

RYERSON FACULTY ASSOCIATION
Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

Thursday, October 10, 2013

ILC, Paris/London

MINUTES

Present

Kileen Tucker Scott (Chair)	Rachel Berman	Nadya Burton
Anver Saloojee	Vadim Geurkov	Corinne Hart
André Foucault	Rahul Sapra	Meredith Schwartz
Peter Danziger	Richard Adams	Catherine Beauchemin
Franklyn Prescod	Ian Sakinofsky	Carolyn Meyer
Dae Kun Hwang	Bruno Lessard	Stephanie Cassin
Lesley Campbell	Marsha Barber	Ken Wong
Bryan Koivisto	Kinga Zawada	Charles Zamaria
Kosta Derpanis	Val Lem	Doreen Fumia
Joanna Holt	Jean-Paul Pascal	Seyed Hashemi
Tammy Landau	Sharareh Taghipour	Annette Bailey

Regrets

Jason Lisi	Esther Ignagni	Catherine Dowling
David Naranjit	Constantine Angyridis	Dana Thomas
Bozena Todorow	Thomas Barbiero	Diane Pirner
Amina Jamal	Lev Kirischian	Sharon Paton
Lin Dong	Kaamran Raahemifar	Nicole Neverson
Tuna Baskoy	Jonathan Rollins	Rena Mendelson
Chun-Yip Hon	Grahame Lynch	Mitu Sengupta
Paul Floerke	John Morgan	Alexandra Fiocca
Miljana Horvat	Richard Wade	Dawn Onishenko
Darko Joksimovic	Aziz Guergachi	
Shadi Farshadfar		

Staff

Agnes Paje	Stacy Stanley
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Minutes

1. Order/Establishment of Quorum
 - Meeting began at 5:13 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda (Meredith) Adopted.
3. Approval of minutes from April 11, 2013 (Rachel) Adopted.
4. Opening Remarks and Announcements
 - Kileen introduced herself as the new Chair of the Reps' Council and expressed her gratitude to Jason Lisi and the hard work he did as the previous Reps' Council Chair.
 - The RFA is considering giving Reps' fact sheets so they can have a standing item in their faculty meetings.
 - Strategizes to prepare for bargaining of the new Collective Agreement will begin in January 2015.
 - Copies of the Reps' Council responsibilities taken from RFA bylaw was handed out. All Reps' should have a copy of the RFA bylaw and be aware of their responsibilities.
 - The RFA is considering putting together a Political Action Committee. More information will be provided when all the details are finalized.
 - Kileen thanked Reps' for attending the meeting and asked more Reps' be encouraged to attend future meetings.
5. Matters arising from old business
 - Course Loading
 - The RFA is working on protocol as to how additional course loading can be done. Protocol will be decimated.
 - Some Deans have stated course overloading can save money. However, according to the Collective Agreement, financial reasons cannot be a reason for overloading.
 - The RFA filed a grievance on behalf of members who were wrongfully overloaded. Those members were compensated by the Administration.
 - Service
 - Many professors on the tenure track find it difficult to get recognition for their service. These members would like to have documentation of their service so they may add it to their dossier.
 - Members stated they would like the RFA to release a statement encouraging all schools and departments to recognize service.

MOTION: BIRT The RFA should release a statement acknowledging and recognizing the significance of service. (Zamaria/Berman)
Motion Adopted with 3 abstentions
 - Policy 60
 - Policy 60 was taken off the table due to faculty concerns. The RFA thanks Reps' council member, Charles Zamaria, who at Senate assisted in forwarding a motion concerning the membership of the new Policy 60 committee.
 - The committee has reconvened to draft a new policy with David Checkland as the Chair.
 - Many students facing academic misconduct accuse professors of discrimination which interrupts the appeals process while a human rights committee looks into their accusations.

- The RFA is continuing to look into situations where misapplication and/or abuse of university policies related to the appeals process may be occurring.

6. New Business

- An eLearning Provincial Consortium has been put together. All Universities are expected to join.
- Professors need to be careful they do not sign over their intellectual properties when agreeing to teach online.
- The Government is rethinking the funding formula for students.
- The Government is looking into whether some universities should primarily teach certain subjects.
 - Some universities are using this as a reason to close programs or get into programs. Differential of universities with the university sector.
- Professors need to be careful they do not sign over their intellectual properties when agreeing to teach online.
- Member should familiarize themselves with the members of Ryerson's Senate.
- Pensions
 - The Provincial Government is looking into reforming the pension structure.
 - Many universities are having difficulties with pensions
 - The Provincial Government is looking at this issue very closely.
 - Ryerson University has a Jointly Sponsored Pension Plan and does not have any problems with pensions.
 - The email was sent for all RFA members regarding their pension is very important. Please read carefully and direct any questions to Richard Briggs, Pension Advisor (extension 6254, rbriggs@ryerson.ca) in Human Resources.
- Kileen would like Reps' to gather information from members, for future meetings, regarding issues in their departments and school.

7. Adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 12, 2013 from 4:30PM – 7:15PM in the International Room, ILC.