

R. Bruce Lennox: President's Report for the Fall General Meeting on November 13, 2014

I am pleased to present this summary of MAUT activities since the Spring 2014 AGM.

Highlights include:

(A) Statement of Academic Freedom:

The MAUT *Statement of Academic Freedom* was strongly endorsed, via referendum, by MAUT membership. We congratulate members of the *Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom* for their tremendous efforts in crafting this very important statement. Discussions with the Principal and Provost are ongoing as to how to bring the *Statement of Academic Freedom* into the University regulations in some manner.

(B) Collegial Governance:

(i) Council established an *ad hoc* Committee to review draft revisions to *the Regulations on Sabbatic Leaves and Leaves of Absence*. Discussions with Assoc. Provost Lydia White have been very fruitful.

(ii) Ongoing discussions with the Provost's Office include issues related to the French language requirements for permanent residency and MAUT Executive inclusion in the regular Academic Leaders Forum meetings.

(iii) An MAUT representative on the new *Joint Senate Board Committee on Equity- Subcommittee on Family Care* was appointed.

(C) Opening Lines of Communication:

Consultation and dialogue are key components of collegial governance. Over the last 16 months MAUT has invited senior members of the University administration to meet with Council to share perspectives and concerns. We aim to make this a regular part of our monthly Council meetings. Visitors to Council/Executive have included Principal Fortier, Deputy Provost Ollivier Dyens, Associate Provost Lydia White, the Travel Management Group, and the Director of the Office for Students with Disabilities, Frédéric Fovet. Upcoming visitors include Dean of Students Andre Costopoulos and members of the Provost's Office. These meetings augment regular meetings that the three Presidents have with Principal Fortier and Provost Masi.

(D) Committee of Academic Salary Compensation:

Two meetings were held this Fall and another is scheduled for later this month. The MAUT CASC members learned about the provincial budget situation and of the administration's commitment to the 3-year salary agreement. CASC received preliminary information regarding total compensation and comparison of the McGill situation to members of the U15. The 2015-16 Salary Policy is currently being discussed at CASC; included are discussions about the relative sizes of the Merit and ATB portions of Salary Policy.

Related to CASC, MAUT sought clarification of information in the Financial Statement presented to the Board and in the Principal's Report of the Board Meeting. MAUT subsequently distributed a clarification memo from VP Michael DiGrappa, and recently sent out the first in a series of FAQ's regarding salary and pension issues.

(E) MAUT Business:

- (i) Members of Executive are preparing a set of recommendations regarding the use of terminology related to discussions, consultations, and approvals with/from MAUT. This set of terms is intended to prevent misunderstandings when interactions with MAUT are reported.
- (ii) MAUT organized a member survey regarding the search for a new Provost. MAUT then made a presentation, with a survey summary, to the Advisory Committee for the Selection of a New Provost.
- (iii) MAUT is an active participant in the Citizen's Council; Ken Hastings chairs these monthly meetings. A member survey regarding the Principal's Plans document was sent out earlier this week.
- (iv) Membership activities have been very prominent this Fall. Details of these and upcoming activities will be described in other Executive reports.