

**SENATE MINUTES OF MEETING**

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Via Zoom Video Conference

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<b>EX-OFFICIO:</b>	<b>FACULTY:</b>		<b>STUDENTS:</b>
L. Barnoff	R. Adams	H. Rollwagen	L. Armstrong
D. Cramb	S. Benvie	S. Sabatinos	C. Bannis
G. Craney	T. Burke	I. Sakinofsky	G. Carter
T. Duever	D. Checkland	D. Scofield	M. Hickie
C. Falzon	M. Dionne	J. Schmidt	F. L. Kakar
C. Hack	S. Farshadfar	N. Thomlinson	Y. Mistry
G. Hepburn	A. Ferworn	C. Thompson	K. Park
R. Iannacito-Provenzano	N. George	M. Vahabi	H. Ramzan
M. Lachemi	M. Green	A. Valeo	D. Salman
K. MacKay	E. Ignagni	I. Young	J. Sekhon
J. McMillen	L. Kolasa	H. Zarrin	S. Slonim
I. Mishkel	L. Lavallée		J. Spagnuolo
D. O'Neil Green	A. McWilliams		
C. Searcy	P. Moore		
C. Shepstone	J. Neil		
P. Sugiman	R. Noble		<b>EX-OFFICIO STUDENTS:</b>
D. Taras	D. Oguamanam		S. Sanith
D. Young	N. Ponce de Leon		
S. Zolfaghari	R. Ravindran		
<b>SENATE ASSOCIATES:</b>			<b>ALUMNI:</b>
A. M. Brinsmead			N. Di Cuia
J. Dallaire			S. Rattan
R. Kucheran			
N. Ponce de Leon Elphick			
<b>REGRETS:</b>		<b>ABSENT:</b>	
D. Brown		G. Bramesfeld	
N. Chen		L. Escandon	
S. Liss		S. Maitman-Markowski	
J. Rodriguez		T. Schneider	
J. Saber			

1. Call to Order/Establishment of Quorum
2. Land Acknowledgement  
"Toronto is in the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory'. The Dish With One Spoon is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect."

3. Approval of the Agenda  
**Motion:** *That Senate approve the agenda for the October 6, 2020 meeting.*

A. McWilliams moved; D. Taras seconded  
**Motions Approved.**

4. Announcements - None

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting  
**Motion:** *That Senate approve the minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting.*

T. Duever moved; G. Hepburn seconded  
**Motion Approved.**

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes

7. Correspondence - None

## 8. Reports

### 8.1 Report of the President

#### 8.1.1 President's Update

##### **The President Reported:**

- 1) Welcome to the first meeting of Senate 2020-2021.
- 2) Proud of how our community has come together to respond to the pandemic with resilience, determination and commitment to the advancement of our great institution. Recognize that this success is the result of much hard work, sacrifice, and was not accomplished without its challenges. Thank each of you for stepping up and working together to make sure that the important work of our university continues. Want to highlight the work of the SPC and other committees for all of the work over the summer.

3) **Welcome to:**

Roberta Iannacito-Provenzano, our new Vice-Provost, Faculty Affairs. She joined us on August 1 from York University where she served as associate dean of faculty affairs in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies.

Tony Staffieri, our new Board of Governors Chair, former Vice-Chair of the Board.

4) **Winter Term:**

- The Winter 2021 semester will largely remain unchanged. The majority of course offerings will be offered virtually, with few in-person, on-campus activities as permitted by government guidelines.
- As next semester will be the final semester for some of our students, I know many of you are paying particular attention to providing safe access to campus for labs and other physical resources needed by these students in order to fulfil their requirements to graduate.
- As always, the health and safety of the entire community remains our top priority. We will continue to monitor the situation and follow the advice of government and public health agencies.

5) **NSERC Alliance Grants:**

Congratulations to the Ryerson research teams who have received NSERC Alliance COVID-19 Grants. There were 22 Ryerson projects in total which received the grants enabling researchers to develop innovative solutions to urgent issues associated with the pandemic. There is an error in the written report on the number of researchers, the correct number of projects having received the grant so far is 22.

6) **Enrolment Update:**

- Early data indicate that enrolment is on track to meet or exceed targets. September undergraduate enrolments at the start of classes are above target for international and domestic students.
- Fall enrolment at the Chang School has also increased and is higher than what we saw in Fall 2019.
- Students may still drop courses or withdraw without financial penalty, so enrolment numbers may change. We will have final numbers in early November.

7) **Strategic Mandate Agreement 3 Update:**

- Reached an agreement with the Province on the next 5-year Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA).
- In March, the Ministry provided a 6-month pause in discussions to evaluate the challenges of COVID-19.
- In August 2020, the Ministry committed to delay the activation of the performance framework until at least 2022-23. This means that Ryerson's budget will not be affected until at least 2023-24 given the slip-year nature of the agreement.

- Data will still be collected and reported and new metrics will be introduced on the original schedule.
- We will continue to evaluate the effects of COVID-19 with the Ministry as part of our annual review to determine when funding will be linked to SMA metrics.

#### 8) **Navitas Update:**

- Following Senate's approval of Navitas in the Spring, the agreement was approved by the Board.
- Over the summer, many members of the Ryerson community have been working with Navitas on the implementation of what will be called Ryerson University International College or RUIC. RUIC is on target to bring in their first class, virtually, in January 2021.
- The Deans from the Faculty of Arts and the Ted Rogers School of Management have been working with their Associate Deans, Chairs and Directors to identify the first courses to be offered.
- We have also formalized the Academic Advisory Group that will be co-chaired by the Vice Provost, Academic, and will meet for the first-time mid-Fall. I expect the first report back to Senate to occur before the end of the year.
- We have also been challenged by the Minister to take a leadership role in helping the Province recover from COVID-19. Building on our strong relationship with Algoma University, we have agreed to expand RUIC's footprint by 20% and create additional pathways for up to 100 students. The project, which will be fully funded by Navitas, will provide students who are unable to meet the GPA to attend a Ryerson program, a second chance to attend a range of programs at Algoma. We do not anticipate that this additional project will affect our planned enrolment targets from RUIC.

#### 9) **Brampton Update:**

- Over the past several years, we have built a strong relationship with the City of Brampton, and we continue to work collaboratively on a variety of joint initiatives, projects, and innovative ventures.
- While we remain an urban university that is fundamentally rooted in downtown Toronto, our experience working with cities to solve relevant problems remains in demand both provincially and nationally.
- Last year, we formally established the **Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst** – a not-for-profit joint project in the City of Brampton and supported by Rogers Communications, RBC and the Federal Government. In a few short months, it has established itself as a National force to help Canadians and Canadian companies seize the opportunities and tackle the challenges of cybersecurity.
- Recently, we launched the **Ryerson Venture Zone in Brampton**. Funded through a \$5 M grant by the City of Brampton, this new Zone aims to enhance the city's social and economic vitality by supporting the growth of new business, creating high-skilled jobs, building a talent pipeline, and solidifying Brampton's standing as a global hub of innovation.

- Last year, the **Chang School** began programming in the City of Brampton and we continue to discuss the possibility of further academic programming. Over the past few months, our discussions internally and with Brampton have pivoted towards opportunities in innovative **health programming, health education and health initiatives**. This aligns well with Ryerson's strengths and expertise, along with both the City of Brampton and Ontario's priorities and commitments.
- We are exploring two potential pilot projects – one focused on the expansion of the well-received **Internationally Trained Medical Doctors** program in Brampton and the second builds on the work of TRSM professor Aziz Guergachi which will focus on **improving outcomes for patients with diabetes** and will engage local physicians, community centres and the general public.
- We continue to explore additional possibilities to expand academic partnerships with the City and I will report back to Senate as this develops.
- In a recent meeting with the Mayor of Brampton, he expressed excitement from the City about the possibility of developing a new School of Medicine in Osler Hospital founded on Ryerson's values of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and offering a new approach that is needed by the health care sector. This is just the beginning of this journey with many opportunities for all of us to discuss what the new School will look like and its impacts on Ryerson.

#### 10) **Two Task Forces Update:**

The **External Expert Panel Task Force** is assisting the university on developing a new approach to enhancing the safety and security on campus. The five members on the expert panel, chaired by Justice Harry LaForme, have met with the Executive Group and have toured the campus. They are now working on their follow-up plans

The **Egerton Ryerson Task Force** will engage the community in consultations regarding Egerton Ryerson's legacy and our university's relationship with his past. Denise O'Neil Green and Steven Liss are the executive co-leads of the task force. We are finalizing the taskforce membership and will share that with the community very soon.

#### 11) **Strategic Vision:**

Pleased to share that the Ryerson Strategic Vision 2030 is complete and we are preparing a community launch of the plan in the next few weeks. The strategic vision is a result of an extensive integrated planning process that we undertook over the past year. It is a foundational document for Ryerson, informed by community consultations and aligned with our other key strategic plans. I believe it is a Vision to inspire Ryerson's transformative journey to 2030. I look forward to sharing it with you shortly.

## 8.2 **Communications Report** – Included in the Agenda

### 8.3 Report of the Secretary

#### 8.3.1 Committee Updates

The Secretary of Senate confirmed that all vacant Student Senator positions have been filled on Standing Committees and are posted on the Senate website.

### 8.4 Committee Reports

#### 8.4.1 Report #F2020-1 of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC): K. MacKay

##### 8.4.1.1. Addition of a new standing variation for all undergraduate Engineering programs in the Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science

**Motion:** *That Senate approve the addition of a new standing variation for all undergraduate Engineering programs in the Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science.*

K. MacKay moved; T. Duever seconded

**Q:** Regarding the relationship between the proposed policy and the existing practice that all students in engineering programs must complete all of the courses that are a part of the first year common engineering program. Has anyone looked at whether the students that are not being identified by the individual programs as struggling and which go on to have many F's on their transcripts in the upper years of the program, are more likely to be students that required multiple attempts to complete their first year courses, but then were not identified by the regular academic standing policies because even though they may have struggled with foundational knowledge their CGPAs were based upon the best grades from the multiple attempts to complete first year courses? If there is a link, has any consideration been given to stopping the practice of having students' academic home cease to be the First Year and Common Engineering Office at the end of their first two terms and having their academic advising be transferred to the individual departments?

**A:** Liping Fang responded that the current practice is that students who complete the core courses move forward to upper years. If on probation, a contract would be made but if clear standing, the student cannot be held back. If taking first year courses, a student is supported by the first year office but for example, we had a student who it took 5.5 years to see that there was a problem. First term 2.0 GPA, second term 3.01, third term was low – 3 courses F but was still clear standing on CGPA. Another term was also 3 F's but the student remained in clear standing for 5.5 years despite numerous F's on their transcript. We want to be able to help student's earlier.

**Q:** The data that was provided shows that according to the new system, it results in a considerable increase in probationary students from 120 to 420, so my question is two-fold. Is there any thoughts as to how we deal with this administratively, which will create additional workload for staff and academic advisors; and also, is there a plan to put resources to do anything differently from current practices?

**A:** Liping Fang responded that his Faculty is committed to providing resources to assist students and ease the workload for staff and faculty.

**Q:** Are any of these core courses?

**A:** Yes, most of them are core courses.

**Motion Approved.**

**8.4.1.2. Universities of Canada-Egypt curriculum proposal – Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science – Mechanical Engineering**

**Motion:** *That Senate approve the Universities of Canada-Egypt curriculum proposal – Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science – Mechanical Engineering.*

K. MacKay moved; T. Duever seconded

**Motion Approved.**

**8.4.1.3. Introduction of optional undergraduate co-op programs in the Faculty of Arts, commencing with English, History, Sociology, and Politics and Governance**

**Motion:** *That Senate approve the introduction of optional undergraduate co-op programs in the Faculty of Arts, commencing with English, History, Sociology, and Politics and Governance.*

K. MacKay moved; A. McWilliams seconded

**Motion Approved.**

**8.4.1.4. Revisions to the work term schedule in the School of Business Management – Marketing Management Co-op program**

**Motion:** *That Senate approve revisions to the work term schedule in the School of Business Management – Marketing Management co-op program.*

K. MacKay moved; N. Di Cuia seconded

**Motion Approved.**

**8.4.1.5. Reduction from 41 to 40, in the total number of courses required for the Bachelor of Commerce in Business Management (all majors) degree program.**

**Motion:** *That Senate approve the reduction from 41 to 40, in the total number of courses required for the Bachelor of Commerce in Business Management (all majors) degree program.*

K. MacKay moved; S. Satish seconded

**Motion Approved.**

**8.4.1.6. For information: Change in administrative home for the new Professional Music Program, from Creative Industries to the RTA School of Media.**

## 8.4.2 Report #F2020-1 of the Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC): S. Zolfaghari

### 8.4.2.1. Interim Provost's Update

#### 1) Faculty Initiatives

- Ryerson's Faculties have developed several innovative initiatives to enhance the online learning experience for the Fall and Winter semesters
  - For example, the Faculty of Science, working alongside an **Augmented Reality** company, has developed a series of labs for science courses. The Ryerson Augmented Learning Experience will give 5,000 students in the FOS access to an augmented reality enhanced learning experience, which re-imagines a virtual lab. Virtual labs will include real-time collaborative Zoom sessions with lab technicians that allow students to project into their home the lab materials required for each experiment.
- Two new doctoral programs will launch in the coming year -- the PhD in Management starts this Fall, and the PhD in Urban Health is planned for launch in 2021. These are the first PhD programs in their respective faculties (TRSM and FCS).

#### 2) Faculty/Instructor Supports

- The **Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching** provided leadership in the emergency move to remote teaching in the winter 2020 semester and with extensive consultation, resources, workshops, and support leading up to the remote Fall semester.
  - Over the Spring and Summer, over 40 faculty workshops on remote teaching were presented, and 65 resources and videos are available on their Remote Teaching webpage.
  - The Remote Teaching webpage was adapted from their Continuity of Teaching webpage and is intended to help faculty and instructors with the process of adapting existing in-person courses for remote delivery as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- The **Keep Teaching Task Force (KTT)**, which was established in March to support faculty and instructors in creating alternative forms of course and exam delivery during the pandemic, has expanded their mandate into the Fall semester. They have continued to provide resources and consolidate information to distribute to faculty and instructors.

#### 3) Academic Plan Priorities on Track

- **Student Experience:** We took care to ensure that our students were able to complete their Winter 2020 term and, thanks to preparation over the Summer, have begun a high quality, engaging Fall 2020 educational and authentically Ryerson experience.
- **SRC and Graduate Studies:** A total of 47 projects across medical, social and public policy focused themes, COVID-19 research; including the Ryerson projects, are being supported by \$27 million in funding. In addition, Ryerson researchers are developing a computer simulation to help hospitals manage staff workloads and care levels, including the creation of a tool that predicts how different severities of the COVID-19 outbreak and associated safety procedures can impact hospital workforces.



- **Advancing Indigenous Initiatives:** We welcomed **16 Indigenous faculty members** over the last two academic hiring cycles, which is instrumental in finding meaningful ways to embed Indigenous thinking, ideas and experiences into our curriculum.
    - The annual Pow Wow ceremony happened in September and was accompanied by a week-long series of virtual educational events and workshops for the community.
- 4) **New Appointments**
- Last year, Ryerson approved **99 new tenure-stream positions** and has completed the **hiring of 71 tenure-stream faculty members** - 57 joined Ryerson this September and the remainder will begin their roles during the next academic year, which is remarkable given the context of COVID-19.
    - Of the faculty we hired from August 2019 to August 2020, 48% identified as women; 43% identified as racialized; 10% identified as Aboriginal Peoples; 6% identified as persons with disabilities; 10% identified as 2SLGBTQ+; and 9% identified as Black.
- 5) **Updates on Appointment of Academic Administrators (AAA) Processes**
- Review and search processes are underway for the dean, Faculty of Arts and the dean, Faculty of Community Services. The Composition of both committees will be shared with the community in the near future.

#### **8.4.2.2. Revised Chemical Engineering Department Council Bylaws**

**Motion:** *That Senate approve the revised Chemical Engineering Department Council Bylaws.*

S. Zolfaghari moved; R. Ravindran seconded

**Motion Approved.**

#### **8.4.3 Report #F2020-1 of the Senate Priorities Committee (SPC): M. Lachemi**

**8.4.3.1. Endorse the action taken on July 22, 2020 by the Senate Priorities Committee (SPC) acting on behalf of Senate, to amend Policy 48 by adding new phrasing to item #1 and item #3, and to approve a variation to Policy 48 as permitted by clauses 1 and 3 to permit SSH102 to run up to a 16- week format in the Fall 2020 term commencing prior to Labour Day.**

**Motion #1:** *That Senate approve the amendment to Policy 48 by adding new phrasing to item #1 and item #3.*

A. McWilliams moved; D. Checkland seconded

**Motion Approved.**

**Motion #2:** *That Senate approve a variation to Policy 48 as permitted by clauses 1 and 3 to permit SSH102 to run up to a 16-week format in Fall 2020 term commencing prior to Labour Day.*

A. McWilliams moved; S. Zolfaghari seconded

D. Checkland clarified that this item was introduced by the Dean, Faculty of Arts to enable students to adjust to the online format. The Registrar very strongly reminded SPC that this is an exception and is not easily generalized because it needs to be done manually. All requests for such variations must go through the Registrar.

**Motion Approved.**

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business as Circulated - None

11. Members' Business - None

12. Consent Agenda – None

President Lachemi informed Senators that the opening of the Faculty of Law was a huge success and he would like to congratulate Dean Young, the faculty and staff for doing an excellent job.

He also offered condolences (on behalf of Senators and the University) to Stephen Liss on the sudden passing of his wife.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.