

MINUTES OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, April 5, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT:			
<u>Ex-Officio:</u>	<u>Faculty:</u>	<u>Students:</u>	
K. Alnwick	H. Alighanbari	D. Mason	D. Ayub
E. Aspevig	D. Checkland	M. Mazerolle	F. Gorospe
S. Boctor	S. Cody	G. Mothersill	K. Medri
M. Booth	J. Dianda	B. Murray	S. Mirowski
C. Cassidy	M. Dionne	C. O'Brien	T. Nguyen
M. Dewson	M. Dowler	S. O'Neill	R. Rose
L. Grayson	D. Elder	S. Rosen	T. Spencer
A. Kahan	C. Evans	F. Salustri	V. Tighe
T. Knowlton	C. Farrell	D. Shipley	
C. Lajeunesse	M. Greig	K. Tucker Scott	<u>Alumni:</u>
C. Matthews	A. Johnson		L. Merali
Z. Murphy	N. Lister		
J. Sandys	A. Lohi		
P. Stenton	M. Malone		
<u>REGRETS:</u>		<u>ABSENT:</u>	
A. Akhavan		M. Annecchini	
J.P. Boudreau		I. Guindo	
A. Bridges		L. Islam	
F. Duerden		A. Jurczak	
J. Gryn		I. Levine	
R. Hudyma		D. McKessock	
A. Ladhani		M.J. Nicholson	
D. Mahoney			
S. Norrie			
K. Penny			
P. Schneiderman			
S. Williams			
M. Yeates			

1. President's Report

Judith Sandys introduced the Ryerson Research Chairs for 2004-05. The Chairs are selected on the basis of their exceptional accomplishments in scholarly, research and creative (SRC) activity; sound and ambitious plans for future SRC development; and excellent leadership qualities appropriate to the discipline. Chair appointments are for two years, and include funding and other support. These awards demonstrate the University's commitment to support for faculty SRC, and highlight the quality and extent of the exciting scholarly, research and creative activity underway at the University.

The four Ryerson Research Chairs for 2004-05 and their areas of research are:

- Marta Braun, Faculty of Communication & Design, School of Image Arts: Eadweard Muybridge's 1887 photographic compendium of human and animal movements, Animal Locomotion.
- Dennis Denisoff, Faculty of Arts, Department of English: the development of a manuscript, Civil Society, Populist Media and the Invisible Identities of 19th Century England, based on his research in 19th century cultural studies.
- Derick Rousseau, Faculty of Community Services, School of Nutrition: Food science with particular emphasis on understanding the physical and chemical factors that negatively impact the quality and shelf life of processed foods. Derick was unable to attend the meeting.
- Fei Yuan, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering: High-speed microelectronic circuits and systems.

The President reported that there has been an increase from 8 to 11 Canada Research Chairs allocated to Ryerson.

The President announced the Honorary Doctorates to be awarded at Spring Convocation.

- Communication and Design: Herschel Segal (created and founded le Chateau, and a supporter of students in the School of Fashion); and Peter Mansbridge (CBC).
- Community Services and Arts: Janet Storch (from the University of Victoria, contributor to the field of Nursing, for Collaborative Nursing convocation); Margaret MacMillan (acclaimed author and former Ryerson faculty member, now Provost at Trinity College at the University of Toronto); and Dennis Mock (long-time contributor to the Ryerson community, former VP Academic at Ryerson and now President of Nipissing University).
- Faculty of Business: Tom Hockin (President of Investment Funds Institute of Canada); John Sharpe (founder of Four Seasons); and Elyse Allan (President and CEO of GE Canada, President of Toronto Board of Trade).
- Engineering and Applied Science: Hany Moustafa (of Pratt and Whitney and a supporter of Ryerson). One nominee has not yet confirmed.

Applications to Ryerson are doing well. K. Alnwick reported that applications are down 6.6% overall for the system but that Ryerson is up 2.5% overall. The new Arts and Science programs have attracted 8600 new applications.

The Provincial budget will be out the week of April 26 or a week later. The response to the Rae Report will be the centre platform of the budget, but it is not known how much of the recommendations will be apportioned for the first year. The issue of unfunded BIUs is a matter of fairness, and the Rae report stresses that this needs to be addressed.

The Board has approved the operating budget, with the understanding that there will be adjustments based on the provincial budget. The Masters of Arts in International Economics and Finance has also been approved. It also decided that it will ask the government to review the Ryerson Act, particularly with regard to extending the number of terms for Board members and the admissibility of a Librarian as a full member of Academic Council. There will be a report to address the mechanics of the process. M. Mazerolle and R. Rose, both members of Academic Council, were elected to the Board of Governors.

Paul Stenton addressed Council on the updated Progress indicators distributed with the agenda. There are no new indicators added this year. The highlights of the indicators: 2003-04 is the first year of the double cohort, and this has affected the indicators. There is a trend to more PhD faculty and more research money for Mode II faculty, and an increasing application/acceptance ratio for graduate studies. There were a few minor transpositions of numbers noted in the document. Any other corrections should be reported to University Planning, and the corrected document will be available to Council by the next meeting.

2. Report of the Secretary of Academic Council

The Secretary reported on the results of the Continuing Education student elections to Academic Council and on the removal of Policy 32 as a policy of Academic Council. The May meeting is being moved from Tuesday, May 3 to Monday, May 9 at 12:00 p.m. for lunch, as grades are due on May 4, and the May 3 date will be inconvenient.

3. Good of the University – J. Dianda, Vice Chair, presided

Carol-Ann O'Brien raised the issue of the on-campus arrest and subsequent deportation of Wendy Maxwell, who was a community activist and a person living without status in Canada. Three community members, including representatives from CKLN and students from the Immigration and Settlement Studies Program spoke from the audience on this issue. A letter was presented to the President and L. Grayson. L. Grayson replied that the university is in process of getting better answers to the questions raised and there will be a report when those questions are answered. The report will be completed as soon as it can be properly completed.

T. Nguyen announced that Mass Exodus will be held this week. She asked about the dates for convocation and when they would be posted on the website. K. Alnwick said they will be on the web this week as they have just been confirmed.

T. Spencer asked K. Alnwick about students' ability to select third-class choices on the new SAS system. He stated that 90-95% of first-choice requests were currently being met, and

there appeared to be no need for a third choice. The result of this will be evaluated. T. Spencer noted that she is concerned because in ACS 90% of upper-year courses are elective. She also noted that there were no pre-requisites listed on the courses. K. Alnwick responded that the new calendar will be online May 1, and the latest version of the calendar will be up for course selection in future years. The old calendar currently online is not up-to-date. R. Rose asked if the university is looking to consolidate all of the online services. K. Alnwick noted that there is a “My Ryerson” portal and that this will be part of the one-stop solution. The Ryerson website is being evolved by University Advancement, and there will be linked and responsive services. It is a work in progress.

A. Kahan invited members to the presentation of a unique photo collection and gift to Ryerson on Monday April 11.

V. Tighe noted the lack of ability for e-mail communication with CE students, and asked if addresses could be provided. M. Booth commented that she agreed that there is a need to communicate and that this would be looked into.

D. Elder asked for an update on the corner of Yonge and Dundas. L. Grayson stated that there was a meeting with the developer. The first stage is complete. They are currently in a pause mode and stage two should begin in late spring.

K. Tucker Scott asked about the escalators in the library. L. Grayson commented that these are part of a larger study being done of the building.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion: That Academic Council approve the minutes of the March 1, 2005 meeting.
C. Matthews moved, G. Mothersill seconded

Minutes approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising.

6. Correspondence

D. Schulman reported that the letter to the Board of Governors regarding the motion to establish a joint committee on Benefactor Naming was included in the agenda and the Board response was distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

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

Motion: That Academic Council approve the submission of the proposal for a MSc in Biomedical Physics to the Ontario Council for Graduate Studies for Standard Appraisal.

S. Boctor moved, D. Mason seconded.

J. Dianda asked if, considering their close proximity, MARS and Toronto hospitals had any agreements to share equipment. A. Milic responded that there has not been any agreement to work with these institutions.

Motion approved.

E. Aspevig reported that the course codes on page 23 were incorrect. MPCS should read GNSC, GNEP and GNEN.

S. Cody asked about the changes in Graduate Course programs, commenting that the changes are poorly written.

Course changes in CE certificates were presented.

Clarification of previously approved course changes to the professional elective groups in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering was handed out at the meeting.

8. Reports of Committees

8.1 Composition and By-Laws Committee

Motion: That Academic Council approve the Department of Computer Science By-Laws.

M. Dionne moved, C. Evans seconded.

Motion approved

8.2 Nominating Committee

Motion: That Academic Council approve the nomination as presented in the report of the Committee.

M. Dionne moved, C. Matthews seconded.

Motion approved.

8.3 Academic Standards Committee

Motion: That Academic Council approve the program in Medical Physics leading to a Bachelor of Science (Medical Physics)

E. Aspevig moved, C. Evans Seconded.

M. Zeytinoglu reported on the Medical Physics program as presented in the report.

S. Cody commented that it is a wonderful program. It appears that the lab component of the program is scant. She was also concerned about course sequencing. M. Zeytinoglu commented that the labs in year 2-4 lab courses were increased by 50% and the thesis course is significant (4 hours per week). Program hours are comparable to other similar programs. The course sequencing was discussed by ASC, and this will not create a lack of knowledge or continuity.

J. Dianda noted that there was a 0.5 hour addition made and asked if there was an increase recommended by the PRT. M. Zeytinoglu stated that there was not specific recommendation, but that the PRT did indicate lab hours should be increased.

K. Alnwick noted that on the top of page 57 the phrase “complete a minimum of three of five work terms should read “four of five work terms” as this is consistent with the current standard.

Motion approved.

9. New Business

9.1 Revision of Policy on Grading Promotions and Academic Standing

Motion: That Academic Council amend section 2.2 of Policy 46: Policy on Grading Promotions and Academic Standing.

E. Aspevig moved, K. Tucker Scott seconded.

The Provost indicated that these are amendments to non-performance grades. There are a number of grades that have not been addressed by the committee and if there are any other changes members wish to recommend, this should be noted for the future.

T. Nguyen asked about the elimination of NSC credits for courses done on internships, as she had just received this type of credit. K. Alnwick responded that there will be new strategies in the new SAS system for dealing with this.

J. Dianda commented that the change in the INC is long overdue and is applauded. He also approves of the AEG. He asked about the difference between acceptable and passing performance and whether the Deans would make their own judgment on levels of performance for an AEG. K. Alnwick replied that the AEG will be awarded at the discretion of the Dean. The changes will be in effect for Fall 2005. It was clarified that the department will have to submit a grade when a grade is cleared or it will revert to an F. It is intended that this will be automatic, but this will be clarified with the new system.

R. Rose asked about the petition within 3 working days and commented that there needs to be a time for the response to the student on what needs to be done. D. Schulman stated that the 3 days conforms to the Appeals policy and that inclusion of a date for the filing of the work to be completed for INC will be worked out in the policy.

T. Nguyen asked about why the FLD was not counted in GPA. K. Alnwick responded that, since a PSD does not count in a GPA, neither should a failure in a pass/fail course.

Motion (with the friendly amendment to include a time limit for an INC response to the student) approved.

9.2 Revision of Policy on Periodic Program Review of Undergraduate Programs

Motion: That Academic Council amend Policy 126: Periodic Program Review of Undergraduate Programs

E. Aspevig moved, D. Mason Seconded.

E. Aspevig commented that the review of this policy had been announced at the last meeting. He noted that there is an apostrophe missing on page 71 in “program’s”.

Universities are interested in having control over their own programs and this is allowed through an audit process run through the Ontario Council of Academic Vice Presidents. The policy is reviewed by this body which also looks at whether universities follow their own policies. This has been in place for about a decade. The proposed policy is the result of incorporation of new guidelines established by that body, and what is known about our current process.

E. Aspevig reviewed the process as outlined by the policy. The self-study is now divided in two pieces – a narrative and appendices. This division is the result of the experience of the ASC which has found that it would be more useful to have the data available in this way. There is more integration with the academic plan. A report on progress on the previous developmental plan will be required. There is more done on an analysis of the academic quality of programs, delivery methods, and methods of student evaluation. There is more focus on goals and learning objectives. There is a requirement for a developmental plan revision based on input. The Dean, as chief academic officer, has been given a greater iterative role in the approvals process. The PRT mandate has been made more specific in response to the guidelines and to ASC comments. The original policy has a review of financial elements, but, as this really rests with the Board and not Academic Council, this has been removed from the policy. Follow-up reports are required, as per UPRAC guidelines.

It is believed that the policy is strengthened, the process is fully transparent and accountability is clear.

D. Checkland asked what happens if option 4 (rejection of a program review) is selected. It was responded that the program would need to redo the review. This would not necessarily mean the program is inadequate.

Motion approved.

9.3 D. Checkland stated that he will bring a motion to the May meeting to appoint the members of the joint committee to review the policy on benefactor naming, in case the Board approves the idea.

R. Rose asked if the Math and Physics department are developing By-Laws.

S. Boctor replied that they are in process and that there are students on the committee.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane R. Schulman, Ph.D.
Secretary of Academic Council