



RYERSON UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
Jorgenson Hall – JOR 1410
380 Victoria Street
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors of Ryerson University held on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in Jorgenson Hall, JOR-1410.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: P. Yaffe (Chair), P. Ataei, C-A. Bissonnette, L. Bloomberg, J. Cockwell, J. Côté-O’Hara, M. Frazer, J. Fukakusa, B. Halilovic, S. Kassim, S. Levy, M. Maheux, G. Mak, A. Piroz, K. Raahemifar, H. Rosen, F. Salvati

Regrets: M. Al Zaibak, C. Hilken, G. Kapelos, R. Mendelson, N. Mohamed, B. Richards, A. Rasoul

Board Secretariat:

J. Shin Doi, General Counsel and Secretary of the Board of Governors
C. Redmond, Governance Officer

Others Attending:

J. Isbister, Interim Provost and Vice President Academic
J. Hanigsberg, Vice President Administration & Finance
W. Cukier, Vice President Research and Innovation
A. Kahan, Vice President University Advancement
A. Levin, Interim Vice Provost Faculty Affairs
H. Lane Vetere, Vice Provost Students
P. Stenton, Deputy Vice Provost University Planning
J. Winton, Assistant Vice President Financial Services
L. Allen, Assistant Vice President Human Resources
B. Piercy, Acting Assistant Vice President, Public Affairs, Marketing and Communication
E. Stroback, Executive Lead Capital Projects and Real Estate
A. Casey, Executive Director, Office of the Provost
M. Ng Director, Office of the President
M. Lachemi, Incoming Provost and Vice President Academic
M. Bountrogianni, Incoming Interim Dean, G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education

1. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Board Members Only)

2. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION (Senior Management Invited)

END OF IN-CAMERA SESSION

3. INTRODUCTION

3.1 Chair's Remarks

The Chair reminded Board members of the upcoming Retreat and Dinner.

The Chair also referred to Drew Hayden Taylor's novel "Motorcycles and Sweetgrass which had been signed by the author and given to each Board member.

The Chair drew the Board's attention to a Globe and Mail article on Mitch Frazer, who is organizing a special charity run in honour of his mother Gitta's 70th birthday.

The Chair also advised the Board that Melissa Palermo President of the RSU had requested an opportunity to make a brief presentation to the Board.

Stephen Kassim reported on the March 25, 2013 upcoming the Blue and Gold Ball a long-held Ryerson tradition.

3.2 Approval of the March 20, 2013 Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented

4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

The President introduced Mohamed Lachemi to the Board as the new Provost and Vice President Academic.

Julia Hanigsberg introduced Avner Levin as the new Interim Assistant Vice President, Human Resources.

The President reported on Justin Trudeau's upcoming visit to the Digital Media Zone ("DMZ") and the fact that Mr. Trudeau was currently a client of Hitsend, which is a company started by Ryerson student Brennan McEachran in the DMZ.

The President also spoke of former Board member, Tracy Leparulo's Youtube video and her advocacy in helping a young friend with autism.

The President reported that he had been invited to be a commentator on the Federal Budget in Ottawa.

The President introduced the Discover Ryerson video which showed potential students attending an information sessions during March break, hosted by staff, faculty and students. The President said it was a great example of how innovative and hardworking members of the Ryerson community are.

Phyllis congratulated Branka Halilovic on her re-election to the Board and said she was an asset on the Board.

5. REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

Julia Shin Doi reported that Board elections were held from March 4 to 7, 2013. Khatera Noor, Curtis Yim and Darren Shivraj were elected to one-year terms as student members of the Board; Michelle Dionne and Kim Varma, were both elected to two-year terms as Faculty members and Branka Halilovic was re-elected to a second two-year term as a staff member of the Board. All new Board members will begin their terms on September 1, 2013. The alumni elections will be held June 17 to 28, 2013.

6. REPORT FROM THE PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

John Isbister introduced Marie Bountrogianni as the incoming Interim Dean, The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 Third Quarter Financial Statements

Janice Winton reported that Ryerson's third quarter financial statements indicated that Ryerson is on track to meet or exceed the 2012/13 approved budget.

It was moved, seconded and carried:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

That the Third Quarter Financial Statements be approved as presented.

7.2 Ryerson University Budget 2013-14- Part Two:

The President framed the discussion by saying that at this meeting the Board will be presented with data with regards to tuition fees and the second part of the presentation is about how is the University is handling reductions, and what are the implications of these reductions.

(a) The Fees Context

Paul Stenton gave an overview of the fees context and spoke of the opportunities that students have to receive assistance. He also spoke of debt levels and earning capacity for graduates.

At this point the Lawrence Bloomberg left the meeting

Jocelyne Côté-O'Hara asked if the University had a strategy to increase its operating revenue. The President responded that the University would need to convince the government to change its policies with regard to tuition fees and the capping of graduates numbers. Paul Stenton reported that the University is requesting more funding for zone education.

The President said that the government should provide a net price not a sticker price, with all the fee support programs incorporated into the net price.

(b) Choices: Strategic Decision-Making to Advance Ryerson's Priorities

The President gave an introduction to decision-making strategies that the university uses in coming up with its budget.

Paul Stenton examined the impact of the annual budget reductions, implemented over the past four years, and the decision-making processes the University has used. He spoke to the degree to which across-the-board base budget reductions have been offset at the faculty level through new program funding, enrolment growth funding, and strategic reallocations. He spoke to key aspects of the planning and decision-making framework through which choices are made. Performance measures provided illustrations of consequences of the budget choices. The strategy that will be used in the event of a major revenue reduction was also discussed.

The President added that balancing the budget and fiscal prudence guards the University against a possible crisis. A future change in government might necessitate a reduction in base.

Julia Hanigsberg spoke to the administrative base budget reductions strategies 2012/13- 2013/14 such as vacancy management, early retirement plan; efficiency in space utilization, collaborative purchasing; reducing energy costs, reduction of legal cost, outsourcing etc.

The Chair asked about the impact of these reductions on service. Ms. Hanigsberg said it will have an effect because though these reductions do not directly affect the core business of the university they do have a trickle-down effect.

Ryerson Student Union Presentation

Melissa Palermo spoke to the Board about the effect that tuition fees increases and budgets cuts would have on the students. In summary she requested a freeze or reduction in tuition fees; no departmental budget cuts and the elimination of additional fees and penalties.

The Chair thanked Ms. Palermo for her presentation and said the Board appreciated her comments.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Approval of the January 28, 2013 Minutes

The Minutes were approved as presented

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. FOR INFORMATION

11. TERMINATION