

MRSAY! Newsletter Sept/Oct 2015 EDITION

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President's Note

Message from your MRSA Board colleagues and committee members

Welcome Back!

On behalf of your colleagues on the MRSA Executive Board and the various committees members within the MRSA, we would like to thank you for your continuing trust and engagement with your Association.

We hope all of our colleagues had a restful and enjoyable summer with family and friends, and we look forward to a new academic year. We are excited and glad to be serving you and be your voice at MRU on various committees and initiatives this year.

We ask you to add the MRSA Event Calender to your Google calendar and visit www.MRUstaff.ca for up to date information.

Alumni Achievement Awards - October 1

Come and be inspired by recent and former MRU graduates who have made a difference in their communities; how they have been able to be role models to those who work and interact with them.

<http://www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/Alumni/AlumniAchievementAwards/index.htm>

Proposed MRU Policies

Three policies are currently being developed by the University.

Art Policy (new) - This Policy and its Procedures outline the role and responsibilities of the University's Art Committee and the University, more broadly, when acquiring, borrowing, loaning, maintaining, restoring, deaccessioning and disposing of Art work.

<https://mrustaff.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Art-Policy-new.pdf>

Smoking Policy (revised) - This Policy will replace the current Tobacco Use Policy. Its purpose is to limit exposure to smoke, tobacco and smoking related products that may impair air quality, to promote a smoke-free environment; to ensure compliance with the City of Calgary Smoking Bylaw and Alberta Tobacco Reduction Act; and to provide assistance and resource materials for members of the University community who wish to quit smoking.

<https://mrustaff.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Smoking-Policy-revised.pdf>

Security Services Conduct Policy (new) - This Policy broadly outlines the responsibilities specific to Security Representatives with respect to matters of conduct in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the Security Services and Investigators Act.

<https://mrustaff.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Security-Services-Conduct-Policy-new.pdf>

Welcome new MRSA staff

Welcome to our new MRSA staff who attended the New Employee Orientation on August 19th and September 16th.

Alexis Handford	Breanne Smith	Jonathan Anderson
Alyssa Chusinoff	Dion Simon	Kristin Davick
Amanda Howlett	Donald Agar	Patricia Quiring
April McNeil	Elizabeth Webster	Rebecca Lafferty
Ashley McLellan	Grace Kerr	Stacey Anderson
Ben Nixon	Graeme Janzen	Stephanie Jones
Bradley Heintz	Jenna Reimer	Thomas Labelle
Rhonda Laughton	Kelly Grayson	Jennifer Sainz
Ciara Lane	Morgan Loberg	Noah Arney
Anne Marie Wetter	Courtenay Smart	Dean Thiessen
Krista Strome	Aria Ewing	Jenna Reimer
Christopher Graham	Mackenzie Cann	Patricia Quiring
Kristin Davick	Dion Simon	Sandeep Chopra
Shweta Chugh	Rosalee Averin	Jodi Churla
Jessica Muraca	Alexandra Fish	Roland Abesamis
Nick Zelinsky	Jackie Mealings	

As part of welcoming, enhancing and strengthening the relationship between the Association and our new colleagues, the Association has started an initiative where colleagues who have completed their six months of services are invited to chat with MRSA Board members over a coffee. We will send you an invite to join us for coffee and treats in our staff lounge at that time.

Spousal/Dependant Non-Credit Course Discount

Pursuant to Article 28.7 of the MRSA Collective Agreement, spouses and dependants of employees who are exempt, management or Mount Royal Staff Association members are eligible to enrol at 50% of the tuition charge in non-credit courses offered by Mount Royal University, subject to the approval of the Dean of the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension (exclusions may apply). Eligible spouses and dependants must pay the full amount of any applicable GST or course material fees.

Procedures for Spouse/Dependant Registration:

The Dean of the Faculty of Continuing Education and Extension determines courses eligible for spouse and dependant discounted registration.

1. The employee will obtain a MRSA–Management–Exempt Spouse/Dependant Registration Form from Human Resources.
2. The employee completes and signs the MRU Employee section.
3. The employee's spouse/dependant completes and signs the Spouse/Dependant section.
4. The spouse/dependant will submit the completed form to Continuing Education Registration Services, Kerby Hall, Wicket #9, one day prior to course commencement.
5. If the course has been approved for spouse and dependant discounted registration and a seat is available, the spouse/dependant will be registered in the course.
6. The spouse/dependant will pay 50% of the tuition charge. If GST or course materials are applicable, the registrant will pay the full amount.

Canada Revenue defines the 50% tuition paid by MRU Continuing Education and Extension as a scholarship. A T4A tax slip will be issued (to the student) by MRU prior to the end of February for the previous taxation (calendar) year for the scholarship amount. Student tax slips can be accessed through MyMRU.

ROYALLY SPEAKING TOASTMASTERS CLUB MEETING

Wish you had more confidence speaking? Be our guests at a Toastmasters meeting to find out more about improving your communication and leadership skills.

ALL WELCOME! Meetings weekly at MRU.

Questions? Contact Laura Ell lell@mtroyal.ca / 587.223.3663

Month at a Glance

MRU President Informal Chats: usually 10-11 in our Staff Lounge

Friday, October 23, 2015

Friday, November 27, 2015

Friday, December 18, 2015

Looking ahead:

Come visit our staff lounge to enjoy some treats and various changing decorations during October as we celebrate Fall, Thanksgiving and Halloween.

Annual General Meeting:

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 11-1 in the Lincoln Park Room J301

Karen's Korner

Welcome back everyone!! WOW, what a crazy busy time it has been here at MRU. Non-stop since mid August and I for one, am glad to be able to somewhat breathe once again!

This busyness has caused our MRSAY! to be published late this month and I apologize profusely for this as it has caused a couple of important items to be noted late. In particular the new MRU policies (comments were due Sep 27); and the ToastMaster's open house that was held on Sept 25.

Our first Fall "coffee with the President" was held last week in our lounge. We enjoyed coffee, goodies and had a great visit with Dave Docherty. He is always very insightful about MRU with a wealth of information...and funny too! Hope to see you Oct 23 from 10-11 for our next one.

Remember to drop by our MRSA staff lounge weekdays from 8:30 - 5:00 pm and enjoy the goodies and decorations, this is our personal space and includes a separate quiet area as well as a large tv with cable. We have worked hard this past year to make our space more "comfy" and we have had lots of positive comments about the changes. More shelving has helped with both storage and the placing of the 3 microwaves. We now have a built in counter for the goodies that come along with the events we put on. We are looking ahead to the possibility of having artists display their art work to brighten our area even more. We are open to any ideas you may have so drop us a line at mrsa@mtroyal.ca, or better still, come on by to the MRSA office at W301 and have a chat and a coffee.

Hopefully you have had a chance to check out MRU's newest building..."The Taylor Centre for the Performing Arts" with the "The Bella Concert Hall." The grand opening of "The Bella" on Aug 26 was very grand indeed with lots of entertainment and extraordinary appetizers. It was indeed a gala that was enjoyed by all who were lucky enough to obtain the free tickets.

In my defense for this late newsletter..I am both busy at work AND at home as I (yes ME) have a son getting married in a couple of days! OOOHHHHH the excitement is intense as the month has decided to fly by. I am definitely in starstruck mother/mother-in-law mode right now. (I dunno-is there such a thing? How else can I describe the feelings I have as my eldest son ties the knot?) I have the honour of presenting the Mother-of-the groom speech so the past 3 weeks I have been writing and rewriting and practicing my talk. Guess I should have been attending the ToastMaster's meetings just down the hall from me!!! Wish me luck as I know I will not make it through the day without some tears!

Karen Hiebert

