



Ryerson Students' Union

Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 20 2016 – Tecumseh Auditorium, SCC 115, 55 Gould St, 6PM

Executive Committee

Obaid Ullah	President
Victoria Morton	Vice-President Education
Tamara Jones	Vice-President Equity
Neal Muthreja	Vice-President Operations
Harman Singh	Vice-President Student Life and Events

Faculty of Arts Directors

Daniel Lis	Angelo Robb
Marzia Riaz	

Faculty Communication and Design Directors

Katii Capern	Kelly Kitagawa
William Fraser	Eleanor Kuan

Faculty of Community Services Directors

Absiola Asha	Chrys Saget-Richard
Michael Friedman	Anna Stevenson
Dahab Ibrahim	

Faculty of Engineering, Architecture Directors

Michael Foppiano	Naveed Khan
Ruken Dilsah Izol	Monica Kwong

Faculty of Ted Rogers School of Management Directors

Sandra Bahoua	Nasrudin Mumin
Anthony Esguerra	Michelle Park
Nav Marwah	

Faculty of Science Director

Robinder Jangi	Maryam Golbazi
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Course Unions Director

Betty Wang

First Year Representative

TBD

Graduate Representatives

Bhutila Karpoche

Isuru Weekasekera

Board of Governors Representative

Maryam Nouser

International Student Representative

Ali Yousaf

Residence Representative

Lauren Emberson

Senate Representative

Amar Latchman

Student Group Director

Yuli Jadov



Ryerson Students' Union

Ryerson Students' Union

Natasha Campagna
Casey Chu Cheong
Abe Snobar

General Manager
Internal Coordinator
Chairperson

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Michael Friedman
Sandra Bahoua
Bhutila Karpouche
Amar Latchman
William Fraser
Marzia Riaz
Naveed Khan
Chrys Saget-Richards
Abisola Asha
Lauren Emberson
Victoria Morton

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER and Attendance 6:19am

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A. MOTION 2016-07-20 A01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

Moved: Ullah

Seconded: Daniel Lis

Result:

Angelo wants to amend the agenda to add the Vice President of Student Life to be ratified, right before 5

Any other amendments? No

Obaid talks about the ratifying of the of the VP Student Life for Grad committee and wants it to be moved to the August meeting.

Michael Foppiano asks Obaid to clarify, as he couldn't hear what he says

Obaid explains again

Binish talks about her appointment. She met with Carolyn. Dated June 24th, e-mail from Obaid (she reads the email out). She then goes on to talk about why this should not be delayed.

Abe talks

6.2 of the by-laws.

Dahab- is it accurate did obaid send out that e-mail?

Obaid speaks and said that the individual said she was not interested anymore. The reason why he asked to delay that was because he needed to give 5 business days to the board.

Rule this out of order and bring to the next board meeting.

I didn't see any further amendments, all those in favour.

Motion carries.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION 2016-07-20 A02

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes from the June 15 2016 Board meeting be accepted as presented in Appendix A

Moved: Kati Capern Seconded: Nav Marwah Result: passes

Abe gives the board a few minutes to look over the agenda.
Are there any amendments to the minutes?

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. MOTION 2016-07-20 C01 - WELLNESS CENTER

WHEREAS Mental Health stigma is a significant barrier to a healthy campus;

WHEREAS There is a great need for more mental health services on campus, and a lack of resources from the university to provide them;

WHEREAS the current services offered by the University are not utilized to their fullest due to the lack of promotion and organization;

WHEREAS similar centres are present on campus for physical health;

WHEREAS there is no service currently available through the University supporting students' spiritual well- being;

WHEREAS the university shows no sign of implementing spiritual based services in the near future;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ryerson Students' Union creates a new service called the Wellness Centre to be functional by September 1st, 2016, to spread awareness surrounding spiritual, and mental well-being;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the RSU will follow the structure as outlined in Appendix B

(Amended)

Moved: Ullah Seconded: Neal Muthreja Result: PASSES

Obaid presents. (Attach presentation)

What has been happening over the last year, something I have been witnessing over the past year. 2 things that were really focused that students were talking about was transportation and mental health and ideas to help campus life. What I

have here today is a proposal for you. Talk a little bit more about mental health. One of the most highly advocated issues of students. Anything physical we are comfortable going to a doctor. But mental health we are not comfortable and we treat it is at an abnormality. Overall it is important to tell students to talk about mental health. There is a fact sheet that I passes around from around the province about students our age. What I believe needs to happen is remove this stigma, improvement in spiritual , more accessible, prospective changes on the topic itself. Councillors office have a 6 weeks wait period, talked about other current issues. Obaid asked the university how the system works and noticed that there is a communication gap because there is no space on campus that acts a resource, everything is all over the place. A few students approached us with a need for more spiritual services on campus- a chaplin. Andrea the previous president did a lot of work trying to get this project off the ground. More awareness on campaigns. We need something to change on this campus. The university policies cannot faith groups but they would be okay if the RSU would take something like this on for us to unite them and give them a platform. There is a problem that students are not comfortable talking about it and then there is spiritual health. It will curate its own programming- (refer to slide- How will this happen (title))

This is the structure I would like to propose to the board today. (Shows the structure on the powerpoint)

Uof T already has something similar in place. The appropriate people will be on this committee. This will overall help the student body. To talk a little more about the committees and their roles. If I have a problem and I want to go to the doctors. What a chaplin does is help them with their spiritual journey- hilil, catholic and muslim students, they just want recognition on campus. Inform that this is a service that they provide. They are working to fundraise for this right now. Chaplin would have to be approved by the students themselves and that specific groups. They meet together once a month and talk about new ideas and current issues, areas of collaboration and celebrates their community. The mental health committee, councillors, students. Meetings will be chaired by the staff. Review of programming, work towards statistics. There is nowhere on campus that does this right now. And we know that when students take things on it becomes as success. Meetings can be booked online.

We are not funding any of these, we are giving them a forum to communicate. For the groups that cant afford chaplins, we will connect them to different communities.

This has never been done on campus and I think will benefit our university. Uof T is working on it, Guelph. We as Ryerson, we being a diverse university. We don't have anything. Today we want to just talk about the structure.

Programming will be comprised of internal and external sessions. Hosting weekly sessions on stress management.

There is an important factor here for professors to work with students.

The main focus is become a hub to be able to navigate, and the 5 fingers will act as the resources. More chances of relatability. Potentially we will have peer support. Tri-mentoring program, we can have students set up for this. (Refer to Campaign points slide)

Space- Where are we going to locate this service? Our first choice would be where the Used Book Room was located. (Refer to Space slide for details)

Funding- \$40,000 (refer to slide)

Yuli- Thank you that was awesome, I want to make a comment and ask a question. There is a legal innovation zone and they recently had a project that brought in 50 stakeholders in family law area- lawyers, social workers, etc. Most of those issues being health related. If we get this there is a lot of support in our community. Question- opportunity costs- if the money is not coming out of the health and dental reserve. Where does the money go?

Obaid: The way the health and dental plan works. There a charge from the health and dental but essentially we did a referendum, in the past 5 to 10 years it was not managed properly. Because the plan is not we give x amount of money. Depends on the use of the plan. Some years we have more or less used. We have been finding that we have been spending less. This can only go towards anything health or dental. Needs to be something health related.

Nav: Think it's a great idea. I know there is a lot of students have been complaining about this issue. I see that you have consulted with chaplins. Have you done any focus groups who have dealt with mental health issues? So this will be something we can do to focus better

Obaid: I think this will be step 2. This structure can be amended. I want there to be a lot of growth in this structure because having 2 pillars is not enough. I am hoping that is the next step and use that to structure our programming.

Nav: You said the space would be UBR. Has there been any other thoughts of what that space can be used for? Has there been any discussion on what else the space could be used for?

Oabid: Personally I have not heard anything. Most appropriate thing we can be doing with.

Michael: How long can you run on this reserve?

Obaid: for sure half a million to a million. More than safe enough to run this for 2 years. This is a pilot project.

Michael: You have this service

Obaid:

Kati- Great presentation. How has the conversation gone with other faculties. Are you in conversation with the faculties.

Obaid- we have had meetings with Miri and John Austin. How this would look like from the university's perspective. Clear communication of what FCAD is doing and we just want to support those initiatives.

Kati: Miri is sitting on a committee, have you been to those meetings?

Obaid: I have heard about those but we haven't been invited. But for sure a good thing.

Kati: you mentioned that only groups that can afford chaplains will have them. The other ones will be directed to resources does that mean external?

Obaid: With their approval.

Kati: Multi faith chaplain?

Obaid: Room for growth.

Tamara: I want to add a little more on the health and wellness side. Turn to the back of this sheet. Intersectional- taking into account systemic things. Fluid- unforeseen challenges, promoting regular self care. Keep mental health at their top of their mind. The counselling services are not accessible to them. Councillors are not trained to work with queer and trans folks. What I am trying to make sure is that they have queer and trans councillors. I will include the result of that meeting in my Exec report. What we are planning on doing, but we also want to make sure that we are pulling people from the other side of the university and student representatives. Help come up with programming on a regular basis. So that is how we are trying to structure the mental. We should approve the structure.

Kelly: Will there be a rep from every faculty?

Obaid: Approve the structure and sit down with some advisors. There is no clear for the mental health reps.

Angelo: Is the mental health committee going to be open to all students?

Obaid I imagined being a closed committee.

Angelo: Catholic, Jewish, Muslim will only have chaplins?

Obaid: Once we have this approved we will have consultations.

Angelo: So you don't want to fund the chaplin?

Obaid: we don't have that funding.

Angelo: So what is the hiring process of this staff member?

Obaid: It is under my portfolio to hire this person

Angelo: Have you done any surveys?

Obaid: No we have not

Angelo: any type of complaint process?

Obaid: Yes I hope so

Angelo: So why the used book room coordinator let go?

Abe: This is not related to this topic

Angelo: How do I add it?

Abe: It needs to be a point on the agenda and added at the beginning of the meeting or in advance. Focus the topics of discussion to what is at hand.

Dahab: I wanted to get an explanation is bottom up?

Obaid: weare focusing on students, those are going to be the decision factors

Betty: Question

Obid- for sure something to keep in mind, we will have that provided.

Nav: If we stick with using the used book room. \$40k

Obaid: Yes it would all be included in that

Kati: Community consultation with the space?

Obaid: No

Tamara: Angelo can you repeat. We still have the mental health task force. We would try to make it as, bottom up. Pull everyone who is doing great things. Make sure that we can come up with programming. Student reps. Anyone will be able to sit on there. Betty when you talked about the intersectionality of it. The way I thought of intersectional that people come from different backgrounds, gender, ethnicity, race, etc. Directing people to different types of therapy. Offering a lot of different alternatives.

Angelo: We got rid of the whole space, to create a space for this one staff member to direct people to resources?

Obaid: No, I will go over what has been said....

It may not take up the full space, it is a possible location once the structure is approved.

Angelo: I am talking about the practically of this space? What about the committees

Obaid: It's the fact that we want students to know. This is the 3rd step process. What the space will look like. What is the functionality?

Angelo: Once we approve this structure, is it up to the president to decide everything else?

Obaid: No

Abe speaks

Yuli:

Obaid answers Yuli's question

Dahab: I think everything is being separated step by step. Does the board get approval of each step?

Obaid: Essentially it will be by myself and Tamara

Angelo: Can I amend the motion? To read: **Be it further resolved that the RSU provide the board with monthly updates on programming and Be it further resolved that committee selections ratifications be approved by the board**

Obaid: I am against this motion because this is restructuring. We would have to wait for a board meeting.

Tamara: I am neutral. I think it would be good to have the board approve the committee selections. I am not so sure about having to bringing all programming to the board because it will take up a lot of time. And it will probably end up having a lot less time.

Yuli: may we amend the amendment?

Nav: I am against the motion it will be very inefficient

Dahab: more to what Tamara was saying. Alterations. I think that if we have these check ins so that we can make our input. We are not voting on anything because it will ultimately be changed because the committees can have it changed

Abe speak about policy

Dahab: but if it's a bottom up structure?

Obaid: In regards to programming and structure.

I agree there should be a regular progress report.

Kati: Point of Information

Abe speaks

Yuli: If we ratify this today, what would the committees have done by then?

Abe: Not an immediate point of information

Yuli speaks

Abe: If they didn't do anything within the month, then they come back and said they didn't do anything

Oabid: Yes because it needs to be up and running in a month

Dahab: So you want us to vote on the actual operation?

Angelo: Its not about restructuring you,

Kati: Should we be behind... amendment to the amendment. Have the board approve t nevermind do not want to make an amendment. Obaid can do things, but he can keep us in the loop.

Obaid- asks for clarification on this motion.

Angelo: Do you think Sept. 1st is viable?

Obaid: Yes I think it is

5. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE – APPENDIX C

MOTION 2016-07-20 C02

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the reports of the Executive Committee be accepted as presented in Appendix C.

Moved: Yuli Seconded: Kati Result: PASSES

Obaid says his update

Angelo: Who is the Finance coordinator?

Obaid: Frances

Tamara says her update

Yuli: Stuff should be with Galivan, what is that?

Tamara: Health and Dental Broker , trying to work with

Angelo: you are getting pillow are you getting blankets too?

What about the mental health awards?

The money was taken from the H & d reserve

Neal days his update

Harman gives updates

Dahab asks about give away of 6 fest tickets to student groups?

Harman- yes of course

Obaid gives Victoria's update

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

A) First Year Orientation

Obaid talks on this

7. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION 2016-07-20 A03

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Meeting of the Board be adjourned.

Moved: Michelle Seconded: Kati Result: passes