



**MAUT Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 12:00 pm  
McGill Faculty Club

---

**Attendees:** Axel van den Berg, President  
Petra Rohrbach, President-Elect [via SKYPE]  
Nathan C. Hall, VP Communications  
Dror Etzion, VP Finance

**Council:** Susan Gaskin  
Sandra Hyde  
Steve Jordan  
Lisa Munter  
Caroline Riches  
Natalie Waters  
Eran Shor  
Renée Sieber

**Guests:** Christopher Ragan [PAC]  
Julia Scott [PAC]  
Mathieu Boivin [PAC]  
Derek Nystrom  
Greg Mikkelson  
Jeanette Wong [MCLIU]  
Jacob Shapiro [SSMU]

**MAUT Office:** Honore Kerwin-Borrelli, Administrative Officer  
Jo-Anne Watier, Membership Engagement Officer

**Absent:** Alenoush Saroyan, Past-President  
Nate Quitoriano, VP Internal  
Janine Mauzeroll, VP External  
Thomas Duchaine  
Laura Gonnerman  
Katherine Zien  
Kohur GowriSankararan  
Pierre Gagnon  
Joseph Varga

## Approved Minutes of the Meeting

Axel van den Berg called the meeting to order at 12:12 pm.

### 1. Approval of the Agenda for the December 12, 2018 Council Meeting

L. Munter moved to approve the Agenda. Seconded by N. Hall. Approved unanimously.

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the November 14, 2018 Council Meeting

N. Hall moved to approve the Minutes. Seconded by L. Munter. Approved unanimously.

### 3. Business arising from the Minutes

A. van den Berg noted the reports from the Executives are posted on the MAUT website. These fulfill the requirements that these reports be presented to members during the fall semester.

A. van den Berg announced that CAUT has awarded M. Richard the Academic Librarians' and Archivists' Distinguished Service Award. It will be officially presented at the CAUT Council Meeting in May 2019.

### 4. Auditor's Report [P. Gagnon]

The MAUT Financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2018 are posted on the website along with the projected budget for 2019. P. Gagnon, MAUT Auditor, was absent. He will be asked to come and present the Auditor's report at a future Council meeting.

### 5. President's Report [A. van den Berg]

#### 5.1 CAUT Report on the Potter Case [documents]

In its report, CAUT indicated that McGill University should formally adopt its Academic Freedom Statement. If McGill University were to disagree with this ultimatum, then at the next Council in May 2019, CAUT would recommend censure.

In his response to D. Robinson, A. van den Berg listed the steps already taken by MAUT to promote academic freedom. These included holding a Forum on Academic Freedom, organized in October 2017, and forwarding the resulting recommendations to the Administration. MAUT's recommendations supported augmenting the McGill Statement on Academic Freedom to the status of a governing document and the creation of the position of an Academic Freedom assessor or of a Senate sub-committee to address possible cases of violation of academic freedom. Also recommended was explicit clarification of the mandates of new academic units and appointment letters for academic administrators. A. van den Berg asked CAUT to acknowledge receipt of MAUT's response to the CAUT Report and emphasized that MAUT would continue the discussion.

Council also commented on the need for open and transparent discussions with the Administration concerning the line drawn between academic freedom for administrators and the distinction between academic and administrative issues.

#### 5.2 Report of the Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Teaching Staff-Student Intimate Relations

This report was presented to Senate on December 5, 2018. [D18-28] Following the report, there was a demonstration by students who wanted a complete ban. MAUT's Survey Results indicated respondents were not in favor of a complete ban on all intimate relations. MAUT submitted these results to J. Lassonde, Chair of this Ad Hoc Committee. [Reference: Minutes MAUT Council Meeting November 14/2018] He also reiterated the importance of the difference between disciplinary procedures at the University and the tenure process.

J. Shapiro [SSMU] commented that the Ad Hoc committee's report was not a consensus report and three students on the Committee wrote an article in the *Tribune* to that effect. He also noted at that time there was no provision for the students to present a minority report.

### **5.3 Meeting with the Principal [December 11/18]**

A. van den berg met with Principal Fortier. The agenda included CAUT's Report on the Potter issue and MAUT's response to CAUT. Also discussed was the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Teaching-Staff Intimate Relations as well as a proposed motion concerning the process of selection of deans.

### **5.4 Collegiality Committee: Dean Selection Issues**

A motion, proposed by Senators van den Berg, Saroyan and Hickman, has been scheduled for presentation to Senate in January 2019 and refers to Dean Selection issues. MAUT Council has twice called upon the Board [initially in 2013 and reaffirmed in 2017] to change the dean selection process. There are three Elements to this motion. The first concerns the selection of the membership of the advisory committee on the appointment of a dean and the second that the Principal can recommend to the Board only those names submitted by the advisory committee. The third part of the motion outlines an open procedure whereby there is a process of consultation, the disclosure of the applicants' names and the opportunity for candidates to meet faculty members.

In the President's meeting with Principal Fortier, there were no objections to Elements 1 and 2 and these can be sent directly to the APC in collaboration with A. Campbell and Sec-Gen E. Rogowska. Because of issues of confidentiality concerning disclosure of names, Element 3 will be brought back to the Collegiality Committee for further study and re-wording. Council noted the importance of having a uniform university-wide dean-selection process for appointments and re-appointments. S. Gaskin noted that disclosure of candidates' names is not an issue for reappointments of Deans and proposed a University-Wide Guide of Best Practices be made available.

### **5.5 Meeting with Y. Beauchamp, [VP Administration & Finance], R. Couvrette [Associate VP-University Services] and J. Ouellet [Director- Project Management] on construction issues on campus**

These guests will address Council on February 13, 2019.

### **5.6 Formation of a University Budget Monitoring Committee**

This proposal is to form a MAUT Standing Committee to study University Budget Documents. D. Etzion will approach potential committee members in Management and other faculties who would have the required knowledge and expertise. D. Nystrom noted some budget data and comparisons with other universities can also be accessed from publically available CAUT and FQPPU Reports.

### **5.7 Update on MAUT-RS request for support for Bicentennial Speakers' Series**

MAUT-RS Member J. Coulton has withdrawn the request for MAUT's financial support for this series. A. van den Berg noted that in two years' time, MAUT might still decide to provide some assistance.

## **6. President-Elect's Report [P. Rohrbach]**

There was no report.

## **7. VP Communications [N. Hall]**

The MAUT Newsletter will be circulated on December 13, 2018. N. Hall commented on the extensive information presented in this Newsletter.

## **8. VP Finance [D. Etzion]**

D. Etzion reported the MAUT portfolio is being updated to comply with the decision to divest from companies involved in the production or distribution of fossil fuels. [NB: As of December 14, 2018, D. Etzion reported that MAUT's investment portfolio has been fully divested of fossil fuels.] Reports at upcoming Council meetings will present a more structured budget process based on the Association's priorities.

## **9. Course Evaluations [R. Sieber]**

In 2019, R. Sieber proposed looking at the effectiveness of student evaluations and their implications on academics' teaching portfolios. She forwarded an article from the Chronicle:

[https://www.chronicle.com/article/Students-Evaluating-Teachers/245169?cid=trend\\_rights\\_a](https://www.chronicle.com/article/Students-Evaluating-Teachers/245169?cid=trend_rights_a)

She noted evidence that lower evaluations were more common when gender, age and race were factors in students' assessments. Council discussed the effectiveness of student evaluations, the correlation between favorable evaluations and student learning and engagement and proposed some suggestions for improvements to these issues, including moving evaluations to mid-term, instead of at the end, and visits to classes during the terms. R. Sieber proposed this discussion continue with a presentation by experts in this field at Council on February 13, 2019 with the idea of proposing alternatives to current evaluations.

## **10. VP External [J. Mauzeroll]**

The Reports [CAUT and FQPPU] are on the website.

## **11. Other Business**

R. Sieber spoke about the issue of students accessing professors' class presentations and class notes online through <https://oneclass.com>

The concern was the protection of professors' Intellectual Property. Students have also submitted their own course notes and PowerPoint class presentations to this site which is available to all. Suggestions were that professors must include copyright notices with their work and that the University could begin issuing *cease and desist* notices to these companies. Another idea was to contact CAUT with MAUT's concerns and have them champion this issue on behalf of all Canadian universities. Council will ask J. Mauzeroll [VP External] to follow up with CAUT.

## **12. Adjournment**

A. van den Berg moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by D. Etzion. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm. At 2:00, there will be a meeting with PAC Members.

Respectfully Submitted:

Honore Kerwin-Borrelli, MAUT Administrative Officer