

SENATE MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, April 5, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:			
EX-OFFICIO:	FACULTY:		STUDENTS:
M. Bountrogianni	C. Antonescu	D. Mason	V. Morton
I. Coe	R. Babin	A. Mathews David	B. Sibanda
C. Evans	S. Banerjee	A. McWilliams	
C. Falzon	R. Botelho	N. Naghibi	
C. Hack	D. Checkland	A. O'Malley	
M. Lachemi	P. Danziger	A. Pejovic-Milic	
H. Lane Vetere	Y. Derbal	C. Schryer	
M. Lefebvre	M. Dionne	B. Tan	
J. Mactavish	A. Ferworn	T. Tenkate	
M. Moshé	A. Goss	K. Tucker Scott	
P. Stenton	E. Kam	P. Walsh	
J. Winton	L. Kolasa	N. Walton	
S. Zolfaghari	K. Kumar	C. Zamaria	
	V. Magness	J. Zboralski	
SENATE ASSOCIATES:			EX-OFFICIO STUDENTS:
A. M. Brinsmead			R. Ashraf
M. Zouri			
REGRETS:	ABSENT:		ALUMNI:
J. P. Boudreau	B. Badiuk		R. Rodrigues
W. Cukier	J. D'Cruz		
T. Duever	F. Gunn		
R. Frankle	J. Lisi		
U. George	N. Liu		
J. Machado	R. Meldrum		
S. Murphy	C. McGee		
D. O'Neil Green	H. Mulla		
M. Rodrigues	D. Naylor		
K. Slimming	U. Odozor		
	H. Parada		
	M. Schalk		
	A. Smith Schon		
	O. Ullah		
	C. Yacyshyn		

Before the meeting began, Nima Naghibi, Vice Chair of Senate, introduced Dr. Mohamed Lachemi, the new President and Vice Chancellor of Ryerson University, and Chair of Senate. President Lachemi thanked Senators for their support, their contributions to Ryerson's success and the success of our students, and said that he looks forward to working with Senate and the entire Ryerson community in the coming years.

1. Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: *That Senate approve the agenda for the April 5, 2016 meeting*

A. McWilliams moved; V. Magness seconded

Motion Approved.

3. Announcements - None

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Chair noted that there are no minutes to approve from the scheduled March 1, 2016 Senate meeting due to a lack of quorum (more information is provided under Item 7.3.1 below).

Motion: *That Senate approve the minutes of the January 26, 2016 meeting.*

D. Mason moved; N. Walton seconded

Motion Approved.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes – None

6. Correspondence - None

7. Reports

7.1 Report of the President

7.1.1 President's Update

President Lachemi mentioned some highlights from his printed report. He noted that three recent appointees to the Senate of Canada have connections to Ryerson: Two are Honorary Doctorate recipients, Francis Lankin and the Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair, and the third is Ratna Omidvar, Executive Director of the Global Diversity Exchange and Adjunct Professor at the Ted Rogers School of Management. The President was also pleased to announce three new Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) at Ryerson: Ebrahim Bagheri, Anton De Rooter, and Anatoliy Gruz. He also drew Senators attention to the list in his report of the Honorary Doctorate recipients for the Spring 2016 convocation ceremonies. He also noted that, new for this year, there will be a single gala dinner for all the Honorary Doctorate recipients, instead of a separate dinner for each recipient.

President Lachemi concluded by congratulating Ryerson's athletic teams for their successes this year – particularly the men's volleyball team, and the men and women's basketball teams. A short video with highlights of the teams' accomplishments was shown.

7.2 Achievement Report

7.3 Report of the Secretary

7.3.1 Update on the March 1, 2016 Senate meeting – As the Chair mentioned in Item 4, poor weather and several people away due to illness resulted in a lack of quorum for the March 1, 2016 meeting scheduled to start at 5:45pm. The scheduled Committee of the Whole discussion did proceed, however, from 5pm to 5:45pm, in which Senators compared and discussed the medical certificates used by students at Ryerson, Queen's and the U of T to request academic consideration for missed exams and assignment due dates. A summary of Senators' comments will be made available to the Academic Policy Review Committee's working group on academic consideration issues.

7.3.2 Update on Senate elections. The Secretary noted that a copy of an email sent to all Ryerson students with the results of the Senate student elections is in the agenda package. Also, that by-elections for faculty vacancies on Senate are expected to be run by May 2016.

7.3.3 For information: Policy 60 (*Academic Integrity*) Procedures posted at http://www.ryerson.ca/senate/policies/pol60_procedures.pdf

7.4 Budget Update: P. Stenton presented an overview of the budget process. He noted that the budget is expected to be presented to the Board of Governors by the end of April, so that it is in place for the next fiscal year. A copy of the slides from the presentation is available at: http://ryerson.ca/senate/agenda/2016/Budget_presentation_Apr_5_2016.pptx

7.5 Committee Reports

7.5.1 Report #W2016-1 of the Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC)

7.5.1.1 Psychology Graduate Program Council Bylaw: J. Mactavish

Motion: *That Senate approve the Psychology Graduate Program Council Bylaw*

J. Mactavish moved; M. Dionne seconded.

Motion Approved.

7.5.1.2 Interim Report from the *ad hoc* Academic Policy Review Committee (APRC): M. Moshé
A copy of the interim report is appended to these minutes.

7.5.2 Report #W2016-1 of the Senate Priorities Committee (SPC)

7.5.2.1 Senate Policy #160: Posthumous Degrees, Certificates and Diplomas: C. Hack

Motion: *That Senate approve the revisions to Policy 160 as described in the agenda document.*

C. Hack moved; D. Mason seconded.

Motion Approved.

7.5.3 Combination of Reports #W2016-2 and #W2016-3 of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC): M. Moshé

7.5.3.1 Chang School Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business: Revision of Electives

Motion: *That Senate approve the revision of electives in the Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Small Business as described in the agenda.*

M. Moshe moved; M. Bountrogianni seconded.

A. McWilliams asked if there will be flexibility for students regarding the selection of electives in the certificate. M. Moshe responded that the goal is to provide further choice for students.

L. Koechli followed up by saying that the Chang School generally tries to accommodate students' elective choices and will do so as much as possible in the case of this certificate.

Motion Approved.

7.5.3.2 Chang School Certificate in Data Analytics, Big Data, and Predictive Analytics: Course Deletions; Course Additions (Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering)

Motion: *That Senate approve the course deletions and additions from the Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering to the Chang School Certificate in Data Analytics, Big Data, and Predictive Analytics as described in the agenda.*

M. Moshe moved; M. Bountrogianni seconded.

D. Mason asked about the status of proposed changes to Computer Science courses in this certificate. M. Moshé responded that, after consultation with the Chang School, it was determined that the proposed changes to Computer Science courses in this certificate could not be considered in time for the 2016-2017 edition of the course Calendar, but will be considered in the next round of Calendar revisions.

L. Kolasa asked if the new courses in this certificate could be taken by students in full-time programs as well as by students taking only Chang School courses. D. Glynn responded that, in general, they could. L. Kolasa followed up by asking if the new courses in this certificate could be listed on the open electives table in order to facilitate access to them by full-time students other than those whose program currently lists them as electives. President Lachemi suggested that the issue be directed to the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering for a further response.

Motion Approved.

7.5.3.3 RTA School of Media, Media Production - Periodic Program Review

Motion: *That Senate approve the periodic program review for Media Production in the RTA School of Media*

M. Moshe moved; C. Falzon seconded.

Motion Approved.

7.5.4 Report from the Yeates School of Graduate Studies (YSGS): J. Mactavish

7.5.4.1 Periodic Program Review for the Computer Networks Masters Program

Motion: *That Senate approve the Periodic Program Review for the Computer Networks Masters Program*

J. Mactavish moved; A. Goss seconded.

Motion Approved.

7.5.4.2 Proposal for a Professional Masters Diploma in Material Innovations in Design

Motion: *That Senate approve the Proposal for a Professional Masters Diploma in Material Innovations in Design*

J. Mactavish moved; C. Falzon seconded.

Motion Approved.

8. Old Business

8.1 For information: A response to D. Mason's request at the June 2, 2015 Senate meeting regarding how many students get minors and which minors they get

C. Hack summarized the minors data for Spring 2015 convocation provided in the agenda document.

D. Mason encouraged program departments to do what they can to make their minors available to students outside their program. D. Checkland concurred, and also encouraged programs to do what they can to inform their own students about potential minors available to them from other programs.

C. Hack followed up by saying that the Registrar's Office will continue to work on informing students about the minors available to them. That effort includes an anticipated "schedule builder" that will allow students to more easily understand how to achieve a desired minor.

N. Naghibi asked if other initiatives are being considered to facilitate students accessing minors. C. Hack responded that the current system can potentially be adapted to assist students further. President Lachemi suggested that the issue be considered further by the University.

D. Mason advised that the Department of Computer Science is in the process of creating a minor that is designed to be maximally accessible by students, and suggested that other programs could consider that approach.

8.2 For information: Reactivation of the Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC): M. Moshé

M. Moshé summarized the document in the agenda package. D. Checkland asked if a minimum number of seats are available in courses on the open electives table. M. Moshé responded that such a minimum was a recommendation from the CIC, but it has not been formally implemented at this point.

9. New Business as Circulated – None

10. Members' Business – None

11. Consent Agenda – None

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

AD HOC ACADEMIC POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE
INTERIM REPORT
April 5, 2016 Senate Meeting

The Academic Policy Review Committee (APRC), an ad hoc committee of the Senate Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC) , has as its mandate the review of five policies: Undergraduate Academic Consideration and Appeals (134); Graduate Appeals (152); Examinations (135); Course Management (145); and Graduate Course Management (151).

To date, the APRC has met five times. Here are some highlights of the committee's work.

- First, there has been general agreement to consolidate and simplify policies and to separate policies from procedures
- The first APRC subcommittee has developed a statement of values and principles for academic policies.
- Three additional “issues-based” subcommittees have been formed and have met twice: Academic Appeals; Evaluations and Exams; and Academic Consideration.

Here is a summary of issues raised by each subcommittee.

Academic Appeals Subcommittee: Summary of Issues

- The graduate and undergraduate appeals policies (Policies 152 and 134) could be harmonized.
- With respect to graduate student appeals, the roles of the Graduate Program Directors and Associate Deans (Graduate Studies) need to be specified. Should the Associate Deans responsible for Graduate Studies in each Faculty be the decision makers for second-level graduate student appeals?
- The subcommittee identified challenges with the appeal submission process, especially for Chang School students who may be working during the day or taking courses through distance education. Would a move towards electronic (e.g., RAMSS-based) submission of appeals address these challenges?
- It is often difficult to make appeals decisions based on compassionate grounds. The appeals policy should clarify what is meant by compassionate grounds.
- There is a need for faculty development and training on appeals policies and procedures.

Academic Consideration Subcommittee: Summary of Issues

- The subcommittee identified three areas worthy of review and consideration: (1) alternate arrangements for missed tests or deadlines; (2) the practice of requiring that students submit medical notes in order to be provided with alternate arrangements; and (3) re-grading and grade reassessments.
- The issue of medical notes has been the main focus of initial discussions.
 - There was recognition that the current system does not work well for students who are actually sick and allows for potential abuse by students who are not sick.
 - The subcommittee discussed “root causes” for students submitting notes when they are not actually sick (e.g., their exam schedule, course load, work obligations, etc.).
 - An initial survey revealed varying policies at other universities. Some universities use student self-declarations of illness, whereas others have more rigid policy requirements than are currently in place at Ryerson.

Evaluation and Exams Subcommittee: Summary of Issues

- There is a need to work towards consistent nomenclature re. exams, tests, midterms, etc.
- The subcommittee will recommend the consolidation of Policies 135 and 145 and 151.
- How much student work should be graded and returned before the drop date?
- Issue of variation across sections of the same course—who decides?

Next Steps: Consultation

- APRC outreach/consultations to date include discussions at the following meetings: Chairs, Deans and Directors (February 11, 2016); Senate (March 1, 2016, Committee of the Whole discussion); and Senate Learning and Teaching Committee (March 7, 2016).
- An email address has been created for community feedback: policyreview@ryerson.ca
- Each subcommittee has developed a consultation plan, along with questions to ask the identified stakeholders including faculty, Associate Deans responsible for graduate studies in each Faculty, students (including RSU and CESAR), staff, etc. The Academic Appeals Subcommittee, for example, has scheduled consultations this month with Associate Deans (Undergraduate Programs), Associate Deans (Graduate Programs), Department/School-level Appeal Decision Makers, and Graduate Program Directors.

The APRC’s work will continue over the 2016-2017 academic year. However, if the Committee identifies urgent/necessary revisions to these policies, it would forward recommendations to Senate for the May 31, 2016 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted on Behalf of the Academic Policy Review Committee,

Marcia Moshé and Jacob Friedman
Co-Chairs, Academic Policy Review Committee