

RYERSON FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

International Room, ILC

MINUTES

Present

Kileen Tucker Scott (Chair)
Peter Danziger
Ian Sakinofsky
Tariq Amin-Khan
André Foucault
Shiraz Vally
Vanessa Magness
Seyed M. Hashemi
Jonanna Holt
Dan Horner
Eliza Chandler
Vadim Geurkov
Lev Kirischian

Colleen Derkatch
Henry Navarro Delgado
Stephen Swales
Deborah DeLange
Joey Power
Bernard McEvoy
Dave Kemp
Jim Tam
Alison Skyrme
Chris Grandison
Bozena Todorow
Manavi Handa

Diane Pirner
Beth Swart
Yvonne Yuan
Alex Wellington
Alexander Douplik
Miriam Anderson
Paul Brunet
Charles Zamaria
Heather Rollwager
Doreen Fumia
Pavlo Bosyy
Umberto Berardi

Regrets

June Komisar
Chil-Hung Cheng
Joe McPhee
Elsayed Elbeshbishy
Joshua Panar
Angela Valeo
Cathy Ning
Tsobadral Galaabaatar
Kaamran Raahemifar
Rich Adams

John Morgan
Rupa Banerjee
Marsha Barber
Jamin Pelkey
M.J. Suhonos
Saman Hassanzadeh Amin
Corrine Hart
Meredith Schwartz
Mitu Sengupta
Eric Hehman

Murtaza Haider
David Lewis
David Bouchard
Dawn Onishenko
Susan Preston
Jonathan Rollins
Carolyn Meyer
Richard Shaker
Maria Gurevich

Staff

Agnes Paje

Stacy Stanley

Minutes

1. Order/Establishment of Quorum

Meeting began at 5:20 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda (Pirner/ Berardi) - Adopted.

3. Approval of minutes from November 14, 2016 (Pirner/ Berardi) - Adopted.

4. Opening remarks and announcements

- Please encourage members to participate in RFA committees.
- Please remind members to cast their votes for the Member-at-Large, Equity Issues and Health & Safety Officer. Ballots should be dropped off to the RFA office (KHS-46) by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2017.

5. 'From the Floor' – Open Forum

- Workload
 - Some members shared their concerns regarding workload and have urged the RFA to address workload issues with the Administration at the next Update meeting.
- Students Recording Lectures
 - There has been a growing issue with students filming lectures and posting them online. Some students are also selling lecture PowerPoints and notes. This is student misconduct and a violation of Policy 60 and 145.
 - Only students with accessibility issues may record lectures with authorization. It is the students' responsibility to inform the Access Centre of their accommodation needs and negotiate with professors how recordings will be handled.
 - A member raised the issue of student anonymity. Students in abusive relationships may not want their spouse/partner to know they are taking courses. Students that are posting videos of classes online may unintentionally put abused students in danger.
 - The RFA recommends faculty members post signage on doors and around classrooms/lecture halls stating it is a violation to record classes. In addition, this can be mentioned in the Course Management Form.
- Tenure
 - Member question: What is the timeline for faculty tenure and promotion committees being trained and first reviewing files?
 - Some tenure recommendations that have been made in Spring 2016 have not yet received a response. There seems to be a particular problem with the Faculty of Arts.
 - The RFA has filed a grievance regarding this issue and will be going into arbitration. This issue will also be discussed at the upcoming Update meeting.

6. New Business

- Report from the President - Peter Danziger
 - Anomalies are in process and the Anomalies Committee will be meeting shortly.
 - The Graduate student submission deadline set for December 21, 2016 has been reverted. However, members should be aware the Administration may try to change the deadline date in the future. The RFA is monitoring the situation.
 - The Ministry has released the new funding formula. As expected, a corridor funding model was used. Strategic Mandate Agreements (SMAs) will have some input to funding beginning in 2 to 3 years.
 - The RFA Executive has appointed Jason Lisi to serve on the Teaching Stream Committee. The Committee is in the process of setting up meeting dates with the Administration.
 - The Academic Policy Review Committee (APRC) has decided on an updated version of medical forms for students. The forms will be easier for medical professionals to fill in and offer more clarification.
- Update from the Health & Safety Officer – Habiba Bougherara
 - Habiba commented on the Associate Director, EHS & Risk Management, Geeta Sharma's presentation to the RFA Executive. Geeta has developed a 3 year plan to improve labs, lecture halls, office space, etc.
 - Geeta has developed an ergonomics program and members are encouraged to take the ergonomics workshops.
 - The issue of security including student bullying, colleague to colleague bullying, school shootings was discussed. The RFA continues to monitor these issues.
 - Please email Habiba with any Health & Safety issues at habiba.bougherara@ryerson.ca.
- Report from Chair, Equity Issues – Tariq Amin-Khan
 - The Equity Committee has met with the Administration several times regarding multiple equity issues. The Committee has also urged the Administration to retire certain terms being used in job advertisements that relate to equity, such as; Aboriginal be changed to First Nations, Inuit and Métis.
 - The Committee has worked with the Vice Provost - Students on the sexual assault policy. However, the Ontario Government has changed their emphasis towards students. The Equity Committee has suggested that faculty be involved.
 - The Equity Committee has organized a forum on Bill C 51.
 - The Equity Committee wants to examine the Anti-Racial Task Force.
 - The Equity Committee would like to organize an event around the wage gap for women.

- The issue of people who do not feel safe on campus was discussed. A member suggested there be a “safe place” so people may report and discuss freely issues regarding racism, discrimination, homophobia etc.
- The RFA is very focused on issues regarding faculty security and safety and is planning a meeting with senior management to discuss this issue.
- Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) – Peter Danziger
 - SMAs are agreements that are negotiated between the Universities and the Government. These agreements contain information about the direction the University is going, metrics and measurements of various things that the University agrees to do and be measured by, most of which are mandated by the government.
 - Negotiations between the Government and the Universities will likely end in March 2017.
 - The Administration has agreed to have a consultation regarding the SMA. However, the deadline is quickly approaching, the RFA is asking members to discuss what their department/school sees as their place in the Strategic Mandate Agreement and to report through their Chair.
 - The Minister is focused on the skills gap and how Universities are providing the skills that graduates need.
 - In the new funding formula there is a 2 year gap before there are consequences from the SMA in terms of budgetary allocation. The Government has said they will use the SMAs to determine funding. If Universities do not do the things they said they would do in the SMA they may get less funding, if they do what they said they would do they may get more funding.

6. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Next meeting: **Thursday, February 16, 2017** in the International Room, ILC from 4:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Dinner will be served from 4:30 p.m.