

Minutes of Academic Council
October 6, 1998

Members Present

Alswick, K.
Aspevig, E.
Balzan, C.
Bardecki, M.
Black, M.
Booth, M.
Cao, M.
Creery, M.
Cukier, W.
Dewson, M.
Elder, D.
Ellimoottil, J.
Finn, M.
Flores, I.
Gelmon, J.
Glynn, D.
Granfield, D.
Grayson, L.
Haines, R.
Harrison, L.
Hicks, J.
Jakotic, M.
Kapp, R.
Kennedy, D.
Koc, M.
Lajeunesse, C.
Levine, I.
Malinski, R.
Maskow, M.
Mason, D.
Mendelson, R.
Miller, M.
Mock, D.
Morriss, M.
Northwood, D.
Richard, M.
Rodriguez, W.
Salmons, E.
Sandys, J.
Silmberg, J.
Silver, S.
Sly, T.
Steele, D.
Trubic, J.
Virji, R.
Woodley, M.
Zamaria, C.
Zaver, N.

Members Absent

Heath, S.
MacQuarrie, D.
Pearce, J. (Regrets)
Penny, K. (Regrets)
Pille, P.
Sharifi, F.
Silver, C.
Slopek, E.
Valade, C.

1. President's Report

The President began his report by welcoming all members of Council, particularly the students whom he wished well in their academic endeavours. He indicated that with the agreement of Council he would like to change the order of the agenda due to the short time frame that was needed for the Sarwan Sahota Award presentation. No objections were raised.

Prior to the presentation he introduced the new Secretary of Academic Council, Kathleen Kwan. He indicated that Kathleen has made many attempts to meet with members of Council and the community, including all the Chairs of Committees. Previously, Kathleen was the Judicial Officer at the University of Guelph, after having served for two years on the Environmental Appeal Board. He also indicated that Kathleen was a lawyer.

The President indicated that he would present his report after the election of the Vice-Chair and presentation of the award.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

W. Rodriguez nominated D. Steele, President of RYESAC. D. Steele was acclaimed as Vice-Chair.

3. Good of the University

D. Steele invited R. Mendelson, Associate Vice President, Academic to make the Sarwan Sahota presentation.

R. Mendelson invited Sarwan Sahota to the podium. She noted that Sarwan had been a faculty member for a long period of time, including having acted as the Chair of Chemical & Biological Sciences and Acting Dean of Business. In the past, the award has been given to R. Ravindran for modelling work in the auto industry.

Dr. Mendelson noted that there were two winners this year which was unprecedented. She invited both Professor Steven Liss and Professor Karen Mulhally to the podium for the presentation.

Dr. Mendelson read the following statements which described the accomplishments of the two winners:

Professor Liss is nationally recognized for his research on the microbiology of wastewater treatment systems, particularly applied to the pulp and paper industry.

His most significant scholarly achievement began in 1992 when he received a seed grant from Ryerson in the amount of \$4,000 to pursue a study of microbial aggregates in wastewater and natural systems. The project was originally based on the view that microbial cells, particularly bacteria, remove large molecular or particulate materials in industrial effluents by attaching to them. He proposed that, by observing these particles under the microscope, it may be possible to better understand how microorganisms behave in wastewater treatment systems. In 1993, he received the first NSERC Strategic Grant awarded to Ryerson to investigate the relationship of microbial floc structure to the properties of floc in wastewater treatment. Over the next three years,

the research program established by the strategic grant led to significant developments in the field of wastewater treatment.

This research has been valuable to industries such as food (e.g. Cavendish Farms and Maple Leaf Farms), petrochemical (e.g. PetroCan and Exxon), pulp and paper area (11 companies) and municipalities and consulting engineering firms operating treatment systems. This sparked a commitment by industry to support his work in a bid for further NSERC Strategic program support in the spring of 1997. In the fall of 1997 Professor Liss became the recipient of a second NSERC Strategic Grant. The grant will provide further training opportunities for young people including one Post-Doctoral researcher, three graduate students and at least three undergraduate summer students. Support for three workshops and symposia is also included.

Professor Liss is regarded as an excellent researcher by the scientific community and is highly respected by industry for his contributions. His research has brought tremendous benefit to the Ryerson community building on the principles guiding successful SRC initiatives at Ryerson; a commitment to excellence, links to training at both the undergraduate and graduate level, collaboration with multi-disciplinary initiatives, and collaboration with government and industry.

Professor Mulhallen describes herself as a Teacher, Editor, Critic and Writer, but her more complex achievement lies in her ability to integrate these diverse endeavours into a rich and fruitful unity. Her successful and influential teaching has nourished thousands of Ryerson graduates, from introductory and specialized literature courses to the sensitive demands of creative writing classes. For twenty-seven years she has had significant influence on Canadian intellectual life. In addition to Descant, Professor Mulhallen has used her editorial expertise on anthologies, translations and novels, in Canadian Form and the Literary Review (London and Edinburgh). As critic, Professor Mulhallen's lectures and commentaries range from her scholarly focus on William Blake to contemporary reviews and critiques on culture and the visual arts and literary studies; she has also served as a panellist and adjudicator on boards concerned with the visual arts, including poetry and travel writing. For many scholars in academic life, these achievements would suffice. But Professor Mulhallen has combined the public life of editor, critic and lecturer with the intensely private world of the poet, having published her poems in anthologies, journals, chapbooks and collections of her work. Her remarkable contribution to education here at Ryerson is balanced by her constructive and vital role in Canadian literary and critical endeavour. She is a truly deserving recipient of the Sarwan Sahota Distinguished Faculty Award, not just for her impressive faculty role but also for the more inclusive and well earned title of Woman of Letters.

After the presentation of the awards, R. Mendelson again thanked Sarwan Sahota for his foresight in creating this award.

C. Lajeunesse informed the Council that there were two seminar presentations upcoming: Karen Mulhallen would present on October 29 at 4:00 p.m. in Room T441, and Steven Liss would present on November 26 at 4:00 p.m. in Room T441.

At this time D. Steele indicated that the meeting would return to the President's Report.

The President indicated that in Academic Council and faculty and staff affairs and administration there had been changes that have been consistent with the

vision statement. The changes have realigned faculty development to enhance our mission statement, and to provide a quality learning environment.

Congratulations are extended to Drs. Grayson, Dewson and Mock for their extended responsibilities.

The title for the Vice President Faculty Affairs will be renamed as of January 1, 2000. There will be consultation with M. Doucet from the RFA to select a title that will represent the importance of this critical role.

The second announcement is the appointment of Jack Radford as Executive Director of University Advancement who will be involved in a number of projects. The President highlighted the past experiences of Mr. Radford including the senior positions he has held in the areas of finance, marketing, human resources and strategic planning. The President introduced Jack Radford to Council.

Mr. Radford noted he was pleased to be here and looks forward to working at Ryerson.

The President continued his comments by noting that many committees have been active in the last few months, including the Nominating Committee, and the Academic Standards Committee. PPAC will be meeting this Thursday.

There are many demands at Ryerson including those for appropriate infrastructure, adequate labs, classes, adequate offices for faculty, and support in Human Resources. These demands are enormous as the university strives to realize its potential.

The President indicated that for example there is \$25 million dollars in deferred maintenance to be undertaken. This figure does not include money for adequate labs or space. Therefore, planning and PPAC's advice will be very important. Student needs, in terms of quality and relevance, should be addressed.

The President reported that the community barbecue was a success. Five thousand hot dogs were served. Since it appears that everyone had so much fun the university will repeat this event again next year.

More activities will take place in the next few weeks: on Saturday October 17 there will be a Pow Wow; and, October 24 is Homecoming and Open House weekend, which provides a unique opportunity to showcase what Ryerson can do (by attracting students, faculty, and staff, and encouraging support from government and industry).

On Friday October 9 there will be the United Way Breakfast. There are five locations serving breakfast, and all receipts will be going to the United Way. This campaign will be donating funds to address issues such as homelessness, families in transition, violence in families, and immigrants in need of assistance. The President is part of the United Way cabinet and Chair of the campaign for Toronto universities. Lorna Marsden of York University has challenged Ryerson and thus the President encourages everyone to attend. The President's wife Nicole will also be serving breakfast.

The President indicated the university is proceeding with the implementation

of the IT challenge to provide student and faculty with facilities. He asked Dr. Mock to address the issue.

Dr. Mock indicated that a committee was struck last year - the IT Strategic Development Committee - which was chaired by D. Mason and which met with many departments. After a period of eight months the committee developed a strategic investment plan to be implemented over a three year time frame. The cost for the plan is between \$4 - \$6 million dollars with over \$2 million dollars being invested during 1998-'99. This money is being invested in areas such as: presentation technology, where a series of classrooms have been updated to state of the art; replacement of computers in labs; development of "high end" labs, and: the Rogers Communication Centre. A sub-committee is being struck to look at the expansion of the use of laptops. A pilot project has been funded involving the use of 400 wireless laptops. In addition, D. Mock stated that because of a huge increase in demand for Internet access, the capacity of the trunk line out of Ryerson will be doubled.

The President invited Dr. Mock to discuss the ATOP program which will inject \$150 million dollars into Ontario universities.

D. Mock stated that the government ATOP program targets certain academic areas, including for example, Electrical & Computer Engineering and Applied Computer Science. Electrical & Computer Engineering increased its enrolment by 20% this Fall and a plan is being developed to double Applied Computer Science enrolment by 2003. D. Mock expressed his thanks to D. Northwood, G. Logel and K. Alnwick who met the target increases that were necessary for this program. This program increases the formula funding from the government. It is the first time in a decade that almost full funding is provided for increased enrolment in certain programs.

The President referred Council to the September 3, 1998 letter written to David Smith, copies of which were handed out prior to the commencement of the meeting tonight.

The President reminded Council that the deadline for submission of candidates for honorary doctorates was quickly approaching - October 19, 1998.

D. Steele resumed chairing the meeting and continued with the "Good of the University" portion of the agenda.

3.2 of the agenda has been postponed due to travel difficulties.

3.3. Admissions Presentation - K. Alnwick, G. Logel, M. Booth

In relation to section 3.3 of the agenda D. Steele invited K. Alnwick, M. Booth and G. Logel to speak.

K. Alnwick began the presentation by noting that Ryerson operates with approximately forty distinct admission targets, whereas other universities may have 5 to 10. The margin of error for targets at other universities is 10 to 15 percent, whereas the margin at Ryerson is one or two students. K. Alnwick congratulated G. Logel and his admissions team on their excellent work.

G. Logel began his presentation by noting the past year had been very successful in terms of enrolled students. The result had been a community

effort. There were 26,398 applications to Ryerson which represented an increase of 8.3%. Over last year Ryerson was among the top three major universities in terms of increase in first choices, with an 11% increase. He noted that many universities had experienced a decline.

In 30 out of 38 programs there had been an increase in applications, with only eight having experienced a decrease. There had been a target of 3,800 to 3,900 first year admissions, with this target having been exceeded by 50. Last year the target was exceeded by 28. There had been a slight decline from overseas students with 87 new international students this year which represented 2.2% of the total enrolment. G. Logel noted that for separate programs such as Aerospace and Graphic Arts there had been a significant increase in the applicant pool. Only Environmental Health, Engineering, Civil and Urban Planning experienced declines.

G. Logel informed Council that most universities' applicant pools come from Ontario high school applicants (90%). At Ryerson, 55.5% of the applicant pool is from the high school population, with 36.5% being non Ontario high school applicants, ie. university or college transfers, mature students, and out of province transfers. In addition our internal Ryerson transfers and Continuing Education students make up approximately 8% of the intake. G. Logel informed the Council there were 37 first year programs with 25 different admission criteria. Admission targets were set from a low of 31 in Theatre and dance to a high of 560 in the Business program. The difficulty is in forecasting, and G. Logel gave the example of having issued 8,900 offers of admission for 3,900 spaces last year. In 21 out of 37 programs they do not use grades as the sole basis for admission, as they include factors such as interviews, and portfolios etc.

Ryerson also has a part-time degree stream, with four of the programs having targets. There were 1,500 new applicants, of which 450 were admitted. In terms of academic qualifications, in 1994, 450 students had an average of 80% or higher, whereas in 1998, 763 students had 80% and above averages. Between 1994 and 1998 there was an increase from 20 to 59 students who had 90% and above averages. G. Logel forecasted that considering the new scholarships that were being issued that there would only be an increase in this trend.

M. Booth began her presentation by noting that C.E. enrolments had previously been dropping over the period of the last four years. The university embarked on a strategic planning process and consulted broadly in order to reverse this trend. This decline, M. Booth noted, was happening across the country. Continuing Education Division embarked on an impressive marketing campaign to make their programs more known to Toronto students. As a result, enrolment has increased by 10% to approximately 10,037 students. Since the majority of the students use transit, they use marketing ads targeted in that area. They also developed a new brochure, with three hundred and twenty thousand inserted in the Toronto Star for distribution. Ryerson also embarked on several information nights, where over 500 students were registered each night.

M. Booth noted that the Continuing Education Division would be undertaking an evaluation to determine how successful the marketing had been and whether it was the marketing that resulted in the increase. Two thousand students have been surveyed to determine whether the ads affected their decisions to come to Ryerson. M. Booth concluded that the Continuing Education Division was presently healthy and strong.

D. Steele then opened up the floor for the open session part of "The Good of

the University".

D. Mason brought forward a concern regarding academic consistency and the use of medical certificates. D. Mason noted that on the usual doctor's note there would be no indication of the details which might assist a professor or Chair in providing appropriate remedies for medical difficulties. D. Mason presented a form which was presently used at the University of Toronto which lists a number of areas that the doctor was requested to fill in. He indicated the university should review this document, but presently he was unsure of where to forward it.

D. Mock, responded by indicating he did not believe that there was any one committee that could consider this, and therefore he would like to have the Secretary of Academic Council accept the document, and working with the Registrar, K. Alwick, and D. Mason amongst others, to then bring back the document to the next meeting of Academic Council.

D. Northwood commented that he had seen this certificate and that he supported its use which he thought would result in students being treated more fairly.

C. Balzan indicated that a student should be represented on any such committee that would review the document as there are privacy issues to be considered.

M. Finn commented that he had recently seen an advertisement for employment which did not mention an appeal to minority groups such as women and persons of colour. He noted that there was only a reference to Employment Equity.

D. Mock responded that the ad should have contained a standard paragraph on Ryerson's equity position and he would address M. Finn's inquiry.

L. Grayson asked to see a copy of the ad, in addition to which, C. Lajeunesse noted that the policy had not changed and the university recruits from all four minority groups.

M. Dewson also commented that there had been approved guidelines for new equity plans, which included all the four groups. The administration indicated it would follow up to review the situation involving the advertisement.

4. Minutes of the May 5, 1998 Meeting

It was moved by J. Pearce and seconded by L. Grayson

that the minutes be adopted as circulated.

The motion was CARRIED.

Minutes of the May 19, 1998 Meeting

It was moved by D. Northwood and seconded E. Aspevig

that the minutes be adopted as circulated.

The motion was CARRIED.

5. Business arising out of the minutes

There was no business arising out of the minutes that would not be handled by the remaining agenda items.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence received for Academic Council.

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

Introduction to Midwifery (MWF 012) as a Graded Course - for information.

D. Mock informed Council that Midwifery had undertaken to change grading procedure in a course from non graded to graded. In doing so this would bring the course into alignment with similar courses at McMaster and Laurentian.

8. Reports of Committees

A. Report #135 of the Academic Standards Committee

This was presented by D. Mock, Chair of the Standards Committee.

1. Proposal for Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting/Dance).

D. Mock reviewed the proposal, noting that the three year diploma program was proposed to be phased out with the introduction of the four year degree. D. Mock also noted that there had been an external peer review team which had been unanimous in their endorsement of this proposal. Proposed curriculum was appended, with a complete proposal available in the office of the Secretary of Academic Council, and in the office of the Vice President, Academic.

The following motion was moved by D. Mock and seconded by D. Mason

that Academic Council affirm the academic quality of the proposed Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting/Dance).

M. Finn enquired regarding the comment of the team of external peer reviewers and their concern for certain aspects of the content of the proposal.

I. MacGregor-Bannerman replied, on behalf of the team that had prepared the proposal that they have included on page 11 of the original proposal documents the explanation that an integrated curriculum would blend theory and practice. She also indicated that the audience response to a practical event, was also a response to the implicit integration of theory and practice.

L. Harrison enquired whether there would be an opportunity for students in the diploma program to complete the degree. D. Mock replied that something would be worked out for those students, although this was not a "three plus one" situation. The Registrar was in consultation with the department to make suitable arrangements. K. Alwrick commented that he wished to express his enthusiasm for the program and that he was sure that the university would continue to attract the very best in Canada.

The motion was CARRIED.

I. Levine requested to make a comment to Council. He indicated that it was

wonderful to have a Bachelor of Fine Arts in his faculty and he wished to thank his colleagues N. Potts, I. MacGregor-Bannerman, S. Black and Don MacQuarrie. He also thanked all the faculty for their work for this historical moment. I. Levine also thanked all the acting and dance students who had come out to the meeting of Academic Council. I. Levine thanked Academic Standards Committee for their thorough review in making the proposal that much stronger.

C. Lajeunesse noted the importance of this proposal, and asked R. Haines, Theatre student to comment. R. Haines stated that with the degree he would have the opportunity to work more closely with other departments which he felt was particularly important in light of today's industry. He also noted that the production of "HAIR" would take place on October 16.

2. Proposal for Minor in Marketing

It was moved by D. Mock and seconded by M. Bardecki

that Academic Council approve the minor in Marketing.

M. Finn questioned whether the committee looking at minors would also be looking at departments that were offering minors to various students. D. Mock replied that in the School of Business there were various streams, some of which had compulsory courses, and some of which were professionally-related courses, and which needed to be reviewed. He asked that M. Finn bring any issues he might have to either the Vice Chair of Academic Standards Committee, R. Goldsmith, or D. Mock, Chair of the Academic Standards Committee.

I. Flores, enquired what the factors would be that one would consider in order to be eligible to take the minor.

D. Mock responded that minors are initiated by the programs, who devise them as part of elective packages. If a school approves an appropriate set of courses and gain Academic Council approval, a minor is granted. The minors are listed in the calendar by program.

Motion was CARRIED.

B. Report #82 of the Nominating Committee

The report was presented by E. Aspevig, Chair of the Nominating Committee. E. Aspevig noted that since the report had been written some changes have been brought to the attention of the Nominating Committee.

E. Aspevig indicated he would go through committee by committee, and would not read out the names as the names were written on the report and any changes would be highlighted by him as he came across that committee. In addition, a second report from the Nominating Committee had been issued with the revisions noted. E. Aspevig also acknowledged the work of the Secretary of Academic Council in contributing to the report.

E. Aspevig moved on behalf of the committee the following nominees:

- I. Regarding vacancies on Academic Council, it was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by M. Booth

that Academic Council approve the names listed for membership on

Academic Council.

The motion was CARRIED.

II. Awards & Ceremonials Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by M. Black

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

III. Academic Standards Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by R. Malinski

that the nominees for the committee be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

IV. Admissions Committee

E. Aspevig noted there were no nominees at this time.

V. Appeals Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by M. Richard

that the nominees for the Appeals Committee be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

VI. Committee on Information Technology

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by D. Mason

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

VII. Ethics Review Board

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by J. Sandys

that the nominees for the committee be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

VIII. Instructor Course Evaluation Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by J. Trubic

that nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

VIII. Intellectual Property Committee

E. Aspevig noted that there were no nominees at this time.

IX. Learning & Teaching Committee

E. Aspevig noted that Z. Murphy would be replaced by D. Kinder under the "Continuing" section of the report. In addition, the vacancy noted for one faculty member in C.E. should have stated one faculty member in C.S.

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by J. Sandys

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

X. Nominating Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by D. Mason

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

XI. Planning & Priorities Advisory Committee

E. Aspevig noted that D. Steele and N. Zaver should have been listed as nominees.

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by J. Silmberg

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

XII. Procedures Committee

It was moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by W. Cukier

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

XIII. Standing Committee on Open College

E. Aspevig noted that J. Hicks had been replaced by D. Glynn as Continuing membership. In addition, P. Jensen should have been listed as faculty member, School of Nutrition rather than Director of NCFS.

XIV. Standing Committee on Scholarly Research and Creative Activity (SRC)

Moved by E. Aspevig and seconded by K. Alnwick

that the nominees be approved as indicated.

The motion was CARRIED.

XV. Student Discipline Committee

E. Aspevig indicated that there were no nominees at this time.

8. New Business

C. Lajeunesse enquired of Council if there was any new business to be brought forward at this time. No new business was indicated.

9. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.