

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT GUIDE

Faculty of Arts

Student Involvement Guide

February ,2011

Get involved in
what's going on
around you!



Involvement Opportunities at Ryerson University

Leadership Opportunities: Faculty of Arts (p. 2)

Student Unions and Groups (p. 2-3)

Leadership Opportunities: Ryerson's Student Services (p. 3)

Community Involvement (p. 4)

International Opportunities (p. 4)

Athletics (p. 4)

Academic Research (p. 5)

Academic Governance and Administration (p. 5)

Funding for Student Initiatives (p. 6)



Leadership Opportunities: Faculty of Arts

- **Faculty of Arts Enrollment Workshops:** Assist new students in your program with their first experience of course enrolment at Ryerson by being a volunteer for the August Faculty of Arts Enrolment workshops.
Information: www.ryerson.ca/arts/studentlife
Contact: Student Life Coordinator, Stephan Tang at stang@arts.ryerson.ca
- **Faculty of Arts Orientation:** As an Orientation Leader volunteer, you will help incoming Faculty of Arts students get to know the campus, learn about their program and what to expect in the first term, make connections with other students and have fun!
Information: www.ryerson.ca/arts/studentlife
Contact: Student Life Coordinator, Stephan Tang at stang@arts.ryerson.ca
- **Faculty of Arts Peer Mentoring:** Find out about opportunities to be a volunteer or paid peer mentor in Faculty of Arts courses (e.g. SSH 500, SSH 105, POG 230, SOC 411, SOC 483).

Information: Contact: Arts Associate Dean, 416-979-5000 ext. 6196

- **Program Representative:** Represent and promote your program to prospective students at one of the many on or off campus recruitment events, such as the Ontario University Fair and Discover Ryerson. **Information:** Contact your program Chair/Director for information on how to become involved.



Student Unions and Groups

- **Ryerson Students Union (RSU):** Represents all full-time undergraduate and graduate students at Ryerson. RSU advocates for students and provides many opportunities for students to become involved in both volunteer and paid capacities.
Information: www.rsuonline.ca, Student Campus Centre, SCC 311, 416-979-5255, or info@rsuonline.ca
- **RSU Course Unions:** Course Unions bring together students in a specific program, acting as a student council. Course unions advocate on students' behalf, plan social and educational events with funding that the RSU provides to them. Elections

for the Course Unions' executive take place annually in the Spring, and a first-year Rep is typically elected in the Fall. **Information:** For information on your course union, visit your program department website or go to: www.ryerson.ca/arts/studentlife/studentgroups/

- **RSU Student Groups:** Clubs and cultural groups at Ryerson offer many things to many students. From pubs and parties to talent contests, sports tournaments, peer support, guest lectures, and so much more! There are currently more than 60 clubs and groups operating on campus. Student groups are the vehicle that allows members to organize themselves into general interest and cultural clubs. Groups cater to specific interests and allow students outlets

for creative energy and spare time. **Information:** For a list of RSU student groups, visit:

www.rsuonline.ca/campusgroups

- **Campus-wide Student Groups:** Ryerson has over 145 Student Clubs, including academic related and campus wide clubs, that all strive to enhance the quality of student life within the University. Campus Clubs are a great way to get involved and make new friends. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/campuslife/studentclubs/studentclubs/
- **Faculty of Arts Student Groups:** Join one of the student groups that are led (or co-led) by students in the Faculty of Arts, such as the History Club, Philosophy Club, or Alternative Spring Break. Or start your own club or group! **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/campuslife/studentclubs/studentclubs/academic/ or www.ryerson.ca/arts/studentlife/studentgroups



"The Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) is an amazing organization to get involved with on campus. Whether you run for the Board of Directors or Executive Team, take part in their many open committees, or attend their events, there are always ways to get involved with our RSU. Since I came to Ryerson, I have been able to take part in so many opportunities through the RSU that have led me to bigger and better possibilities on and off campus. They facilitate great new learning experiences, fun events, and are always open to new initiatives at Ryerson." - Julea Campbell

Human Rights in Iran @ Ryerson (an RSU Student Group) has been an outlet for me to express my concerns with the human rights issues happening in Iran and overseas. In HRIR we learn more about different issues and raise awareness about them. We believe that knowledge is power and are trying to empower ourselves and others through learning. — Azar Masoumi

Leadership Opportunities: Ryerson's Student Services

- **Leadership Experience and Development Program (LEAD):** The LEAD Program is a Leadership Development Program designed to offer the participants a chance to explore their skills and traits through the context of leadership. The participants are encouraged to explore their own definition of leadership and methods of leadership development through critical reflection. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/leadership/
Contact: leadership@ryerson.ca
- **Off-Campus Living Links program (ROLL):** Roll Student Representatives work to create a community of first year students living off campus within their area. The goal is to help foster friendships, build connections, provide resources for students and help make students' first year at Ryerson as successful as possible. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/roll/index.html
- **Residence Life Leadership Positions :** If you live in residence, there are many ways to get involved in either volunteer or paid student leadership opportunities. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/student-services/housing/reslife/getinvolved/
- **Ryerson Orientation Crew (ROC):** Join the ROC team and support incoming Ryerson students by planning and implementing campus-wide pre-Orientation, Orientation and post-Orientation events. **Information:** Contact: Lesley McRae at l3mcrae@ryerson.ca, 416-979-5000 ext. 7352
- **Tri-Mentoring:** The Tri-Mentoring Program strives to assist Ryerson's culturally diverse student body in their pursuit of personal goals, academic achievements and career success. The Tri-Mentoring Program aims to assist students at all levels of study in successful achievement of their goals. Through meaningful relationships with fellow students, industry professionals and the community at large, Tri-Mentoring supports the unique needs of Ryerson's culturally diverse student body. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/student-services/trimentoring/index.html



Community Involvement

- **Service Learning (curricular):** Poverty, educational access, food security, ecological sustainability...just a few of the social issues facing communities in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Service learning (SL) provides students with opportunities to get involved and learn how they can make a difference in the community. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/arts/servicelearning/
- **Service Learning (non-curricular):** The Faculty of Arts offers ways for students to become involved in the community through volunteer activities. For example, the Volunteers Assisting Teachers and Students (VAST) Program is an opportunity of Arts students to volunteer as a classroom assistant in a local elementary school. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/arts/sec/volunteering/ Contact: Christina Smit - csmit@arts.ryerson.ca
- **Volunteering:** There are countless opportunities to volunteer in the GTA, and with a bit of searching, you will easily find a position to fit your interests. **Information:** Contact Christina Smit - csmit@arts.ryerson.ca



International Opportunities

- **Alternative Spring Break (ASB) :** ASB Ryerson is an entirely student-run and locally operated group. ASB can be simply described as traveling with a purpose. Ryerson students volunteer their time and work in developing countries while they experience and learn from another culture. **Information:** www.asbryerson.tumblr.com/ Contact: asb@ryerson.ca
- **Exchanges:** Exchange is an opportunity to live and study in another country or province while gaining credit towards your degree at Ryerson. Exchange provides a unique chance for self-discovery as well as personal growth and academic enrichment. **Information:** visit www.ryerson.ca/arts/sec/exchanges/ for a list of partner institutions and participating Faculty of Arts programs.
- **Work Abroad :** Thinking of working abroad? Ryerson International's web pages are a good starting point to help you search for information. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/ri/students/ryerson_students/work_abroad/

“ASB has helped me engage in communities both at home and abroad while giving me a perspective on global issues that cannot be learned in a text book.” - Danielle Dye

Athletics

- **Varsity Teams :** Ryerson operates 14 men's and women's inter-university sports teams that compete nationally through Canadian Interuniversity Sport. **Information:** www.ryersonrams.ca
- **Intramurals:** Intramurals are fun sporting activities designed for all students of Ryerson University. Over 25 different leagues run throughout the academic year. **Information:** www.ryersonrams.ca



Academic Research

- **Experiential Learning Academic Research Assistant Program:** The goal of the program is to provide part-time employment opportunities for Ryerson students with proven financial need in academically relevant, Ryerson SRC programs. The program supports the scholarly, research and creative activities of Ryerson faculty members and enhances academic and creative research programs at Ryerson. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/hr/working/etoolkit/students/researchers.html or, for a list of positions, visit www.firefly.ryerson.ca/ors/public/
- **Volunteer Research Assistant:** Gain valuable research

experience by volunteering to assist a faculty member with his/her research. **Information:** visit your program's website or contact the Chair/Director of your program for information

- **Arteries Research Conference:** The purpose of the Academic Conference is to promote undergraduate research within the Faculty of Arts at Ryerson. Aimed at promoting academic excellence, integrity and commitment, the conference will serve to facilitate students' personal and academic development. Volunteer to serve on an organizing committee or submit an essay to be selected as a conference

presenter. **Information:** <http://arteries.wordpress.com/>

“At the core of Arteries continued existence is passion for academic excellence, dedication to creative inquiry and commitment to research and learning.” – Catherine Melo

Academic Governance and Administration

- **Board of Governors:** Responsible for financial and property matters and has ultimate fiscal responsibility for the University. It is composed of 24 members, including the Chancellor, the President, external members, alumni, teaching faculty, staff, and students. Students are elected to the board. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/about/governors/ Contact: Secretary of the Board, JOR 1311, 416-979-5004
- **Senate:** Establishes the academic policies of the University. Consists of 73 representatives of the administration, professors and students, each Faculty has one elected undergraduate student Senator, and there are five at-large student Senators. Elections to Senate are held in February of each year. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/senate/forms/decisionmaking.pdf and www.ryerson.ca/senate Contact: Secretary of Senate, JOR 1227, 416-979-5011
- **Senate Standing Committees:** these committees encompass all areas of academic interest at the University, and include Academic Standards Committee, Learning and Teaching Committee, Senate Appeals Committee and many more. Students serve on most of the standing committees of senate. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/senate/committees.html Contact: Secretary of Senate, JOR 1227, 416-979-5011
- **Liberal Studies Council:** Establishes curriculum and policies relating to the administration of Liberal Studies courses and serves as a forum for discussion on matters pertaining to these courses at Ryerson. Two student representatives (one from senior level, one from junior level) are selected from each Faculty. Liberal Studies Council reports to Senate. **Information:** <http://www.ryerson.ca/arts/liberalstudies/> Contact: Liberal Studies Coordinator, JOR 119, 416-979-5190
- **School/Departmental/Program Council:** Develops and recommends policy relevant to your Department/School/Program as it relates to the general policy of the University. Student membership is not less than one-third, and not more than one-half of the total council. **Information:** Contact: Chair/Director of your program. Visit www.ryerson.ca/arts/undergraduate/advisors/ for a list of the Faculty of Arts Chairs/Directors and their contact information.
- **Hiring committees:** Each committee normally includes at least one student representative whose program of studies is to be administered by the prospective appointee. **Information:** The composition and Chairs of the various search committees are outlined in the AAA policy: www.ryerson.ca/teaching/policies/docs/AAA_binder.pdf Contact your Program Chair/Director for information on upcoming academic searches.



Funding for Student Initiatives

- **Faculty of Arts Student Project Grants:** Do you have an idea for an extra-curricular project or activity that promotes experiential learning and student engagement in the Faculty of Arts? The Faculty of Arts Student Project Grant is a bi-annual competition that provides up to \$1500 for student-led initiatives. Submit an application or gain experience in adjudicating grant proposals by serving on the Faculty of Arts Student Project Grants Review Committee. This committee consists of three tenure-stream faculty members and three students (selected from different programs in the Faculty of Arts). **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/arts/projects/index.html contact: Stephan Tang at stang@arts.ryerson.ca 416.979.5000 ext 2124
- **Project – funds Allocation Committee for Students (P-FACS):** The Student Projects Fund was created to help students create the activities and programs they want to see on campus. If you have an idea for an academic, cultural, or recreational project and need funds to get started, then submit an application to P-FACS. Gain experience adjudicating grant proposals by serving on the P-FACS Grant Review Committee. Two students from each Faculty are appointed by the Dean/ Associate Dean to serve on this committee. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/stuprog/event/pfacs/ Contact: P-FACS Administrator at pfacs@ryerson.ca or 416-979-5000, ext. 7351
- **Funding for International Experiences (internal awards):** There are a number of internal awards – such as, The Ontario International Education Opportunity Scholarships (OIEOS), and the International Conference & Research Support Fund – to fund students' International experiences. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/ri/students/ryerson_students/funding_opportunities/
- **Funding for International Experiences (external awards):** There are hundreds of financial aid opportunities available to students participating in an international experience. **Information:** www.ryerson.ca/ri/students/ryerson_students/funding_opportunities/external.html



THANK YOU!

Thank you for taking the time to get better acquainted with the opportunities here at Ryerson University. It is our hope that the knowledge of these exciting possibilities will allow you to get involved in campus life and improve your University experience.

~ The Student Life Team



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