

SENATE MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
Via Zoom Video Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT:			
EX-OFFICIO:	FACULTY:		STUDENTS:
A. M. Brinsmead	S. Benvie	D. Scofield	A. S. Ali
D. Cramb	T. Burke	J. Spaniol	Z. Aurony
G. Craney	D. Checkland	C. Thompson	H. Brahmabhatt
T. Duever	A. Clements-Cortes	K. Umpathy	O. Gubych
C. Falzon	M. Doxtator	M. Vahabi	C. Idzik
K. Gharabaghi	L. Escandon	I. Young	B. Jalayer
G. Hepburn	S. Farshadfar		J. Rodriguez
R. Iannacito-Provenzano	N. George		A. Smith
M. Lachemi	E. Ignagni		A. Surty
S. Liss	A. Jamal		
K. MacKay	A. Lee		
J. McMillen	A. M. Lee-Loy		
I. Mishkel	S. McCartney		
R. Parr	A. McWilliams		
A. Saloojee (<i>interim</i>)	D. Oguamanam		
C. Searcy	R. Ott		STUDENTS' UNION
C. Shepstone	H. Ramzan		REPRESENTATIVES:
J. Simpson	R. Ravindran		C. Ferworn (non-voting)
P. Sugiman	S. Sabatinos		
D. Taras	I. Sakinofsky		
D. Young	J. Schmidt		
S. Zolfaghari	T. Schneider		
SENATE ASSOCIATES:			ALUMNI:
J. Caribou			S. J. Ali
J. Dallaire			
S. McFadden			
L. Patterson			
REGRETS:		ABSENT:	
S. Rakhmayil		S. Alvi	
C. Shepstone		N. Chen	
P. Sivasundaram		M. Clarke Rodrigues	
H. Zarrin		M. Fast	
		L. Jacklin	
		T. Kaur	
		Z. Khansari	
		L. Kolasa	
		P. Moore	
		H. Salih Makawi	
		L. Shuman	
		K. Train	

The meeting started at 5:00 p.m.

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 April 5, 2022 meeting.*

A. McWilliams moved; N. George seconded

Motion Approved.

4. Announcements - None
5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - None

Motion: *That Senate approve the minutes of the March 1, 2022 meeting.*

D. Taras moved; H. Brahmhatt seconded

Motion Approved.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes - None
7. Correspondence - None
8. **Reports**
 - 8.1 **Report of the President**
 - 8.1.1 President's Update

The President Reported:

1. Medical School

I want to start by sharing some wonderful news. On March 15, Premier Doug Ford announced the Province of Ontario's support for Ryerson's proposed School of Medicine. The school will be allocated 80 undergraduate seats and 95 postgraduate positions.

We are in discussions with the City of Brampton to confirm a location for the School, and we will also continue regular consultation with the province, in particular, the Ontario Ministry of Health, and community leaders in Brampton and our own community here. This is a proud moment for Ryerson and for the City of Brampton as this will be the first medical school in the GTA in over 100 years.

I want to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to everyone who has participated in this major project for our university. Nearly 200 people across the university are involved in developing the School of Medicine proposal, and more than 6,500 participants participated in town hall meetings in Peel region and beyond. Thank you to everyone for collaborating on this monumental project.

2. Return to Campus and Spring/Summer Semester

I want to share a quick update on our return to campus. We have been back on campus since February 28 and the entire community has been adjusting very well. It has been wonderful to see our campus filled with energy again. As the Province of Ontario relaxes public health restrictions and we continue to see other positive indicators related to COVID-19 in our province, we are suspending both our vaccination and masking policies, effective May 1, 2022. This decision is supported by direction from our government and public health authorities and is reflective of the approach to Spring/Summer semester taken by many other Ontario universities.

While this decision has been made based on the current information and advice available, as we have seen throughout the pandemic, things can change very rapidly. We will continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 in our city and province, and will be nimble in responding to changes, and in planning for the future.

Plans for our Fall semester, including health and safety practices on campus are still underway. Further information on our Fall semester will be available in the weeks ahead. I want to thank each of you for your work in navigating our return to campus planning.

3. Spring Convocation Ceremonies

I am very pleased to report that the University plans to celebrate 2022 graduates and also graduates from 2020 and 2021 at in-person convocation ceremonies this June at the Mattamy Athletic Centre. We are planning to host more than 23 convocation ceremonies, taking place from June 13 - 24, and will be honouring more than 22,000 students.

Convocation is an important milestone for our students and I look forward to celebrating with them and their families in person this year. More information will be available closer to the dates. Of course, I encourage you to participate if you can.

4. Congratulations - Athletics

I want to share my congratulations to our Athletics teams for a very successful season.

The Women's Basketball team just completed one of the best seasons ever. This past weekend, they won their first-ever U SPORTS National Championship. This title completes the perfect 21-0 season from the Rams. They were undefeated in the regular season and won both the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) the previous weekend and U SPORTS Championship this past week.

Our men's hockey team finished fourth at the National Championship. This was their first time at the National Championship. They finished fourth in the country among the 56-member universities of U SPORTS, and were officially the second-best team in the 19-team OUA.

What amazing accomplishments from our players and coaches, we are very proud.

I'd like to end by showing a [video](#) highlight of the joy of our women's basketball team, which occurred this past Sunday in Kingston.

Congratulations to the teams and also to the two head coaches who have been selected Coaches of the Year for both the Women's Basketball and Men's Hockey.

8.2 **Communications Report** - None

8.3 **Report of the Secretary**

8.3.1 Update on Senate Elections 2022-2023

The most up-to-date membership is on the Senate website. There are a few faculty positions which are still being filled. They will be completed by the May Senate meeting. In terms of student Senate elections, due to campaign irregularities, the decision was made to reset the student portion of both the Board and the Senate elections. That voting began this week and results will be presented at the May Senate meeting.

8.4 **Committee Reports**

8.4.1 **Report #W2022-3 of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC):** K. MacKay

8.4.1.1. Discontinuing the Undeclared Science Program Option – Faculty of Science

Motion: *That Senate approve discontinuing the Undeclared Science Program Option – Faculty of Science.*

K. MacKay moved; A. McWilliams seconded

Motion Approved.

8.4.1.2. Certificate modifications to Architecture – Chang School

Motion: *That Senate approve the certificate modifications to Architecture - Chang School.*

K. MacKay moved; T. Duever seconded

Motion Approved.

8.4.1.3. Certificate modifications to Fundraising Management – Chang School

Motion: *That Senate approve the certificate modifications to Fundraising Management – Chang School.*

K. MacKay moved; G. Hepburn seconded

Motion Approved.

8.4.1.4. Certificate modifications to Project Management for Technical Professionals – Chang School.

Motion: *That Senate approve the certificate modifications to Project Management for Technical Professionals – Chang School.*

K. MacKay moved; M. Vahabi seconded

Motion Approved.

8.4.1.5. Periodic Program Review for Early Childhood Studies – Faculty of Community Services

Motion: *That Senate approve the Periodic Program Review for Early Childhood Studies – Faculty of Community Services.*

K. MacKay moved; K. Gharabaghi seconded

Motion Approved.

8.4.1.6. For information: G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education Certificate Revisions

i. Certificate in Nursing and Interprofessional Healthcare Leadership and Management: Course Deletion (Elective)

8.4.2 Report #W2022-3 of the Academic Governance and Policy Committee (AGPC):

J. Simpson

8.4.2.1. Provost's Update

1. Opening Remarks:

I'm glad to announce that Jason Lisi has been appointed Executive Director, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. He will begin his appointment on July 1, 2022. He is currently the Director of Quality Assurance in the Vice Provost Academic's office, and that office will commence a search for a new person to replace Jason. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Wendy Freeman. I've worked with both Wendy and Jason for almost nine months and what I've been consistently aware of is both Wendy's and Jason's thoughtfulness around issues of teaching. I think we have been very fortunate to have had Wendy serve in that role and also very fortunate to now have Jason coming into that role.

It's great to see people on campus as we are returning. There are meetings happening in person more and more now, which is certainly great. It is also great to see the campus come alive again with students, faculty and staff as that happens. It is also really exciting news about the medical school, the provincial announcements about the spots for students, the success of the Women's Basketball team – our national champions. The men's hockey teams have also done very well. What's interesting in those two athletic accomplishments and the medical school certainly run the gamut of the ways in which Ryerson excels. All of that is going to point to and bring attention to the issue of equity, another priority for Ryerson.

2. Spring/Summer 2022 semester

There are some changes to our announcement on March 28, for the Spring and Summer terms that will take effect on May 1, 2022. We are continuing to ensure that we pay a lot of attention to safety and what's going to make sure we have a good transition back to being on campus and I want to say thank you for your continued attention to safety. We are not in the situation that we were in about a year or six months ago, but we are also still making changes, e.g. the change from the practice from Winter term and now the change starting May 1. We really appreciate many people across the university who continue to offer continued attention as to what those changes mean and what they require of us in our roles as faculty, staff and students.

3. Budget process

We've now concluded the townhalls for this fiscal year. Many of you have been at Ryerson for the past years and know the kind of budget rhythm and the different parts to the process. I've also been taking time attending those townhalls, as well as sitting in on the budget meetings with deans and the vice provosts. It's great to be a part of those conversations. Obviously, balancing the budget is complex, we're a large institution. It's even more difficult when there are reductions and constraints, so I appreciate being in those conversations with the deans and vice provosts to learn more about what your challenges are, how you are addresses those in your Faculties and your units. I said in different settings that there is a very strong connection between the university's resource commitments and issues of academic priorities – the priority of student experience – all of the values that Ryerson espouses. So, what we want to optimally see is a close integration that the resource commitments do in fact support the academic mission of the university. It's great to be in those conversations to make sure that we can keep those two things integrated.

Investments for the year ahead will support continued attention to the university strategic priorities, learning and teaching, SRC activities, and also facilities, maintenance and upgrades.

The new budget will be presented to the university's Finance Committee in April and to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors, then to the whole Board of Governors for final approval before it is implemented.

4. Renaming Process

We've made good progress. There is a Question and Answer video session that is available on the website. In that video, I, as chair of the Renaming Committee, am in conversation with Toni De Mello, who is the Vice Chair of that committee. Toni is the Assistant Dean for Student Programming Development and Equity at the Lincoln Alexander School of Law. We get into some of the considerations of the committee and next steps. I really enjoy the process and we have excellent committee members.

I also want to express the committee's thanks for the engagement. There were over 30,000 responses to the survey at the end of the Fall term. All the questions, input and completion of the surveys has been critical to the process. We are in the final stages of work and we will provide a shortlist of potential names to President Lachemi soon. That was the mandate of the committee to provide a shortlist and then a report on the rationale and the reasons for the names presented. I want to recognize the significance of this for Ryerson and also situate the work of the Renaming Committee in terms of the ongoing process. The Standing Strong Task Force was a response to many requests for the university to consider the significance of the name and the harm that it had been causing to some members of our community. As we all know that task force met for several months and also had considerable input and engagement and offered a set of recommendations, one of which was the renaming, then the Renaming Committee stepped in. Once the Renaming process is complete, we will look forward to the process of rebranding and certainly enjoying that new name. I think what Toni and I referenced in the Q & A is the reality of once we have a new name, that overtime making that our name, and I think that's what we really hope for Ryerson is a sense of belonging and connection to the new name, so we will move forward to that process as well.

It's been really great to be a part of Ryerson's efforts to address that harm and also to find a name that holds our aspirations going forward into the next chapter for the university.

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business as Circulated - None

11. Members' Business - None

12. Consent Agenda - None

13. Adjournment

President Lachemi - Closing Remarks

I would just like to give you a heads-up that the next two meetings (May and June) will be much longer than this evenings Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.