

Minutes of Academic Council

April 6, 1999

Members Present

Aspevig, E.
Bardecki, M.
Black, M.
Booth, M.
Creery, M.
Cukier, W.
Dewson, M.
Elder, D.
Finn, M.
Friesen, E.
Gelmon, J.
Glynn, D.
Grayson, L.
Haines, R.
Harrison, L.
Heath, S.
Hicks, J.
Jakotic, M.
Kapp, R.
Kennedy, D.
Koc, M.
Lajeunesse, C.
Levine, I.
Maskow, M.
Mason, D.
Mendelson, R.
Miller, M.
Mock, D.
Pearce, J.
Penny, K.
Rodriquez, W.
Sandys, J.
Silmberg, J.
D. Haubrick for Silver, S.
Sly, T.
Steele, D.
Trubic, J.
Adrian Pereira for Virji, R.
Zamaria, C.
Zaver, N.

Regrets

Cao, M.
Ellimoottil, J.
MacQuarrie, D.
Moore Milroy, E.
Northwood, D.
Salmons, E.

Absent

Alnwick, K.
Granfield, D.
Morriss, M.
Pille, P.
Richard, M.
Sharifi, F.
Silver, C.
Slopek, E.
Woodley, M.
Valade, C.

1. President's Report

C. Lajeunesse announced the appointment of Dr. Rena Mendelson as the Associate Vice President, Academic. He praised Dr. Mendelson's longstanding commitment to Ryerson and noted her track record of both successful research and management of

research. He indicated the term would be for five years.

R. Mendelson indicated she appreciated the acknowledgement and the support of the community.

C. Lajeunesse presented the list of honorary degree recipients for Convocation in June. They are as follows: actor and director, John Neville; television producer, Lorne Michaels; former Premier of New Brunswick, Frank McKenna; businesswoman and community volunteer, Beverley Mascoll; historian and director of the Canadian War Museum, Jack Granatstein; community activist and local politician, Bev Salmon; landscape architect, Cornelia Oberlander; and Ericsson Communications Chair, Lionel Hurtubise.

The President indicated that the approval of Ryerson's first Graduate Program is imminent. R. Mendelson indicated she expected to hear from the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies within a week.

C. Lajeunesse indicated that a Search Committee would soon be struck for the next Vice President, Academic. Dr. Mock's term expires at the end of June, 2000, and the new Vice President, Academic was expected to take office for July 1, 2000. The President indicated that his office would be accepting names for members of the Search Committee until April 16. The services of a consultant would also be used during the search.

C. Lajeunesse encouraged Council members to review two recent reports released last week. The first report was by the Ontario Jobs and Investment Board, which stressed the importance of education for the future prosperity of Ontario. The second report, produced by COU, consisted of two studies, one by Angus Reid, and the other by PriceWaterhouseCoopers. Both of these studies addressed the issue of the double cohort. Information on these reports would be available from the Secretary of Academic Council.

C. Lajeunesse requested that the Vice President, Administration and Student Affairs speak to the issue of a possible TTC strike. L. Grayson indicated that plans were in place on the assumption that a TTC strike would occur shortly. A memorandum has been sent out to the community regarding car pooling. She also encouraged members of the community who lived within walking distance of the University to consider sharing their dwellings with a colleague. A help line would also be put in place later this week.

2. The Good of the University

D. Steele assumed the Chair for this portion of the agenda.

W.A. Rodriguez raised the issue of whether a policy existed for a student to receive a certain percentage of their grade before the drop date for a course. D. Mock responded that every they are progressing in the course prior to the drop date. He also indicated he would be pleased to discuss the issue more directly with W.A. Rodriguez, who indicated she was in agreement to do so.

W.A. Rodriguez also raised the issue of whether a student identification card would be needed when inquiries were made to Records and Registration. She indicated that she had previous experience with only a student's ID number being requested. D. Mock responded that he would speak to the Registrar regarding the issue.

D. Elder, who noted he was a representative of C.U.P.E. 3904, Units 1 and 2, indicated he wished to make a personal comment which should not be taken as reflecting his position as representative of C.U.P.E. He raised concerns about the nature of advertisements on campus that he felt negatively affected the sensitivities of the students. He inquired whether there existed on campus a group which examined the advertisements before they were posted, and whether the University received enough money to warrant the risks entailed.

L. Grayson responded that there did exist such a group, of which she was a member. She indicated she had never seen one of the ads in question that he referred to, but that she would look into the matter immediately. In response to the questions about money, she said that after 10 years of budget reductions, the ad revenue was welcome as long as the advertisements were not at odds with the values of the University.

3. Minutes of the March 1, 1999 Meeting

Approval of the Minutes was moved by R. Haines and seconded by R. Capp. The motion was passed. It was noted that the Environmental Certificate name should be adjusted.

4. Business Arising Out of the Minutes

It was moved by D. Steeles and seconded by N. Zaver that the amendments to the Ryerson Student Code of Academic Conduct, as submitted to Academic Council for the April meeting should be passed. The motion was passed, with the correction being made of replacing the word "research" with "SRC activities".

It was moved by D. Steeles and seconded by N. Zaver that the

Ryerson Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct should be approved.

The motion was passed.

N. Zaver and J. Pearce moved that Academic Council resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to continue the discussions on the report of the Academic Appeals Review Committee. The Committee agreed that M. Black would assume the position of Chair for the discussion.

(No minutes were taken during the discussions of the Committee of the Whole.)

One recommendation was not clearly identified in the report. This should be noted as "Recommendation #27: Chairs and Program Directors should review with their respective faculty Ryerson's policies and procedures regarding cheating, plagiarism, and course management."

Upon conclusion of the discussions, D. Mason and W.A. Rodriguez moved that the Committee should rise and report.

The motion was passed.

C. Lajeunesse expressed his thanks to J. Dianda, Chair of the Academic Appeals Review Committee, and to the Committee for their work. He indicated that he understood there would be modifications made to the present appeals policies and procedures, and that the issue should be revisited once the community had a better understanding of the impact of the modifications.

5. Correspondence

The Secretary indicated there had been no correspondence received for Academic Council.

6. Reports of Actions and Recommendations of Departmental and Divisional Councils

D. Mock reviewed the various course changes from Continuing Education, as well as the course deletion in Business Management. He noted there was one change to the Agenda, page 34, where ACKEL 316" should be changed to ACKEL 326". In addition, M. Doucet noted that the word "remain" to be changed to "maintain" on page 34 of the Agenda.

7. Reports of Committees

i. Report # 140 of the Academic Standards Committee

a. An Introduction to the Periodic Review of Undergraduate Programs

D. Mock reviewed the Academic Standards Committee report, commencing with an introduction to the program reviews for undergraduate programs. He highlighted the structure of a program review, the role of Academic Council, as well as the structure of Academic Standards Committee reports related to program reviews. He noted that this process replaced the earlier PREP system which had been dictated by the Ministry. The present policy, No. 126 of Academic Council, defined the various terms that were to be used for a program review.

Under the policy, Academic Council's decision regarding a program review can take one of four forms:

Endorsement of the review as submitted;

Endorsement with qualifications;

Referral to the Dean for further action and response to specified weaknesses; and

Rejection of the review and referral to the Vice President, Academic for further action.

D. Mock noted that there were various procedural recommendations listed on pages 41 and 42 which were to be integrated into a Best Practices Manual within the next few months.

C. Zamaria inquired how often programs were being reviewed. D. Mock responded that these would be done on a seven year cycle. In addition, the detailed materials for the Program Review were available from the Secretary of Academic Council.

b. Periodic Program Review; Food and Nutrition
(Bachelor of Applied Science)

D. Mock reviewed the report on the Food and Nutrition Program Review which commences on page 40 of the Agenda. Subsequent to reviewing the materials presented, D. Mock moved that Academic Council endorse the Food and Nutrition Program Review as submitted. This motion was seconded by D. Mason.

J. Hicks inquired whether the process itself or the program review would be available for external review. D. Mock indicated that some materials were available in hard copy form, a portion of which could be placed on the Web. He indicated the issue could be discussed further.

The motion was passed.

D. Mock expressed his thanks to both J. Welsh and P. Jensen for their efforts in preparing the Program Review.

c. Proposed Certificate in Digital Architecture and Design

D. Mock noted these were high-level courses, and he reviewed the admission criteria, the curriculum, as well as the administration of the program. It was moved by D. Mock and seconded by M. Miller that Academic Council approve the proposed Certificate in Digital Architecture and Design.

The motion was passed.

d. Proposed Framework for Replacement of the Bachelor of Technology Degree and Applied Computer Science

D. Mock noted that the submission reviewed the retroactivity of the degree designation change which had been made for Applied Computer Science.

It was moved by D. Mock and seconded by D. Mason that Academic Council approve the right of all graduates of the Applied Computer Science program to replace their Bachelor of Technology Degree with a Bachelor of Science.

The motion was passed.

E. Aspevig inquired how students would be contacted. D. Mock indicated that there had been precedents for this process, and that students would be sent a letter indicating they had the opportunity to replace their present degree with the more appropriate degree.

e. Proposed Framework for Replacement of the Bachelor of Business Management Degree in Business Management

D. Mock noted that a change had been approved by Academic Council for the designation to the Bachelor of Commerce degree from the Bachelor of Business Management. D. Mock reviewed the elements of achieving compatibility, in particular, noting that two conditions would need to be met in order for a student to have the opportunity to replace the Bachelor of Business Management with the Bachelor of Commerce. It was moved by D. Mock and seconded by S. Heath that Academic Council approve the right of graduates of the Business Management Program who satisfy both the conditions specified above [referred to in pages 44 and 45 of the April 6, 1999 Academic Council material] to replace their Bachelor of Business Management degree with the Bachelor of Commerce.

The motion was passed.

ii. Report # 99-1 of the Academic Awards and Ceremonials

Committee

It was moved by J. Sandys and seconded by D. Mason that Academic Council approve the recommendation from the Academic Awards and Ceremonials Committee to reinstate the fall convocation.

The motion was passed.

iii. Report # 99-1 of the SRC Committee

M. Foster, Chair of the SRC Committee, presented the report. She noted that the 1999 report contained the follow-up on the recommendations made in the 1997 report. In particular, she reviewed that progress had been made since the report, including the increased student involvement, the awards acknowledging excellence in SRC, and the SRC/GREET conference. She also noted the ORS was actively tracking SRC programs and replacing existing documentation with one comprehensive document.

M. Foster indicated she wished to bring two policies to Academic Council for information. The first policy was the "Policy on Signing of Research Grant Applications, Research Contracts, and Agreements in Support of Research". She indicated that this policy was presently in practice.

The second policy was developed with the Office of the Vice President, Administration and Student Services, and covered liability issues related to off-site SRC and field camps. This policy was the "Policy on Safety and Liability for Field Research".

There was one policy brought forward by SRC for approval by Academic Council. It was moved by M. Foster, seconded by R. Mendelson that "be it resolved that the policy on indirect cost associated with SRC funding presented at the April 1999 meeting be adopted as a basis for allocating revenues and expenditures related to SRC funding".

The motion was passed.

8. New Business

No new business was brought forward at this time.

9. Adjournment

It was moved by W.A. Rodriguez and seconded by R. Haines that

Academic Council should adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.