

MUNFA

unite • advocate • advance

July 26, 2016

Dr. Noreen Golfman
Provost and Vice President (Academic)
Memorial University

Dear Dr. Golfman,

RE: Response to Report on Cooperative Education at Memorial

In response to your email dated Friday, May 27, 2016 regarding Gary Gorman's review of Co-operative Education at Memorial, MUNFA supports the:

- appointment of Academic Staff Members in Co-operative Education (ASMs-CE) to the Canadian Association of Co-operative Education (CAFCE) councils and committees,
- affirmation of Co-operative Education in the University's overall strategy,
- formalization of an overdue agreement with Career Development and Experiential Learning (CDEL),
- promise of increased funding and support for Co-operative Education, and
- development of formalized steering and coordinating committees on Co-operative Education to ensure its direction, oversight and operational guidance.

Further, with respect to the recommendation of an institutional spokesperson for Co-operative Education to be identified from the Provost's Office, this individual should have a background and authentic interest in Co-operative Education in order to be a true champion for the programs on campus.

The report also recommends the Deans to meet with ASM-CEs at least once a semester. Per Article 30.20 "Deans of Academic Units in which ASM-CFEs are appointed shall meet collectively with all ASM-CFEs twice each semester to discuss issues related to Cooperative and Field Education at the University". If ASM-CEs are in agreement, MUNFA is willing to sign an MOU reducing the number of meeting with the Deans per semester from two to one.

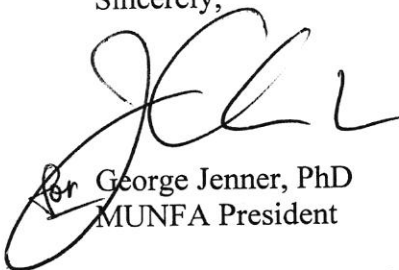
Your May 27, 2016 reply to the Gary Gorman report is encouraging with respect to the future of Co-op Education at Memorial, but action on these recommendations is required immediately. With respect to the promise of an increase in Co-op funding and support at Memorial, we anticipate that the Arts and Science Co-op program and the Human Kinetics and Recreation (HKR) Co-op program will no longer struggle with low ASM-CE staffing levels and we request that prior staffing levels in HKR Co-op be reinstated. In addition, in contrast to the review's recommendations, the HKR Co-op program is

Dr. N. Golfman
July 26, 2016

currently under threat. In May, prospective Physical Education (PE) and Recreation Co-op students were sent conditional acceptance letters and told a final decision was pending in August regarding Fall 2016 admission. Academic Staff Members in HKR did not become aware of the conditional acceptance of Recreation students until after the letters were sent. In mid-June, the letters to the Recreation students were revised indicating that they have been admitted. Currently though, it is still uncertain if the PE Co-op Program is proceeding in the fall. The possible cancellation of this program is contrary to the supported recommendations of the recent Co-op Education review and we request the PE Co-op program proceed in Fall 2016.

We strongly request that the recommendations made by the review be immediately implemented, and anticipate a needed show of evidence of the promise of increased funding and support for Co-operative Education at Memorial and examples of its affirmation in the University's overall strategy.

Sincerely,



for George Jenner, PhD
MUNFA President

cc: Dr. Gary Kachanoski
MUNFA Members