

MINUTES OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Members Present:			
Ex-Officio:	Faculty:	Students:	
K. Alnwick	H. Alighanbari	J. Lassaline	C. Alstrom
E. Aspevig	J. P. Boudreau	D. Lee	L. Bichler
S. Boctor	S. Cody	N. Lister	G. Brown
C. Cassidy	T. Dewan	A. Lohi	L. Brown
D. Doz	J. Dianda	D. Mahoney	A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler
L. Grayson	M. Dionne	D. Mason	A. Ganuelas
K. Jones	F. Duerden	D. McKessock	M. Kamali
A. Kahan	D. Elder	G. Mothersill	P. Lewkowicz
S. Levy	C. Evans	R. Ravindran	N. Loreto
Z. Murphy	E. Evans	S. Rosen	S. Persaud
P. Stenton	C. Farrell	P. Schneiderman	T. Spencer
S. Williams	R. Hudyma	D. Shipley	V. Tighe
M. Yeates	G. Hunt	K. Tucker Scott	N. Yiu
	A. Johnson		L. Yung
Regrets:		Alumni:	
M. Booth		J. Gryn	
M. Dewson			
S. Edwards			
C. Matthews			
J. Morgan			
C. O'Brien			
Absent:			
M. Brzoska			
E. Hunking			
D. Johnston			
L. Merali			

1. President's Report - President Levy thanked everyone for his installation events. The Provincial government has informed the university that unfunded BIUs will be funded over the next three years. P. Stenton and C. Lajeunesse were thanked for their efforts. Money for 2005-06 will have to be put to use quickly and effectively as one-time-only expenditures and, although this is not his ideal strategy, there is little time for consultation.

The Macleans survey ranks Ryerson as first in reputation for Leaders of Tomorrow and third as Best Overall (up two spots from 2004), yet on statistical rankings the scores are lower. The divergence between Ryerson's reputation and the statistics are all the result of an insufficient operating budget.

The President commented on the anti-Semitic hate literature found in the Ryerson library, as well as at York and University of Toronto. He commended Linda Grayson for her swift action on the matter.

The VP Research committee has been named and will be meeting shortly.

The local MPP Smitherman will be on campus tomorrow to address a group of graduate students. There will also be an announcement by Minister Bentley on campus tomorrow concerning the improvement of financial aid to students.

The President stated that he learned after the last Council meeting he had not followed some of Academic Council's own By-laws. He would now begin following the rules on the number of times a member could speak and the length of speaking time. He also reiterated the By-law on vote count, and the rules on challenging the chair which requires a motion.

2. Report of the Secretary of Academic Council - New members, as noted in the report, were welcomed.

3. Good of the University – N. Loreto chaired.

- R. Ravindran commented on the wonderful installation event. He further commented that Lukas Bichler, graduate student member of Council, had been awarded the Governor General's Gold medal and had received an NSERC Canada Graduate Scholarship (Three Year Doctoral).
- A. Kahan noted that there would be a Remembrance ceremony on Friday, November 11 at 10:45 in the quad.
- D. Elder commented on the cleanliness of the university and asked for clarification on the disagreement between RSU and CESAR concerning the student centre. The President commented that the disagreement also includes the Palin Foundation and that he has not intervened but has met with all the parties who have agreed to return to mediated discussions.
- D. McKessock asked about the number of course weeks, and if there is a movement to a 12-week term. E. Aspevig replied that there had been a review of term length last year and there was confirmation of the 13-week semester. In an attempt to resolve the cancellation of Monday classes because of holidays, a Monday/Friday switch was

attempted this year. There has been some difficulty with this, and as a consequence, there will not be a Monday/Friday switch next year. The term will end on a Monday as in the past.

- D McKessock also asked about the picnic being held on a Friday and the loss of that teaching day. E. Aspevig replied that this practice began when classes started the week after Labour Day. This issue will be addressed with a number of stakeholder groups.
- E. Aspevig commented on the scheduling of exams at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre which addressed the need to have large exams all in one room, and which made scheduling of exams on campus more effective. D. Schulman reported on the logistics that are in place for the use of the convention centre. She asked that members let her know if there were any concerns or suggestions. It was clarified that if the use of the Convention Centre is successful, it would be continued in coming semesters.
- In response to a question from T. Dewan, it was clarified that faculty who did not receive course surveys should request them through the Office of the Secretary of Academic Council. There had been a decision to evaluate only the main portion of a course, but it was recognized that some faculty loads include labs and studio sections of the main course.
- P. Lewkowicz asked about late exam schedules and about how places like York handle the length of the term considering that they have Jewish holidays off and start a week later. K. Alnwick replied that exam schedules would be earlier in the future and that York only has 59 required days of instruction.
- D Mason asked when Winter 2006 timetables will be available. K. Alnwick responded that preliminary timetables will be sent by December 6-7. He agrees that this late distribution is unacceptable, and that advancing the release of these will be a priority of his office.
- J. Dianda asked about the increasing number of variations on probationary policies. Requiring students to retake courses in which they receive a C or C+ amounts to a *de facto* tuition increase.
- D. Mason asked about the status of the *ad hoc* benefactor naming committee, jointly with the Board. A. Kahan stated that the committee had drafted a submission to the Board and that D. Checkland had asked to have more time to prepare additional material on this issue which will be reviewed by the committee before any further steps are taken.

4. Minutes

Motion: *That Academic Council approve the minutes of the October 11, 2005 meeting.*
K. Alnwick moved, D. Mason seconded.

- A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler submitted a request that the a final sentence be added to paragraph 6, page 6 as follows: “A. Chaleff- Freudenthaler also requested information relating to current student engagement, such as the number of students on university bodies.”
- J. Morgan submitted a request that the final paragraph of page 6 of the minutes be corrected. Instead of “... no provisions in the By Laws...”, it should read, “ ...he was

unable to locate anything in the By Laws...”. He asked that it also be noted that he spoke in favour of the motion on the tuition freeze.

- N. Loreto asked that it be noted on page 7 that funds were also raised for the earthquake victims.
- The Secretary commented that the minutes were not meant to be a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather notes, and cited a section of Robert’s Rules. D. Mason noted that the minutes are in fact published.

Minutes approved as corrected.

5. Business arising from the Minutes – The Chair invited questions on listed items. A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler asked if there was any further information on a committee on student engagement. The President said he will get back to him on this. It was asked if there was further action on the flags at South Kerr Hall, and L. Grayson commented that there were issues that needed to be addressed about the security of the flags.

N. Loreto asked about the recipients of the letter from the President and whether it had actually been sent. The President confirmed that it was, of course, sent as addressed.

6. Correspondence – There was no correspondence.

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

7.1 Arts

C. Cassidy noted that there was an error on the submissions from Geography, and all of the courses should be listed as professionally-related not professional.

7.2 Business

Motion: That Academic Council approve the re-organization of the School of Business Management into five departments – Accounting, Finance, Human Resource Management, Strategy (Management and Entrepreneurship) and Marketing.

K. Jones moved, R. Ravindran seconded.

K. Jones stated that the current School of Business Management has 1500 students with one director and subject heads. Degree students choose an area of specialization. The motion sets up individual departments, which will have Departmental Councils with By Laws and student representation. This will decentralize the responsibility and increase efficiency. There will be incremental costs.

Motion approved.

7.3 Communication & Design

Motion: That Academic Council approve the name change from “*Department of Business and Technical Communication*” to “*Department of Professional Communication*”.

D. Doz moved, G. Mothersill seconded

Motion approved.

7.4 Community Services – Additional course change forms were distributed.

Motion: *That Academic Council approve the change in degree requirements under the Professional and Professionally-Related Tables I & I to: “Fall 2006 1st year admits will require a total of 10 courses. All students graduating after June 2006 will be required to have one interdisciplinary or international course, course project (charrette) or an exchange experience as part of their degree requirements”.*

S. Williams moved, K. Tucker-Scott seconded.

K. Alnwick noted that the logistics of implementation need to be addressed.

Motion approved.

7.5 Engineering and Applied Science – An additional course change form from Mechanical and Industrial Engineering was distributed.

Motion: *That Academic Council approve the name change of the “Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science” to the “Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science”.*

S. Boctor moved. R. Ravindran seconded.

It was asked why the word Applied was dropped. S. Boctor replied that the science programs are much different than they were before and that Applied Science often is taken to mean Engineering.

Motion approved.

8.1 Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Religious Observance

Motion: *That Academic Council approve the revision of Policy 150: Accommodation of Student Religious Observance Obligations.*

K. Alnwick moved, A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler seconded.

K. Alnwick reported that the changes to the policy are mainly cosmetic in nature, and non-policy items were removed.

A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler asked if there were students on the committee. K. Alnwick replied that there had been a student on the original committee, but the review was done in one-meeting and there had not been a student. D. Mason stated that there was no agreement with the RFA on a seven-day-a-week exam schedule. It was noted that “website” should be consistently spelled as either one word or two.

A. Chaleff-Freudenthaler commented that he knew someone who, as a result of an a religious accommodation, had to do an assignment that was different from others. K. Alnwick confirmed that accommodation is done on a case- by-case basis, and that if there was a problem, students could consult the department chair.

Motion approved.

8.2 Report of the Academic Standards Committee

8.2.1 Motion: *That Academic Council approve the new Minor in Disability Studies*

E. Aspevig moved, J. Sandys seconded

Motion approved.

8.2.2 Motion: *That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum restructuring in the Theatre Technical Production program.*

E. Aspevig moved, P. Schneiderman seconded

J. Dianda asked about the standing variation and if the system can automatically handle academic standing variations. K. Alnwick replied that these are not automated. J. Dianda also asked if students who are required to retake a course in which they receive a C-, are suspended if they get below a C- in the same course when it is repeated. It was verified that if they got below a C- twice they would be suspended. It was suggested that the language be clarified.

Motion approved.

8.2.3 Motion : *That Academic Council approve the program name change of “Technical Production” to “Performance Production”, and the degree name from “Bachelor of Fine Arts (Technical Production)” to “Bachelor of Fine Arts (Performance Production)”.*

E. Aspevig moved. P. Schneiderman seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.4 Motion: *That Academic Council approve the proposed academic standing variations in the Theatre Performance Production program.*

E. Aspevig moved. P. Schneiderman seconded.

D. Mason asked if grades below a C- could be recorded as a failure. K. Alnwick stated that having higher required grades in some core courses is standard practice but that changing the definition of a failing grade is not. Another approach could be explored.

Motion approved.

8.2.5 Motion: *That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum restructuring in Fashion Communication and Fashion Design programs.*

E. Aspevig moved. D. Doz seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.6 Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum and academic regulation changes in the Midwifery Education Program.

E. Aspevig moved. N. Loreto seconded.

Motion approved

8.2.7 Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum restructuring in the Arts and Contemporary Studies program.

E. Aspevig moved. T. Spencer seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.8. Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum changes in the Health Services Management program.

E. Aspevig moved. K. Tucker Scott seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.9 Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed changes to admission guidelines for the Health Services Management program.

E. Aspevig moved. A. Ganuelas seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.10 Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed curriculum change in the Information Technology Management program.

E. Aspevig moved. R. Hudyma seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.11 Motion: That Academic Council approve the proposed program name change from Post RN Degree Program to Post Diploma Degree Completion Program in Nursing.

E. Aspevig moved. N. Loreto seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2.12. Motion: *That Academic Council approve the proposed revisions to the academic standing and graduation requirement variations in the Nursing programs.*

E. Aspevig moved. N. Loreto seconded.

K. Alnwick commended departments and schools for the timely submission of all of the curriculum changes.

Motion approved.

8.2.13 Periodic Program Review of Health Services Management

Motion: *That Academic Council approve the periodic program review as conducted by the School of Health Services Management.*

E. Aspevig moved. N. Loreto seconded.

D. Mason asked for a report from the Vice Chair of Academic Standards, given the importance of the program review process. M. Zeytinolgu stated that the program review was challenging and that approval was postponed until further information was submitted. There were administrative changes in the department that allowed it to be completed.

Motion approved.

E. Aspevig commented that, as chair of the Academic Standards Committee, he would take the issues raised on variations to the ASC.

P. Schneiderman thanked the co-directors of the Technical Production program for their work.

10. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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