Council if anyone was interested in participating (in-person or online) to email him.

9. **VP Finance [K. Bevan]**

Nothing to report.

10. **VP Communications [S. Jordan]**

S. Jordan advised Council that the next newsletter is scheduled for January 2024 and to submit their reports/articles to him.

11. **CAS [C. Riches]**

C. Riches attended the CAUT CAS conference and most of the university unions were there. It was encouraging to see how all the university associations/unions work together collegially to solve major problems (i.e. keynote speaker from Rutgers was instrumental on the strike and bargaining that they achieve in 2021). Great examples in working together.

12. **Library Section [M. Hague-Yearl]**

There was a fairly significant restructuring of the organization of the library that was announced about a week ago, including the addition of two new Associate Deans. There's a fair amount of shifting around within the library that might affect people. The new dean has been quite transparent and talking to people. It was appreciated that when the new positions that were announced, she stated her intention to have those be interim and there actually be searches.

13. **Retiree Affairs Committee [F. Ferrie]**

Frank expressed his gratitude in being part of RAC and Council and glad to have met other members and is glad to serve.

14. **Other Business**

i. **Motion to pass a statement reaffirming academic freedom (Y. Winter)**

Motion was on the table and Y. Winter agreed to withdraw it if all were in agreement to issue the CAUT statement instead and to publicly endorse and distribute the [CAUT statement](#) to MAUT members and post on the website. Council discussed and preferred the CAUT statement. **Motion moved by Peter, seconded by C. Lu. Council voted. All were in favor. Motion passed.**

15. **Adjournment**

P. Grutter called a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Forest moved, seconded by V. Muniz-Fraticelli. Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted and recorded by: JA Watier