

RYERSON FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

International Room, ILC

MINUTES

Present

Peter Danziger (Chair)
Ron Babin
André Foucault
Brian Ceh
Dave Mason
Corinne Hart
Umberto Berardi
Darko Joksimovic
Jean Tsai
Miranda Campbell
Anna Flamino
Mehrunnisa Ali

Viadim Geurkov
Anika Kolowski
Hossein Zolfagharin
Rich Adams
Joey Power
Annika Hillbrandt
Zhen Lu
Dana Osborne
Ann Ludbrook
Wei Xu
Kourosh Zareinia

Mucahit Cevik
Sajad Saeedi
Nicole Bennett
Yvonne Yuan
Sean Cornelius
Maureen Reed
Katie Lebel
Marusya Bociurkiw
Jacqui Gingras
Chris De Sousa
Alex Ferworn

Regrets

Seyed Hashemi
Goetz Bramesfeld
Umberto Berardi
Carlo Parente
Chil-Hung Cheng
Lynda McCarthy
Debapriya Sen
Neil Bruce
Lev Kirischian
Sarah Bull
Val Lem

Ann Dulhanty
Laleh Samarbakhsh
Tor Oiamo
Evan Cleave
Madhi Roghanizad
Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof
Dimitrios Latsis
Jim Tam
Abbas Keramati
Chris MacDonald
Colleen Derkatch

Hamed Mehrabi
Niushan Gao
Rohan Sud
Susan Cody
David Scofield
Charles Zamaria
Susan Preston
Marsha Barber
Chris MacDonald
Catherine Beauchemin

Staff

Stacy Stanley

Minutes

1. Order/Establishment of Quorum

Meeting began at 5:21 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda (Reed/Hart) - Adopted.

3. Approval of minutes from October 30, 2019 (Reed/Hart) - Adopted.

4. Opening remarks and announcements

- The Next Reps' Council meeting will be held on **February 25, 2020** in the International Room, ILC. Dinner will be served from 4:30 p.m. and the meeting will take place from 5:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
- **Please note:** the April Reps' Council meeting has been rescheduled to **April 6, 2020**.
- The RFA encourages all members to attend the RFA Mandate Meeting on **March 3, 2020** in the International Room, ILC from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. A light lunch will be provided.

5. 'From the Floor' – Open Forum

- The Gender Equity Committee recommends the creation of an ad hoc Gender Redress Committee to collect data and continue to champion this issue.

Motion: The Reps' Council recommends to the Executive the formation of a Gender Equity Redress Committee. (Reed/Yuan) - CARRIED

- Members discussed deficiencies with the new Daphne Cockwell Complex (DCC). Members complained of loud noise from fans, issues with water, etc. This is a teaching and learning issue which is affecting communication between students and faculty.
- There was a concern about new guidelines requiring course outlines to undergo research ethics board approval if they include any form of student research. Some strategies were discussed, including the possibility of exemptions for professional programs (such as Journalism) and the use of local committees to give approvals.

6. Report from the VP, External – Dave Mason

- The Federal Government passed Bill 100 in October 2019. Bill 100 potentially allows the government to reduce, limit or alter compensation to faculty who are receiving a pension while still employed at a postsecondary institution. The Government has assured OCUFA they are not planning to act on this provision. OCUFA has stated they would pursue this issue legally if the Government puts this aspect of the law into effect. The RFA continues to monitor this issue.
- Bill 124 (Salary Cap) limits the increase of compensation to 1% per year over a 3-year period. (There is a potential exception for equity-based awards.) There are several provincial bodies which are challenging this bill, including the Ontario Federation of Labor (OFL), Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) and Ontario Teachers Federation. OCUFA has officially joined the OFL action.

7. Report on Ryerson Audit – Ron Babin, RFA President
 - R. Babin gave an overview of the Audit commissioned by the RFA into Ryerson University's finances. André Auger an Ottawa based Accountant was hired by the RFA to do the audit of Ryerson University which was carried out using publicly available audited statements of Ryerson University (<http://www.ryerson.ca/financial-services/financial-reporting/university-financial-reports/>). A. Auger reviewed the 2016, 2017, and 2018 financial statements.
8. Navitas and Foreign Students
 - The University wants to increase the number of International Students. As part of this strategy the University is considering using “Navitas” to facilitate this strategy. Navitas is an Australian based for-profit company that helps recruit foreign students worldwide and provide support so they may attend University. While there is currently little concrete information, it appears that students would attend a local Navitas campus for their first year, with Ryerson courses offered through the Chang School. They would then become regular Ryerson students from second year on. There are significant concerns with this model. Members expressed concern about International Students who struggle with various issues, such as; language, cultural issues and sometimes mental health issues. The RFA continues to monitor this situation.
9. Update on Negotiations – Brian Ceh, Chair, Negotiating
 - B. Ceh provided an update and members discussed the Negotiating process. The Negotiation Survey was completed on January 20, 2020. There was a high response rate. The Negotiating Committee will review the survey and the data collected during their Academic visits. The mandate meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2020 from 12-2 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Next meeting: **February 25, 2020**