

## **MAUT Spring General Meeting, April 20, 2018**

### **Report of the President-Elect**

**Axel van den Berg**

#### **Some Issues MAUT will Face in the Year Ahead:**

##### **Academic Freedom**

In addition to ensuring that our statement on Academic Freedom be given some enforcement power and scrutinizing the roles and mandates of directors of new Centres and Institutes in Senate, MAUT will prepare a proposal to create a Senate subcommittee or Senate nominated assessor or advisor to assist the Principal in decisions which may have an Academic Freedom dimension. Such bodies exist already elsewhere (Prof. Neil Guppy, the keynote speaker at our Academic Freedom Forum in November 2017 is the Senior Advisor to the Provosts, Academic Freedom, at UBC) and we will undertake a survey of some possibly useful examples before formulating a proposal to the University. We will probably form an ad hoc committee soon for interested members to join.

##### **Administrative Overload**

The member survey conducted in November 2017 elicited a large number of responses which were distilled into an [Administrative Overload Report](#) . We need to thank Sarah Severson, Nathan Hall and Renée Sieber for their help in designing and administering the survey and drafting the Report. The Report was presented to the Provost and the Principal on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The Provost and Principal did not think a joint standing committee including administration representatives to deal with administrative overload issues on a permanent basis would be very productive but they did welcome all specific suggestions about administrative practices and routines that could be simplified or eliminated. MAUT will propose to MUNACA, MUNASA, MCLIU and others who share our concerns about excessive administrative burdens to form a joint committee that will gather information about such burdens and possible ways to reduce them on a continuous basis. All interested members are invited to participate in this ongoing campaign to reduce the weight of our administrative duties.

##### **CASC**

As the budgetary situation of the University appears to be easing somewhat MAUT will increase its pressure on the University to consider pay rises for faculty members that would help bring our salaries closer to the average of the other U15 universities, a long-standing commitment of the University. We will also continue to press the administration for the level of detail in reporting on pay equity that will allow us to assess more effectively where and how gender pay differentials persist and what can be done about them.

##### **Policies on Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Violence**

MAUT will continue to work closely with the administration and all University constituencies to find ways to improve these policies with the aim of both victims and ‘whistle blowers’ from further harm while ensuring due process for the accused.

**Bullet points:**

- **Academic Freedom Forum**
- **Campaign to Combat Administrative Overload**
- **CASC**
- **Policies on Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Violence**