

MINUTES OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 14, 2003

Members Present:

C. Lajeunesse
K. Alnwick
L. Grayson
M. Creery
J. Dianda
B. Jackson
A. Cross
D. Snyder
J. Monro
K. Raahemifar
A. Lohi
M. Barber
M. Dewson
R. Kup
L. Merali
M. Potter

E. Aspevig
J. Cook
G. Inwood
R. Rodrigues
M. Yeates
D. Heyd
V. Berkeley
M. Koc
M. Mazerolle
G. Turcotte
M. Booth
G. Roberts-Fiati
J. Sandys
M. McCrae
R. Walshaw
M. Ward

S. Williams
C. Matthews
B. Yoon
T. Nguyen
D. Martin
K. Marciniac
M. Dowler
C. Cassidy
J. Welsh
S. Cody
F. Salustri
K. Tucker Scott
A. Furman
S. Marshall
A. Tam

Members Absent:

E. Trott
S. Kumar
P. George
D. Elder

Regrets:

R. Ravindran
M. Verticchio
C. DeSouza
S. Sutherland
A. Pevec
T. Knowlton

S. Boctor (Z. Fawaz in attendance)
D. McKessock
L. Lum
D. Smith
G. Meti
I. Levine

1. President's Report

The President welcomed the new RFA President, David Checkland.

The provincial government has set a new round of SuperBuild funding. A proposal will be submitted for a new Business building. The Business faculty and Paul Stenton were thanked for their work on the proposal.

The new SuperBuild program will create a minimum of 13,000 new student spaces in the Ontario system. University of Toronto could receive the bulk of those spaces. Tomorrow is the deadline for submission of applications for Fall 2003 admission.

Progress Indicators and Related Statistics 2001/02 - Paul Stenton presented an updated report on the progress indicators, developed using a wide array of data sources, as information to Academic Council. These have been used extensively as part of program reviews and planning. Two indicators have been added: educational background and externally funded and externally adjudicated SRC. Further work is continuing on the indicators for: SRC; demographic characteristics of faculty; class size; indicators for graduate studies; and the development of new data collection processes.

Trends: Academic quality of entering students continues to increase; graduates continue to have high employment rates; there is an improvement in retention. There is also a trend toward increasing class size, and a need to improve library expenditures

The University Planning Office welcomes feedback on its report.

There were no questions or discussion.

2. Report of the Secretary of Academic Council

The critical dates for Academic Council elections were announced.

The e-mail system has been upgraded so that all students will have e-mail accounts for the time they are at Ryerson. This is the means by which most universities communicate with students. The Secretary presented a policy developed by a work group consisting of representatives from CCS, Student Services and the Registrar's Office, with input from the Deans and Vice Presidents, requiring that all students maintain a Ryerson e-mail account. The policy limits the sending of bulk e-mails to those authorized by the Vice President's or the Director of Student Services.

Motion: That Academic Council approve the Policy on Student E-Mail Accounts
Moved by M. Yeates, seconded by L. Merali.

Discussion:

The e-mail accounts will be used for information related to university business only. This policy is about institutional communication. It could not be used, for example, to advertise a sale at the bookstore.

The system could be used for students in particular Faculties, departments, etc. Distribution of e-mail lists for individual courses would have to be discussed. Some felt that wording should be included to allow for e-mail for an entire school or department without approval at the vice-presidential level.

The motion was tabled to clarify the issue of authorization.

3. Good of the University

Discussion continued on the suggestion that there be broad communication about events and activities at Ryerson (e.g. a bookstore sale or concert). The Registrar responded that there is already a concern about the high volume of e-mail, and that the Ryerson website might be developed to include such information.

There was a further suggestion that there could be a weekly bulletin sent out to those who wished to subscribe to it.

4. Minutes of the December 3, 2002 Meeting

Motion to approve by D. Martin, seconded by S. Williams.

The minutes were amended to show that A. Tam, M. Potter and R. Kup were in attendance.

Approved as amended.

5. Business Arising out of the Minutes

The Secretary reported that the Course Change Form had been updated to include a column headed "Program(s)/School(s)/ Department(s) affected and informed of change."

6. Correspondence

The Secretary reported that Richard Fleming, Alumni Representative, and Byron Abalos, Student Representative from Communication and Design, had both resigned from Academic Council for personal reasons.

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

The Vice President, Academic presented, for the information of Academic Council, course deletions and additions in Architectural Science, and a change in course hours for Early Childhood Education which corrected an error in the Calendar.

He also reported a change of name for the Department of Geography's "Program in Applied Geography" to "Program in Geographic Analysis", and the unit offering the program will be the "Department of Geography" instead of the "School of Applied Geography." It was explained that changing from a "School" to a "Department" is in keeping with custom at other universities.

8. Reports of Committees

8.1 Composition & By-Laws Committee – The Secretary presented the proposed revised Terms of Reference and Composition of the Animal Care Committee.

Motion: That Academic Council amend its By-Laws, revising section 3.6.4, the Composition and Terms of Reference of the Animal Care Committee.

J. Sandys moved and J. Turcotte seconded.

Motion approved.

8.2 Nominating Committee - Ava Cross presented the report and moved.

Motion: That Academic Council approve the report of the Nominating Committee.

Seconded by D. Martin.

Motion approved.

9. New Business: Errol Aspevig reported that the Draft Academic Plan is on the VP, Academic's website, and that consultations will be arranged shortly.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(signature on file)

Diane R. Schulman, Ph.D.
Secretary of Academic Council