

Spring 2021 President-Elect's Annual Report

Andrew Kirk

When I was asked to consider letting my name go forward as MAUT President-Elect in December 2019 I was assured that the next couple of years would be 'quiet ones' for the Association. However none of us were prepared for the global changes that were just about to come our way!

Within MAUT, the President-Elect has no constitutional duties beyond serving on several committees and learning the ropes, so this will be a short report. During this year I have attended meetings of MAUT Executive and Council, served as a member of CASC and the MAUT Finance Committee, and participated in regular meetings of the MAUT President and Past-President with the Provost (and sometimes other members of the university's leadership team) and on several occasions with the Principal. Many of the meetings with the administration have been taken up with issues related to the Covid-19 pandemic and include:

- Remote teaching
- Health directives and their impact on academic staff
- Provision of PPE
- Getting research laboratories restarted
- Ensuring the proper consideration is made for delays and reductions in productivity when evaluating academic staff for promotion and tenure
- Academic freedom
- McGill budget and discussion of Merit deferral

I look forward (with some trepidation) to working on behalf of MAUT members in the role of President following the April AGM and I also want to extend my thanks to our current President Janine Mauzeroll and Past-President Petra Rohrbach for all their hard work and courageous leadership over the past year in very difficult circumstances.