

RYERSON FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

January 18, 2021

Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

Present

Peter Danziger (Chair)
Ian Sakinofsky
André Foucault
Zhen Lu
Chris De Sousa
Anika Kolowski
Yeganneh Bahoo
Alex Ferworm
Beverlee Buzon
Oliver Okafor
Seyed Hashemi
Khaled Sennah
Lynda McCarthy
Mehrunnisa Ali
Ndeye Ba

Sarah Bull
Abbas Keramati
Nicole Bennett
Matthew Philp
Sajad Saeedi
Sean Cornelius
Ann Ludbrook
Chun-Yip Hon
Tor Oiamo
Evan Cleave
Maureen Reed
Rich Adams
James Pringle
Joey Power
Val Lem

Anna Flaminio
Saber Moradi
Daniela Cristini
Mucahit Cevik
Marsha Barber
Dimitrios Latsis
Taymoore Balbaa
Ellen Choi
Janice Rudkowski
Charles Zamaria
Susan Preston
Dawn Onishenko
Jacqui Gingras
Michael Bergmann

Regrets

Brian Ceh
Jesse Tanguay
Chil-Hung Cheng
Madhi Rohanizad
Niushan Gao
Jim Tim
Michael Milona
Vadim Geurkov
Richard Chisik

Wei Xu
Laleh Samarbaksh
Kim Bates
Lev Kirischian
Alexandra Mogyoros
Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof
David Scofield
Colleen Derkatch

Kourosh Zareinia
Hossein Zolfagharina
Marusya Bociurkiw
Sandra Juutilainen
Antonie Panaïoti
Tisha Ornstein
Umberto Berardi
Miranda Campbell

Staff

Stacy Stanley

Minutes

1. Order/Establishment of Quorum

Meeting began at 4:10 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda (De Sousa/Bull) - Adopted.

3. Approval of minutes from November 24, 2020 (Reed/Okafor) - Adopted.

4. Announcements and Updates

- Pension Grievance Update – André Foucault
 - The University has raised the pension contribution unilaterally and reserves the right to raise the pension contribution as they see fit in the future.
 - The RFA does not agree and has filed a grievance, selected an Arbitrator and are in the process of setting dates to have this matter adjudicated.
 - The Administration contacted the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRAO) seeking approval to raise the pension contribution. The RFA's lawyers have written to the FSRAO on our behalf objecting to the approval and stating there are internal processes that need to be completed before the FSRAO can consider the matter. The RFA has not yet received a reply from the FSRAO but the process can take a few months. The RFA will provide updates when they become available.
- Update from the President – Ian Sakinofsky
 - Issues the RFA is looking into
 - Academic integrity during the exam period, were the grades students' received last year and appropriate reflection of their capacity and incidents of cheating and academic misconduct.
 - The Administration has sent a letter to faculty stating there will be more resources for academic accommodations. However, it is unclear what the resources will be.
 - Questions and concerns regarding the Fall Semester (September 2021) such as whether or not students will return to the classroom or remote teaching will continue. The Administration promises to honor the 3 month principal, giving faculty at least 3 months to prepare for classes.
 - Representatives of the RFA Depend Care Working Group will meet with the VPFA to discuss concerns regarding dependent care. The RFA would like there to be collective representation and not a case by case situation as there is now.
 - Revenue Canada is allowing anyone working from home to claim up to \$400 for expenses without a T2200 form. The University will be providing T2200 for those who wish to do a more detailed filing instead.

5. Items from the floor

- Discussion on probationary members hired between March 2020 to April 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, probationary members will have the option to delay their tenure review.
- Member would like the RFA to ask the Administration to lengthen the D2L system session time from 15 minutes to 3 hours.
- History is sending a letter to President Lachemi countering his narrative that online teaching is acceptable.

- Discussion that the Classroom Design Committee is considering designing “Hybrid” classrooms.
6. Negotiations Update – André Foucault
 - Mediation has begun and is continuing, but the Administration remains unresponsive and movement is slow.
 7. Adjournment
 - Meeting ended at 5:01 p.m.

Next meeting: Zoom meeting on **February 24, 2021** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.