

## **Professional Standards and Governance Committee Annual Report, 2014-15**

The Professional Standards & Governance Committee (PSGC) members were (in alphabetical order):

Harjinder Deol, Israel Dunmade, Shawn England (Chair), Christine Giancarlo, Bill Glanzman, Scott Murray (ex-officio), and Stefan Sikora.

This was the second year of activity for this committee (formerly the Professional Affairs Committee), and we continued the committee's tradition of co-sponsoring the MRFA "welcome back" event, which took place on August 23, 2013.

We similarly moved forward with an event initially planned for last spring by last year's committee, but unfortunately cancelled. This event, "Ethics and Conflicts of Interest in Academia," took place on Friday, November 15, between 12:00 and 2:00 at the Faculty Centre, and included an array of lunchtime delicacies made available by Darlene. This round-table discussion featured MRFA president, Gerry Cross, along with Sinclair MacRae and David Cann. It combined brief thematic presentations by the panelists, followed by discussion and ethical problem-solving group activities by all participants.

The next event, which took place at the Faculty Centre on March 28, 2014, was entitled "It's Not about Fit': Myths and Legends of the Academic Hiring Process." The panelists for this event were Gerry Cross, Karim Dharamsi, Scott Murray, and Keith Black. This event was designed to broadly appeal to all faculty, including those seeking either tenure-track positions and/or contract employment. The event attracted a mixed crowd, and participants enjoyed excellent refreshments (provided by Darlene) as well as fulsome discussion.

Finally, the PRGC is cosponsor two upcoming events featuring Loreleigh Keashley, both scheduled to take place May 13, 2014. These are "Bystander Responses to Unprofessional, Intimidating Behavior: Tools and Resources for Faculty," and "When Academe Becomes Hostile: Exploring the Nature and Impact of Bullying and Incivility." Also, although the decision was not finalized at the time when this report was completed, it is extremely likely that the PSGC will once again co-sponsor the next "Welcome Back" event.

Submitted by  
Shawn England, Chair,  
The Professional Standards and Governance Committee