

# MINUTES OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY, January 16, 2001

## **Members Present:**

C. Lajeunesse (Chair)	E. Aspevig
L. Grayson	M. Dewson
G. Mothersill	K. Duplisea
I. Levine	C. Zamaria
M. Truelove	D. Day
J. Sandys	M. Finn
R. Mendelson	D. Northwood
K. Penny	K. Alnwick
D. Martin	C. Matthews
P. Pille	T. Knowlton
F. Hare	M. Creery
J. Pearce	B. Jackson
Y. Yuan	D. Glynn
S. Tullio-Pow	J. Hicks
K. Marciniac	M. Siemiatycki
C. Wright	N. Zaver
S. Williams	M. Farrugia
J. Yee	M. Miller
R. Ravindran	D. Herder
C. McCracken	J. Davenport
N. Zaver	M. Butko
J. Ellimoottil	

## **Absent:**

M. McCrae	J. Tersigni
J. Chavy	J. Okten
L. Michelis	D. Hornik
A. Kaplan	R. Elliott
P. Morrison	B. Lozano
T. Sly	E. Doolaar
S. Singh	A. Aziz

## **Regrets:**

G. Inwood  
K. Behdinan  
J. Carvalho  
S. Quigley  
M. Booth

## 1. **President's Report**

*Minutes of Academic Council Meeting - January 16, 2001*

The President welcomed Council to the first meeting of 2001. He made the following announcements:

- a) J. Sandys, formerly Dean of Community Services, has assumed the role of Interim Associate Vice President Academic;
- a) R. Mendelson, formerly Associate V. P. Academic, is currently the Interim Dean of Graduate Studies; and
- a) S. Williams, formerly Associate Dean of Community Services is currently Acting Dean of Community Services.

The President announced, with regret, the impending resignation of K. Kwan, Secretary of Council as of February, 2001. He informed Council members that Al Wargo has agreed to return to assume the role of Interim Secretary until the end of June, 2001 when the vacancy will be filled. The President also informed Council that an Advisory Committee, chaired by the Vice President, Academic, will be formed to seek applicants for this position, which has been advertised in the Globe and Mail.

The President informed Council that he will be delivering his State of the University address to the University Community on Thursday, January 25, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., in the Commons Room, A-250.

The President also informed Council that the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors approved the Collaborative Nursing Program. He added that the Province had agreed to allocate additional funding towards this program. He congratulated all those who contributed towards bringing this project to fruition.

Council was informed that Dr. Kari Krogh, who has a very impressive research record on disability issues and digital media, was the recipient of a \$300,000.00 Senior Research Fellow Award from The Canadian Institute for Health Research. The grant, which will be spread over a period of four years, is significant for the School of Disability Studies. J. Sandys stated that she was pleased to welcome Dr. Krogh to Ryerson. The President also announced that the recipient of the Frank Chalmers Award is Mathew Fraser of RTA.

The President informed Council that Continuing Education enrollment had increased by 28%. J. Hicks stated that this was due to increased marketing campaign.

## **2. Good of the University**

C. Wright, chaired this portion of the meeting. R. Ravindran was concerned about the number of students who enrol in courses without the required prerequisites. K. Alnwick informed Council that the process was being addressed, particularly with the introduction of the new student information system. K. Alnwick further informed Council that the process would be implemented initially in 2001, and completed by 2003.

K. Alnwick invited members of Council, faculty and students to contact him if they had any input or questions regarding the Religious Observance issue relating to course scheduling of exams, amongst other academic considerations. He stated that the Committee on Religious Observance was reviewing the policy.

C. Wright informed Council that RYESAC would be organizing a "Toque Tuesday" on Tuesday, February 6. Toques would be sold in an effort to raise \$25,000, with the proceeds going towards various homeless shelters. For the department selling the most toques, there will be a prize of a "comedy night out".

J. Davenport informed Council of the new service offered by RYESAC - a Students' Working Centre - housed in Oakham House, which is geared towards giving advice to students on peer support, workplace

**3. Minutes of the December 5, 2000 Meeting**

The minutes were approved on a motion moved by C. Matthews and seconded by D. Day.

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

C. Zamaria referred Council to item b) "Composition Committee" on Page 9. He suggested an amendment to the paragraph to note that the composition amendment for Council was an interim measure. All were in favour.

C. Lajeunesse informed Council that there were two student nominees. K. Penny moved the motion for approval that the two graduate students, Margaret Farrugia and Wasim Ghani, be nominated to the Academic Council and the Appeals Committee respectively. Rena Mendelson seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

**5. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence for Council.

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

E. Aspevig reviewed the reports duly approved by the respective Councils. M. Doucet inquired what implications would result for faculty and for accreditation due to the elimination of the Landscape Architecture Option. M. Miller responded that three full-time faculty members and one part-time instructor will teach other courses, as they will be utilizing their skills in the architectural program in which landscape has been integrated. He also indicated that the OALA was aware of this move and acknowledged the necessity.

**7. Reports of Committees**

**i) Report #W2001-1 of the Academic Standards Committee**

E. Aspevig reviewed the report from the Standards Committee. He explained the proposed variations in admission and GPA for the Midwifery Program was designed to bring the Ryerson program into line with its partner programs at McMaster and Laurentian Universities. He presented the guidelines for admission for approval by Council. The motion was seconded by J. Sandys.

J. Davenport inquired about the higher GPA. E. Aspevig responded that the Midwifery Consortium had changed the GPA from 2.0 to 2.33 because the course in question was considered central and foundational, and a substantial degree of knowledge was required for practice. The motion was passed.

E. Aspevig gave a review of the key elements of the ITM co-op program. The motion which was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by K. Alnwick was approved.

**ii) Report #W2001-1 of the School of Graduate Studies**

a) Composition

R. Mendelson reported on further developments with respect to the composition of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies. She stated that she had consulted with graduate students and K. Kwan, Secretary of Academic Council, on composition and issues of membership. She acknowledged the importance of wide representation and indicated that additional students would increase membership on the Council. D. Northwood asked about the requirement that there be no more than one person

representing a graduate program. R. Mendelson responded that Council wanted to ensure broad representation from across the University. The motion regarding Composition of the School of Graduate Studies was moved by R. Mendelson and seconded by D. Northwood. The motion was approved.

b) Membership

R. Mendelson reported to Council that the report expanded on membership criteria and application procedures. For example, the distinction between full and associate members would be eliminated. Regarding the issue of supervising doctoral students, she indicated that criteria proposed would require that the supervisor needed to have previously sat on a doctoral committee in order to undertake to supervise doctoral students. She also informed Council that the new mechanisms for assessing creative practice would now enable faculty to serve in the School.

A discussion ensued regarding the issue of members with doctoral supervisor privilege. Referring to Section 5.2, Page 27, D. Northwood commented that the criteria were problematic and did not allow for some faculty at Ryerson to supervise doctoral students. He moved an amendment, which was seconded by R. Ravindran, that this item be amended to state that doctoral supervision should be granted subject to demonstrated experience of graduate student supervision, as well as the recommendation by the graduate Program Director, Dean of the faculty and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

R. Mendelson informed Council that the issue was debated at the Council of Graduate Studies and that the present proposal was unanimously approved. She further indicated that the intent of the Council was to ensure that students at the doctoral level would be protected by getting experienced people to supervise them.

In response to a comment regarding supervision of Masters students at Western University, R. Mendelson informed Council that she had spoken to the Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Western Ontario who informed her that an adjunct professor could be on a doctoral committee but could not be formally named faculty supervisor.

The amendment was defeated. The motion moved by R. Mendelson and seconded by D. Martin was approved. Council agreed that the minutes should indicate that appropriate parts of this policy, including Section 5, will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised as programs and the School of Graduate Studies develop.

8. a) Election Policy and Guidelines

K. Kwan, Secretary of Academic Council, gave a review of the revised Election Policy, which would be in effect as of September 1, 2001. She highlighted various amendments, including the following:

- increased advertising to students in newspapers;
- polling stations to be made more visible;
- process of scrutineers;
- process of campaigning and guidelines; and
- the solution for a tie vote by way of a coin toss.

K. Marciniac moved and C. McCracken seconded the motion to approve the revised policy and guidelines. The motion was passed.

b) Student Code of Academic and Non-Academic Conduct

K. Kwan presented the revised Student Code of Academic and Non-Academic Conduct and informed Council that the amendments to the Code were mostly points of clarification. She thanked members of the Community who collaborated on the report. She highlighted the item on Group Academic Misconduct and the process that will be undertaken whereby those within the group who are not guilty will not face a penalty. She also noted that for the Code on Non-Academic Misconduct, Page 57, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, the last line should be bold and italicized as this was an amendment to the Code.

In response to an inquiry regarding what measures of protection were in place for students who reported being victims of assaults, L. Grayson stated that it depended on the circumstances and that legal counsel would be sought regarding each case.

One Council member commented that the Code did not mention the issue of students' rights regarding their quality of education. K. Alnwick responded that the Codes were not a quality control measure, but dealt with students' behaviour.

An amendment was put forward by J. Davenport that the University ensure the safety and security of students launching complaints. The amendment was not seconded and was, therefore, not successful.

A. Noble thanked K. Kwan for revising the policy.

K. Alnwick moved and K. Marciniac seconded the motion to approve the revised Student Code of Academic and Non-Academic Conduct. The motion was approved.

c) The report of the Internationalization Advisory Group was presented for information and will be discussed in the future.

As there was no other business to report, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.