

# MINUTES OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL

March 11, 1996

## MEMBERS PRESENT

C. Lajeunesse  
K. Alnwick  
E. Aspevig  
A. Bonifacio  
M. Booth  
M. Bornstein  
L. Braverman  
I. Bryan  
P. Cheevers  
W. Cukier  
K. Campbell for A.R. DeLuca  
I. Devine  
J. Easton  
P. Flynn  
K. Goheen  
L. Grayson  
B. Hartley  
J. Hicks  
P. Jensen  
S. Karim  
L. Kelly  
S. Kelman  
A. Kittler  
M. Kosny  
I. Levine  
L. Lewis  
D. McKay  
R. Malinski  
M. Maskow

D. Mock  
C.J. Monro  
M. Morriss  
C. Ravindran  
C. Sam Foh  
J. Sandys  
D. Shaw  
J. Swain  
J. Turtle  
W.E. Vine  
W. White  
P. C. Wong

## MEMBERS ABSENT

J. Campbell (regrets)  
C. Cassidy (regrets)  
M. Creery  
E. Deutsch (regrets)  
M. Dewson  
N. Dzelevotich  
P. Gharghour (regrets)  
A. Heisey  
J. Meslin (regrets)  
M. Morel  
M. Novick  
W. Owen  
A. Peart  
A. Pokas

D. Mason

S. Port

M.C. Mayo

N. Potts (regrets)

M. Miller

C. Webb

## 1. President's Report

The President said that his budget presentations are now completed. Faculty and staff should have an understanding of the seriousness of the financial situation for the next fiscal year beginning April 1, 1996. He expressed hope that all members of Ryerson would continue to work towards a solution that will make Ryerson stronger in these difficult times.

Under Bill 26, universities are obliged to make written disclosure of salary and benefits for all employees whose salary is over \$100,000 per year. These will be announced March 29 and in Forum's next issue. There are 21 people who fall into this category, based on information from T 4's, and they will be advised by letter prior to publication. The President's salary, brought up to a yearly amount, while not required to be reported, will be included.

He apologized for the undercharge error in the Architectural and Engineering students' fees and said students have now been advised. Students will be advised individually of the handling of these fees as follows:

- no interest will be charged before Sept. 1996
- diplomas will not be withheld if this is the only amount owing as of May 17, 1996
- students will not be stopped from registering if this the only amount owing from 1995-96
- OSAP will not be withheld if this the only amount owing

He thanked Dean White and M. Obradovich, Head of Ryerson's Engineering Students' Society for their work in sorting this out. Dean White expressed appreciation to Janice Winton and the Finance Office for their assistance.

The news report on Ryerson faculty and staff achievements and successes, produced for the Board, are attached to this month's minutes. (see attachment) Members are strongly urged to read this report. In future the report will be circulated with the agenda.

Ryerson has still not received the \$4 million for employment equity promised by the Ontario government. The President spoke with the Deputy Minister of Finance, M. Gourley who gave no indication he could do anything of substance. The President's discussions with I. Bassett to date have not been productive. The Chair of the Board has been seeking a meeting with Ms. Bassett. without success. Ryerson is seeking compensation of \$700,000 for 1996-'97; however, the likelihood of complete or partial relief seems low.

In follow up to last month's request at Council by S. Kelman Ryerson is now on ProfNet.

Two breakfast meetings for faculty, staff, and administration, to be invited by random selection, were announced as follows:

March 28, 1996

Anna Marie Castrilli, Liberal Opposition Critic, Colleges & Universities

April 2, 1996

Diane McGarry, CEO and President of Xerox

## 2. The Good of the University

W. Cukier assumed the role of Vice Chair in the absence of C. Cassidy. She recognized R. Malinski who thanked members for their kind remarks about the Library at the last meeting. He announced that new materials, as requested, are now online on the Library Web page. He also invited members to come into the Library and see the new acquisitions.

C. Wong congratulated Interior Design student, F. O'Hadi, who won best delegate award of 2,000 present at the Model U.N. at Harvard, and J. Glover, Journalism student, who received honorable mention. E. Aspevig recognized the work of the Politics Department and Professor A. Saloojee in supporting the model U.N. project. L. Kelly, Director, School of Interior Design, announced that F. Ohadi will be the department representative on Council next year. C.

Wong also congratulated part-time Journalism professor M. Bulgutch for winning a Gemini award.

**3. Minutes of the February 6, 1996 Meeting**

It was duly moved and duly seconded that:

The Minutes of the February 6, 1996 meeting of Academic Council be adopted as printed in the agenda.

MOVED: T. Jensen

SECONDED: C. Ravindran

The minutes, as printed in the agenda, were CARRIED.

**4. Business Arising Out of the Minutes**

There was none.

**5. Correspondence**

There was none.

**6. Reports of Actions and Recommendations of Departmental and Faculty Councils**

The President referred members to M. Black's memo about changes to Graphic Communication Management Admission Requirements on agenda page 8. L. Braverman asked if students will still meet industry requirements with the deletion of CHY191; she suggested that the 60% English requirement be reviewed by other departments as well. It was explained by D. Mock and M. Black that the industry has now become digital, so that chemistry is no longer relevant; the English requirement has always been there, but has not been strictly adhered to.

## 7. Reports of the Committees

### (a) March 1996 Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee (PPAC) Report of

The report, as presented by M. Kosny, Chair of Priorities and Planning Advisory Committee (PPAC) was to be read in conjunction with the reports of the three Vice Presidents as printed in last month's agenda. Section 4.5 was amended as follows:

#### 4.5 Salary Mass and Benefits

4.5.1 By far, the largest financial mass at Ryerson is salary and benefits. There may be significant savings to be realized in how we use our Agreements. PPAC encourages recognizes that the review of costs and levels of benefits, early retirement packages, faculty workload assignments, and all options available in the pursuit of reducing both the salary mass, and developing a more cost-efficient benefits package are contractual issues.

4.5.2 ~~PPAC recognizes that these are contractual issues.~~ Any review process must be an open one, and done collectively with the full consultation and participation of all relevant stakeholders across the Ryerson community.

MOTION #1: To adopt the Planning & Priorities Advisory Committee (PPAC) Report, March 1996, as printed in the agenda.

Moved: M. Kosny

Seconded: M. Bornstein

D. Shaw commented on 4.3.3, saying there are many computer-related programs in different Faculties; she asked if there had been any discussion about linking these to reduce duplication. She suggested the idea of a Computer Services School. Re 4.4.4 she asked for clarification of the specific concern about the Sears site. Referring to 5.2.1, she also asked what “dramatic” thing could be done, and was future direction as mentioned in if 5.2.2. not PPAC’s responsibility.

D. Mock said the efficient use of facilities, commonality of courses, and organizational structures are being looked at, and that there is some potential for efficiency and savings. L. Grayson responded that staff are currently working on how to address the debt on the Sears property..

Regarding 5.2.2. M. Kosny said that future direction *is* a function of PPAC.

D. Mock, in response to the suggestion that something “dramatic” be done, relayed several initiatives that will grab the attention of the community. K. Goheen is looking at reorganization of the Centres and the rationalization of support staff and directors, and will report in two months; a review of Faculties’ formulations, structures and names is beginning. Programs are also being reviewed with reference to modes of delivery, consolidation, and even closure

C. Lajeunesse commented on new opportunities for internationalization and to increase revenue. Jane Knight is working currently on ways to attract foreign students, both for regular and summer courses.

I. Bryan asked if there is any thought of a common first year.

D. Mock responded that Engineering is moving towards a common first year and Business already has one. In other areas, constraints and complexity of curriculum, class size and the contract, and course delivery requirements make a common first year difficult to achieve. He invited I. Levine and J. Sandys to respond.

I. Levine said the Faculty has had casual discussions about a common first year in some areas; however, he feels Ryerson is a university for students who are clear about the discipline they wish to pursue. J. Sandys said Community Services would consider shared courses but not a common first year.

L. Braverman expressed appreciation for the report, its authors, its approach and ideas. T. Jensen echoed Ms. Braverman, saying she hoped that opportunities would become priorities in the next few months.

Ms. Braverman asked that 1.1.1. be expanded to include the report of the Vice President, Faculty and Staff Affairs. She also asked for details of the ombudsperson (3.2) and for clarification of the \$668K (4.4.4), and, referring to 4.3.2, she challenged Council members to always put Ryerson in the very best light.

L. Grayson explained that the Student Services Review Report and the student referendum of last September supported funding for an ombudsperson to address student concerns regarding administrative and academic matters. A committee, chaired by I. Devine, is looking at the mandate and modus operandi of the ombudsperson, to be in place by the Fall '96. The figure of \$688K is compound interest. (See Secretary's Note at the end of this report)

C. Lajeunesse also emphasized the importance of putting Ryerson in the best light.

MOTION #`2: That Academic Council approve the inclusion of the Vice President, Faculty and Staff Affairs, as a member on the PPAC committee, and that the committee receive the report of the Vice President annually.

Moved: M. Kosny

Seconded: I. Devine

Motion #1 was CARRIED.

Motion #2 was CARRIED.

The President thanked the committee and agreed the praise received was well deserved.

*Secretary's Note: It has been noted by L. Grayson, Vice President Administration and Student Affairs, that on Pg. 15 of the agenda, in section 4.4.4, line 8 of the PPAC Report, that the amount of \$668K should be \$688K.*

**(b) Report #121 of the Academic Standards Committee**

D. Mock said ASC will bring forward a discussion document on the Tripartite curriculum for next month's Council meeting, in follow up to C. Cassidy's request at last month's meeting. He then presented the ASC report.

MOTION: That Academic Council approve the proposed amendments to the Long Term Care Administration Certificate, as detailed in an appendix to the report.

Moved: D. Mock

Seconded: P. Jensen

L. Braverman made 3 points about the report:

- On agenda page 21, CVPL 201 should be 202
- The course organization in section 3.2.4 on agenda page 22 is a good change
- On agenda page 23, CVGE 272 & 292 are not listed, so assume they were deleted

It was confirmed that these latter two courses were deleted.

D. Shaw asked if there is a sequential list of C. E. courses, and D. Mock said this is a good idea and could be looked at.

The motion to adopt the report was CARRIED.

**(c) Report # 1 of the Information Technology Committee**

M. Pomerance explained the committee's mandate to address a policy vacuum with respect to information technology development at Ryerson and to create a four-fold READ-IT computer

policies. The acronym READ-IT stands for Resources (what), Environment (structure of Ryerson locale), Access (who gets access), and Delivery (way it is made accessible) of Information Technology. He presented the report, which he explained was written to allow maximum creative input, while reducing liability for unofficial pages, those not bearing the Ryerson crest and logo. He then made the following motion:

MOTION: That Academic Council adopt the committee's Policy on Ryerson's Official Web Page.

Moved: M. Pomerance

Seconded: D. Shaw

Members raised the following comments/concerns/questions:

- official pages are underdeveloped
- what is a home page?
- could the policy be used to prevent someone from setting up a home page?
- does the policy prevent unofficial pages that violate ONET guidelines or harassment and equity policies; is this an issue for this policy or for policies on the misuse of Ryerson resources
- department responsibility for department home page

S. Kelman supported the concern for copyright and freedom of expression reflected in the policy.

The President thanked M. Pomerance and the committee for their work; he feels sufficient concern regarding misuse of ONET regulations, and harassment and equity policies on unofficial links was expressed that these issues need to be looked at by the committee.

The motion was CARRIED.

**8. New Business**

L. Lewis asked if members who live in I. Bassett's riding should lobby her regarding Ryerson's financial situation. C. Lajeunesse approved and suggested A. Cadieux coordinate this activity in an organized fashion.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.