

**Minutes of Academic Council
November 4, 1997**

Members Present

Alnwick, K.
Aspevig, E.
Bardecki, M.
Black, M.
Cukier, W.
de Haan, R.
DeLuca, A.
Dewson, M.
Easton, J.
Elder, D.
Finn, M.
Friesen, E.
Frost, A.
Garnette, I.
Grayson, L.
Haines, R.
Harrison, L.
Heath, S.
Kapp, R.
Kelley, A.
Koc, M.
Levine, I.
Malinski, R.
Maskow, M.
McIntosh, C.
Mendelson, R.
Miller, M.
Mock, D.
Monro, J.
Morgan, H.
Nam, S.
Pearce, J.
Sam Foh, C.
Sharifi, F.
Shaw, D.
Sher, D.
Silver, S.
Smith, D.
Tindugan, M.
Trubic, J.
Williams, S.
Wilson, L.
Wu, J.
Zaver, N.

Members Absent

Altrows, L.
Booth, M. (Regrets)
Creery, M.
Ho, D.
Kennedy, D.
Lajeunesse, C. (Regrets)
Northwood, D.
O'Connor, E.
Pettypiece, A. (Regrets)
Richard, M.
Sandys, J. (Regrets)
Shukla, N.
Zamaria, C.

The meeting commenced at 6:00 p.m. with A. DeLuca, Vice Chair of Council in the chair, in the

absence of Dr. Lajeunesse.

1. President's Report

D. Mock, Vice President, Academic, delivered this report as Acting President, in Dr. Lajeunesse's absence. Dr. Mock began his report by congratulating those who were successful in the recent elections for positions on the Board of Governors. Elected or acclaimed were: J. Easton, Professor, Applied Chemical & Biological Sciences; M. Dunn, student, Media Arts; A. DeLuca, student, AIM; G. Tanner, student, Social Work and N. Palu, staff, Business & Technical Communications.

He also announced the membership of a committee established by the Vice President, Academic to review academic appeals policy and procedures at Ryerson. J. Dianda, Chair, Philosophy, will chair the committee. Other members are: R. de Haan, student, School of Business; C. McCarthy, faculty, Social Work; R. Salvas, Chair, Civil Engineering; N. Shukla, student, Applied Computer Science, N. Zaver, student, Continuing Education; D. Snyder, professor, School of Image Arts; C. Phillips, Acting Director, Faculty Affairs, School of Business Management; G. Tanner, student, Social Work.

He indicated that the committee is expected to report back with its recommendations some time in the winter of 1998.

The United Way Pancake Breakfast was a great success, some \$1270.00 were raised in this effort on behalf of the United Way. Special thanks were given to: RYESAC, M. MacMillan and A. Fawcett for their efforts in support of the event. Versa Foods also was thanked for having contributed the food.

He then congratulated, on behalf of Council, Professor Marc Rosen, Chair, Mechanical Engineering, and his colleagues Professor, J. Dimitriu, M. Le, and J. Wu on their being awarded the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Energy's 1997 Award of Excellence in Research and Technology Development.

He also congratulated Professors Steven Liss and Bin Wu on having been granted NSERC awards in the amount of \$300,000.00 each.

2. The Good of the University

This portion of the meeting was given over to professor Rena Mendelson, Associate Vice President Academic and Dr. Michael Owen, Director of ORS to speak to Council about

scholarly, research and creative activity at Ryerson and certain developments with regard to SRC that have occurred since Ryerson was given full university status.

Appended to these minutes is a copy of transparencies that were used in speaking to this subject. It was noted that in the transparencies, Dr. Brochu's name should be spelled Mireille Brochu.

In the course of the presentation, it was noted that the membership of the SRC council, whose composition and terms of reference are defined in the transparencies presented to Council, consists of S. Wilson, Community Services; D. Smith, Applied Arts; M. Foster, Business; D. Northwood, Engineering & Applied Science; and J. Power, Arts.

Dr. Owen followed Dr. Mendelson, and spoke to the services of ORS which are available to the Ryerson community engaged in SRC.

The chair then took questions and comments from the members.

J. Trubic asked what savings have been achieved from the introduction of a computerized timetabling system and asked whether these savings, if any, were worth the problems that have been identified with the timetables that actually were produced.

D. Mock replied initially. He stated that the costs savings are yet to be realized. He also noted that a presentation on timetabling will be made by the Registrar at the December Council meeting. He stressed that the main objective in timetabling for the Fall 1997 was to achieve a much better match than previously had been achieved between student requests for courses and the availability of those courses within each student's timetable. It is his understanding that the objective has been achieved substantially but there were other problems with the timetables.

R. Haines asked whether the cinema spaces that will be available to Ryerson as a result of the Yonge/Dundas redevelopment will provide for access to Theatre students who have to rehearse theatrical productions.

L. Grayson replied that several faculty members are acting in an advisory capacity with respect to Ryerson's involvement in the Yonge/Dundas redevelopment. She asked that this suggestion be forwarded to her office to be conveyed to those faculty members, who will consider a whole range of ideas for the use of the cinema spaces.

D. Shaw reintroduced herself to members of Council, noting that she regretted having to be absent from so many meetings in the recent period. She looks forward to being more active member of Academic Council and invited suggestions from members and others about issues

she might best address as an AIM alumna.

R. de Haan raised an issue regarding the Accounting Program in Business Management. She said that the major accounting firms no longer recruit on the Ryerson campus. She asked what can be done to bring these firms onto the campus to recruit prospective Ryerson accounting graduates.

S. Heath replied. He acknowledged that the matter raised by R. de Haan is an issue for the School of Business Management. He stated that this matter is being addressed currently by faculty and he hoped she would be willing to contribute directly to this process of addressing the problem.

L. Maguire, Associate Dean, School of Business Management, elaborated by saying that an Accounting Task Group has been set up to address this issue. He said that the major firms are very selective these days about where they recruit because of the small numbers of students that they have been hiring lately. It appears that they are going primarily to the traditional universities. For this reason and for the time being it would appear that Ryerson accounting graduates will have better prospects with medium and small firms and with the major accounting firms.

R. de Haan also commented that there are some issues of the quality with some second and third year accounting courses.

L. Maguire replied that student input on such issues is welcome and a report on the program from two faculty on sabbatical for the current year will address the accounting element of the curriculum.

3. Minutes of the October 7, 1997 Meeting

These were adopted as circulated.

4. Business arising out of the minutes

D. Mock replied to a question from J. Monro regarding plans to fill the now vacant position of Secretary of Academic Council. He stated that under Council's bylaws the President makes this

appointment. The President has asked him to strike a committee and to provide advice regarding the appointment. Consultation with the chairs of Council committees on the type of person who ought to be recruited has taken place. Further discussion will take place and then the position will be advertised, certainly internally, and probably externally as well.

5. Correspondence

E. Valin to Office of Secretary of Academic Council, October 9, 1997, for information.

Receipt of this memorandum was noted.

6. Reports of Actions and Recommendations of Departmental and Divisional Councils

D. Mock presented these.

With respect to the proposed change in designation from Business Computer Information Systems to, simply, Business Information Systems, D. Shaw noted that once again it is evident that many of these courses duplicate courses contained as well in the AIM program. She suggested that either AIM should join Business Information Systems or Business Information Systems should join AIM, if Ryerson was going to achieve full efficiencies and students receive the maximum benefit of faculty resources.

D. Mock replied that this issue is being addressed by a committee in the Faculty of Business.

S. Heath reported this committee has been established, he chairs it and the committee will work as expeditiously as possible.

W. Cukier noted that, on her reading of the proposed changes, there may be more involved than simply an option and course name change.

She also questioned the merits of the term "Business Information Systems", given her own department's research into nomenclature used in North American universities with reference to programs dealing with the Information Systems.

E. Deutsch commented that the intent of the proposal simply is to take "Computer" out of the option and course titles.

S. Heath commented that in his view the proposed option course names are appropriate.

C. Sam Foh concurred in this view.

D. Shaw suggested that the Information Technology faculty resources perhaps should be more

widely available in Ryerson curricula then simply in Business Management and AIM.

Other reported course changes were received for information without comment.

7. Reports of Committees

A. Report of the Scholarly Research and Creative Activity Committee, October 21, 1997.

This was presented by M. Foster.

She explained that the report before Council is intended to build on an earlier report by Council's SRC Committee which had been adopted by Council. The report now before Council details significant achievements in relation to earlier SRC committee recommendations. It also includes a full set of recommendations for further and continuing action.

It was moved by: M. Foster and seconded by R. Mendelson that:

Academic Council adopt the report of the SRC Committee dated October 21, 1997.

CARRIED.

B. Proposed Policy on Centres at Ryerson

It was moved by M. Foster and duly seconded that:

Academic Council approve the proposed policy on Centres at Ryerson as appended to the agenda of this meeting.

R. Kapp asked whether, given the fiscal constraint under which Ryerson currently operates, there will be sufficient funds to support existing and possibly future Centres.

M. Foster replied that the current Centres are funded and prospective Centres would be approved only if appropriate levels of funding were available.

C. Nominating Committee Report

This was presented by E. Aspevig. He began by saying that students continue to work on finding nominees to fill vacancies on Council committees. The nominations received in time for consideration at this meeting were:

Appeals Committee

Stewart Nam student, Graphic Communications Management
Christopher McIntosh student, Social Work

Ethics Review Board

Christopher McIntosh student, Social Work

Instructor Course Evaluation Committee

Christopher McIntosh student, Social Work

Each of the nominees was ACCLAIMED.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.