

Alvin Shrier, V-P Communications Report for FGM 11/12/2015

As VP Communications this has been a relatively straightforward year building on the experience of last year when we initiated the Newsletter and established the new Communications Committee. The committee includes Genevieve Gore, Andrea Miller-Nesbitt, Jane Aitkens and Terry Hebert. In particular, it is important to note that Genevieve, Andrea and Jane are all members of the MAUT Librarians' section and serve as the editors of both the MAUT website and the MAUT Newsletter, in conjunction with the VP Communications.

Webpage: This past year there have been significant efforts to update the content of the MAUT website, that had recently undergone a modernization and reorganization. Efforts made by Ken Hastings (VP Finance), Alenoush Saroyan (VP Internal) and MAUT Legal Counsel Joseph Varga, have revised and updated the membership and mandates of the Standing Committees. In addition, they have been working in conjunction with Marc Richard (Council Member) to update the MAUT Constitution and By-Laws. This task is nearly finished and the updated constitution will soon be posted on the website. The next step will be to address the ad hoc committees and then review the site again in its entirety. As noted previously, we now post all Council Minutes and are considering establishing a page devoted to recent events. You might also note that there's a separate page for News and Reports, a section on current issues, a separate page devoted to MAUT Librarians and another to MAUT Retirees. We would appreciate any input from the community concerning the MAUT website. Please send comments to maut@mcgill.ca.

Newsletter: We undertook the creation of an electronic MAUT Newsletter last year to provide regular updates to MAUT members about events, issues and general information. The Newsletter was created by Jennifer Day, with the input of the Communications Committee, and is maintained by Genevieve Gore, Andrea Miller-Nesbitt and Jane Aitkens in conjunction with the VP Communications. So far the Newsletter has been well received and we hope that it has provided MAUT members with a useful source of information. Also, it is important to note that MAUT Council accepted a motion that the electronic Newsletter is the official Newsletter of MAUT. The Newsletter displays headlines and brief commentaries with links to more complete stories and reports on the MAUT website or other websites. In addition, this past year a protocol for publishing the Newsletter was passed by Council. Any suggestions or comments about the Newsletter would be greatly appreciated, as well as articles of general interest.

MAUT Communications Committee: Last year the MAUT Communications Committee met several times, including a joint meeting with the Membership Committee. We are looking forward to a similar approach for the current year. The Committee is always open to new strategies for communication. Once again suggestions would be welcomed. Please send comments to maut@mcgill.ca.