

# RYERSON FACULTY ASSOCIATION

## Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

Thursday, October 26, 2017

International Room, ILC

### MINUTES

#### Present

Kileen Tucker Scott (Chair)	Chil-Hung Cheng	John Morgan
Peter Danziger	Joshua Panar	Marsha Barber
Rahul Sapra	Ruth Frolic	Sally Wilson
Ian Sakinofsky	Dan Horner	Hamed Mehrabi
Habiba Bougherara	Angela Valeo	Kathleen Wilkie
André Foucault	Cathy Ning	Nadya Burton
Shiraz Vally	Vadim Geurkov	Yvonne Yuan
Ron Babin	Colleen Schindler-Lynch	Meredith Schwartz
Tariq Amin-Khan	Lu Zhang	Mike McGregor
Anthony Francescucci	Stephen Swales	Maureen Reed
Sayed Hashemi	Deborah DeLange	Murtaza Haider
Umberto Beraradi	Richard Adams	David Lewis
June Komisar	Charles Zamaria	Henry Parada (Alternate)
Heather Rollwager	Pavlo Bosyy	

#### Regrets

Joe McPhee	Jamin Pelkey	Jonathan Rollins
Jeremy Shtern	Alison Skyrme	Mitu Sengupta
Eliza Chandler	Chris Grandison	Rupa Banerjee
Tsobadral Galaabaatar	Saman Hassanzadeh Amin	Eric Hehman
Lev Kirischian	Corinne Hart	Dave Kemp
Kaamran Raahemifar	Beth Swart	Nicole Neverson
Jennifer Burwell	Alexandre Douplik	Gerda Cammaer

#### Staff

Agnes Paje

Stacy Stanley

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## Minutes

### 1. Order/Establishment of Quorum

Meeting began at 5:15 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Agenda (Schwartz/Horner) - Adopted.

### 3. Approval of minutes from April 17, 2017 (Schwartz/Panar) - Adopted.

### 4. Opening remarks and announcements

- Kileen welcomed the new and existing members.

### 5. 'From the Floor' – Open Forum

- Grade Submission
  - Member thanked the RFA for their work on having the grade submission date remain in January.
- Scheduling and Space Issue
  - Challenges with class time scheduling continues. Early morning and evening classes are sometimes difficult for faculty and students. Many students do not show up for early or late classes and some faculty with children/dependent care have difficulties teaching at these class times.
  - Members have expressed concern and frustration about the lack of classroom space. This is a campus wide problem. The RFA continues to work on this issue.
- Support for Aging Family Members/Dependents
  - Member inquired about benefits for members with aging parents. Members who require accommodation regarding aging parents should discuss the issue with the Dean of their department/school. Members may also contact the RFA if they are having difficulties with this issue.
- Workload
  - Some departments/schools are still in the process of getting the 2+2 workload implemented. Please send any concerns regarding workload to the RFA at [rfa@ryerson.ca](mailto:rfa@ryerson.ca).

### 6. Academic Accommodation Support Survey

- Anthony Francescucci, RFA Member at Large, presented the results of the Academic Accommodation Support (AAS) survey. The survey was done in March 2017.
- Survey results include:
  - Issues with exam returns
  - Issues with clockworks
  - Issues with accommodation letters
  - Concerns about Academic Integrity
  - Issues with exam request
- The RFA will be meeting with the Administration to address the concern and results of the survey.

### 7. Update from the President – Peter Danziger

- The Reps' Council acts as a liaison between the RFA Executive and members. The RFA encourages Reps' to find ways to report RFA information to members. Having a regular slot on the department/school meeting agendas is one way to pass information onto members. This is also a good way to gather information that needs to be reported back to the RFA so it can be addressed.

- The Reps' Council is officially the RFA's Health and Safety group. Please contact Habiba Bougherara at [habiba.bougherara@ryerson.ca](mailto:habiba.bougherara@ryerson.ca) or extension 7092 with any Health and Safety issues.
- Academic Administrators Appointment Policy (AAA Policy) AAA Policy
  - There was a great turnout of RFA members at the AAA Policy town hall meeting held by the Administration in June 2017. Although the RFA did not get everything that was requested, a proper committee was organized by the Administration and the process was reasonable.
- Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA)
  - Strategic Mandate Agreements (SMAs) are agreements between the government and Universities. (Strategic direction Universities want to go in).
  - There are government mandated metrics in the SMA documents. Universities may also add metrics as well.
  - At this time the government is not approving additional programming (e.g. law program proposal)
  - The RFA is concerned about the lack of consultation with faculty regarding the SMAs but will continue to update members on this matter.
- Classroom Space
  - Ryerson is running over capacity. This comes up in many ways, for example classroom space is essential to students and faculty. The high rate of student growth has caused the limitation of classroom space throughout the campus.
  - There has been a huge increase in students in the past 15 years and the students to faculty ratio is 45 to 1. The Provincial average is 34.1 to 1.
- The Negotiating Committee will be attending the next Rep's Council meeting.

## 8. New Business

- Office of Discrimination and Harassment
  - Many faculty members have received discrimination complaints, most of which are made by students with academic issues or who are failing courses.
  - Members are sent a package stating there is a discrimination claim or complaint without any information about the claim. Investigations can then last for months.
  - Members who receive a notice from the Discrimination and Harassment office should not respond but contact André Foucault at [afoucault@ryerson.ca](mailto:afoucault@ryerson.ca), extension 7323 or Shiraz Vally at [shiraz.vally@ryerson.ca](mailto:shiraz.vally@ryerson.ca), extension 3738.
  - All members have the right to have a RFA Representative accompany them when they are meeting officially with the Administration.
- Senate Policy 118 (SRC Integrity)
  - In 2015 the University revised policy 118 (SRC Integrity) and pushed it through without consultation. During this process the word "deliberate" was removed, which resulted in faculty members who unintentionally made mistakes that were not deliberate receive harsh penalties.
  - The University is now in the process of revising the policy 118 and the RFA wants the word "deliberate" reinstated into the policy.
  - There will be a town hall meeting in near future and the RFA is encouraging members to attend.
  - Members may send emails anonymously using an online form at [http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/research/policy118/Policy\\_118\\_Consultation\\_Questions.pdf](http://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/research/policy118/Policy_118_Consultation_Questions.pdf). Members can also send their feedback directly to the Policy 118 Review Committee at [srcintegrity@ryerson.ca](mailto:srcintegrity@ryerson.ca) or to Jennifer MacInnis, Chair, Policy 118 Review Committee, at [jmacinnis@ryerson.ca](mailto:jmacinnis@ryerson.ca).
  - Please see the attached fact sheet with information on Policy 118.

- Member proposed the following Motion:  
**BIRT** *this council would like the word “deliberate” reinstated into Policy 118 – Swales/DeLange* – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

7. Next meeting: **Tuesday, November 28, 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.