

MAUT Council Meeting

Approved MINUTES

April 12, 2017

McGill Faculty Club 12:00 noon

Present:

Executive: T. Hébert, D. Lowther, A. Saroyan, G. Gore, A. van den Berg

Council: M. Richard, S. Gaskin, J. Boruff, E. Shor, V. Raghavan, C. Riches, T. Duchaine, J. Ruglis, R. Sieber

Regrets: S. Jordan, K. Hasting, S. Algieri, P. Rohrbach, K. GowriSankaran, D. Titone

MAUT Staff: H. Kerwin-Borrelli, J. Varga

Guests: S. Severson, T. Gyorkos, J. Zhao

Terry Hébert called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

Council reviewed the Agenda for the Council meeting on April 12, 2017. There were no changes. T. Hébert moved to accept the Agenda. Seconded by D. Lowther. Council approved unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the March 23, 2017 [rescheduled] meeting were circulated. D. Lowther moved to approve the Minutes. Seconded by S. Gaskin. Council agreed unanimously. The Minutes were posted on MAUT's website.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

- **Update: Discussions with MURA**

The discussions concerned MAUT's on-going support for MAUT-RS. MAUT's contributions would be based on a per capita basis. MAUT-RS members who would register with the Association would save their \$25.00 annual dues since MAUT would donate this amount to MURA. The MAUT-RS would continue to benefit its current and future retired academic members but the MAUT-RS would not necessarily be forwarding annual financial support to MURA.

- **Update on the Harassment Policy revisions and MAUT consultation on the Harassment Policy [S. Gaskin]**

S.Gaskin reported on the Harassment Policy update which included:

- Meeting on April 07/17 called by AP Campbell
- MAUT's concern about the apparent conflict with the SEIO's [Senior Equity & Inclusion Officer – Me. P. Legros] position
- Decision: informal resolutions by SEIO or by a requested Advisor
- There will be an annual meeting to review the implementation of the policy
- The address of the SEIO's office: at the Office for Sexual Violence Response, Support and Education [O-SVRSE] [550 SherbrookeSt. Suite 585]
- Revisions to Harassment Policy presented at Senate on April 20, 2017: D16-55

S. Gaskin reported on the Sexual Violence Policy

- Implementation Committee chaired by Prof. L Lach
- The ad hoc panel to study campus sexual violence at McGill is chaired by Prof. S. Shariff
- 2 staff members at O-SVRSE: Harm Reduction Officer [B. Tetrault] and Sexual Assault Response Advisor [E. Marcotte]
- Document presented to Senate: April 20/2017: D-16-60

S.Gaskin reported on CGPA calculation for Graduate Student Admission

S. Gaskin reported an error in the calculation of foreign student applications. Transcripts converted, by truncation to a CPGA equivalent on a course by course basis before averaging, result in a truncation error of minus 0.5 CGPA points (e.g. a transcripts equivalent to CGPA of 3.3 is evaluated as 0.5 CGPA less than it is i.e. as a CGPA of 2.8). She has followed up and contacted GPSO (Dean, Kim Bartlett and Frank Babics) and got a response from Kim Bartlett to say they would look into it.

T. Hébert emphasized that MAUT's name and members of these consultation committees must be acknowledged in the final reports.

4. President's Report [T. Hébert]

• Two Senate Questions

Council discussed the wording for two questions for the Senate meeting on April 20, 2017. The final wording is found with the Senate documents:

- Question Regarding Academic Freedom of Academic Administrators:
- http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_question_regarding_academic_freedom_of_academic_administrators_0.pdf
- Question Regarding Academic Freedom:
- http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_question_regarding_academic_freedom_0.pdf

Council discussed the following:

- Final wording for two Senate questions [April 20/2017]
- A. Potter cancelled meeting with T. Hébert and has engaged a lawyer
- A. Potter wrote the article in Macleans to express his personal view but the document signature included his MISC affiliation and McGill academic position
- Value of McGill's Academic Freedom Statement and what it protects
- Distinction between academic and administrative issues
- McGill Administration has issued statements concerning A. Potter but more transparency is requested
- D. Barney and D. Nystrom [BoG members] have forwarded a letter to S. Cobbett, Chair, BoG, requesting information about A. Potter issues
- Unsatisfactory answers to date from A. Potter and McGill Administration
- Proposals for moving forward

- **Letter to Michael Ignatieff [CEU]**

T. Hébert forwarded a letter of support to M. Ignatieff, Rector of CEU: [Central European University]. Following proposed legislative changes to Hungarian legislation on National Higher Education, CEU is in danger of losing its ability to operate as a free and independent graduate university. International support and solidarity letters have been requested and there are regular updates forwarded by M. Ignatieff. MAUT's letter of support was sent to the ListServ on April 05/2017.

• Revised Regulations on the Conduct of Research

This document was forwarded to Council who discussed the following:

- Roundtable discussions with AP Campbell and MAUT members of the ad hoc Consultation Committee brought forward revisions which were accepted at the following roundtable meeting
- List of revisions identified by MAUT and the Association's contributions would be acknowledged in the final document
- List of implications concerning academic freedom
- The right to have an advisor if an applicant receives a request for further clarification on a research grant
- Issues encountered when renewing a grant
- Timeframe for revised McGill regulations to take place
- Question whether research results could have harmful consequences
- Awareness of all aspects necessary when making research applications

- **Committee Chairs' and Executives' year-end Reports for the Spring General Meeting (a) reports for posting and (b) bullet points for projection**

Executive members and Committee Chairs were reminded to forward their reports to the MAUT Office for the Spring General Meeting on April 19/2017.

- **Rescheduled MAUT Workshop on Writing "Beyond Awkward" [May 26/17]**

The rescheduled workshop will take place and registrants will be contacted.

5. President-Elect Report [A. Saroyan]

- **Update on Tenure and Mentoring Forum [April 19/2017]**

A.Saroyan reported the all speakers are on board including those who will chair the break our groups from various faculties. Speakers' reports will be posted on MAUT' website. Participants will be asked for their evaluations.

- **Update on Spring General Meeting [SGM] and Open Forum [Death by Forms]**

A.Saroyan reported on the details concerning the approximately 20 minute session with the Open Forum portion of the SGM: "Death by Forms". Those attending the SGM will use "clickers" to record their responses to specific questions which will ask respondents to identify:

- their rank, faculty and gender
- how much time is devoted to filling out forms which could be spent on their research and teaching duties
- specific downloaded administrative and clerical duties that most affect their research and teaching
- attendees will be asked to forward examples of "difficult" forms

The results will be shared.

6. Past-President Report (D. Lowther]

- **Update on Elections 2017**

D. Lowther, Chair, Nominating Committee, reported that another reminder will be sent to the eligible voting members and the polls will close on April 15/17. The results of MAUT's 2017 Elections will be accessed on April 18/2017 and the results will be reported at the SGM.

7. VP Finance Report [K. Hastings]

- **Mil rate update**

T. Hébert reported the motion to reduce MAUT's mil rate from 6.5 to 5.8 was presented and Council who agreed in principle to the proposed change, on the understanding that the matter

would be brought to the SGM for information and feedback and return to Council in May for formal approval.

- **Mil rate information from CAUT**

The CAUT document with Canada-wide mil rate information was distributed to Council.

8. VP Communications [G. Gore]

- **March for Science [ListServ Message on April 05/2017] and follow up**

G. Gore reported the information and poster for the March for Science, [MFS] scheduled to take place on Earth Day [April 22/2017], was sent to the ListServ on April 05/17 and included participation details. The purpose of this March for Science is to support the scientific community and promote the importance of basic science in keeping humanity safe, healthy and prosperous.

9. VP External Report: [A. van den Berg]

- **CAUT issues**

A.van den Berg reported the strike at CAUT is over. Prof. L Fellows will serve on CAUT's Clinicians' Committee.

- **FQPPU issues**

A.van den Berg noted that a lunch with FQPPU President [J-M Lafortune] will take place on April 26/17. MAUT attendees will be: T. Hébert, A. van den Berg, B. Robaire, and D. Guitton. Proposed topics for discussion include:

- The possibility that UdeM will rejoin the FQPPU. UdeM is also a research-intensive university
- The FQPPU had forwarded a survey to all QC professors to garner support for an initiative to provide \$10,000 to each QC professor for research purposes.
- At this point, MAUT does not know the survey results from the McGill community
- The FQPPU has expressed interest in having MAUT members serve on its committees

10. VP Internal Report [P. Rohrbach]

- **Clarification re: Purchase of Laptops**

P.Rohrbach reported that legal clarification concerning the purchase of computers and laptops for university purposes is being sought. She noted though McGill fiscal year ends on April 30/2017, submissions for reimbursements must be in by April 10/2017. Information forwarded by AP G. McClure indicates that submissions will be decided on a case-by-case basis. A. Saroyan emphasized a reminder to file for pdf reimbursements will be sent to the ListServ.

11. Other Business

C. Riches noted the meeting to discuss CAS Regulations was held on April 10/2017. She will report at the next Council meeting.

12: Adjournment

T.Hébert called for a motion to adjourn. A. Saroyan moved to adjourn the meeting. C. Riches seconded the motion. Council agreed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:24 pm.