

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) – Local 24 Canadian Federation of Students

SCC 311 55 Gould St, Toronto, ON, M5B 1E9

Wednesday July 18 2018

6pm-8pm Thomas Lounge

MINUTES

Executive Committee

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Ram Ganesh | President |
| 2. Salman Faruqi | Vice-President Education |
| 3. Karolina Surowiec | Vice-President Equity |
| 4. Savreen Gosal | Vice-President Operations |
| 5. Edmund Sofo | Vice-President Student Life and Events |

Faculty of Arts

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 6. Nicholas Chiong | 8. Shehroz Shabbir NP |
| 7. Sarah Mohamed | 9. Vacant |

Faculty of Ted Rogers School of Management

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 10. Kruti Dave | 13. Ali Mulji |
| 11. Niall Hickey | 14. Simi Olatunji |
| 12. Nayrouz Mohamed Aly NP | 15. Ravneet Sohi |

Faculty Communication and Design Directors

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 16. Jennifer Adler | 19. Leah Renaud |
| 17. Hirra Farooqi | 20. Imbar Slavat |
| 18. Tamar Lyons NP | |

Faculty of Community Services Directors

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 21. Chelsea Davenport | 24. Ram Ragupathy |
| 22. Shivangi Gaur | 25. Khadija Raza |
| 23. Cristal Hines | |

Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science Directors

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 26. Karol Bahnan | 28. Alessandro Cunsolo |
| 27. Iyvan Chandran | 29. Daniyal Patricio AB |

Faculty of Science

30. Evan Almeida

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31. Maria Vu

Yeates School of Graduate Studies

32. Ahabishek Patel AB

33. Manikandan Marugappan/Amber Grant NP

International Representative

34. Divyansh Chandel

Other Representatives

35. Obaid Ullah Board of Governors Representative

36. Hamza Shahid Course Unions Director

37. Vacant First Year Representative

38. Vacant Residence Representative

39. Fahim Khan Senate Representative NP

40. Maklane Dewever Student Groups Director

Ryerson Students' Union Staff

Dharshini Jay Financial Controller

Casey Chu Cheong Internal Coordinator

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Tamar Lyons

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AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

2. REMARKS OF THE CHAIRPERSON - Ram Ganesh

- a. Ram introduces the new HR Coordinator Manny Brar

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- a. MOTION 2018-07-18 A01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the July 18, 2018 agenda be approved as presented.

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded: Kruti

Result:

Carries as Amended

Amendment to the Agenda

6d. MOTION - Bylaw Amendment - Proxy Vote

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded: Savreen Gosal

Result: Carries

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. MOTION 2018-07-18 A02 - Appendix A

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [June 20, 2018 minutes](#) be approved as presented in Appendix A.

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded: Kruti

Result: Carries

5. PREVIOUS BUSINESS

- a. New Student Group Ratification

- MOTION 2018-06-20 C01- Sufi Students Association



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WHEREAS the Student Groups committee has met and reviewed the application of students seeking status to establish new RSU student groups, and

WHEREAS Student Groups committee has found that all matters and requirements were in order and the groups were thereby recommended by the Committee for adoption by the board, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the student group “Sufi Students Association” be ratified as an RSU group with full rights as defined by the Student Groups Policy.

Moved: Edmund Sofo

Seconded: Shivangi

Results: Carries

Sufi Students Association presents to the Board.

b. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON STUDENT LIFE MOTION 2018-06-18 G01

WHEREAS the position of Deputy Chairperson Student Life is vacant; and
WHEREAS this position can be appointed as an Interim position until the Fall 2018 By-election, as per the RSU Bylaws; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Angelique Bernabe be appointed as the interim Deputy Chairperson Student Life on the Graduate Representative Committee until the Fall 2018 By Elections.

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded: Amber

Result: Fails

Discussion

Alessandro - Is Angelique here?

Maklane - Don't the grad council chose?

Ram - The Grads have recommended this person and the Board has to ratify the person.

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Amber calls in Angelique.

Angelique presents to the Board.

Angelique has been involved in Graduate activities and research through her course union at Ryerson and as a Graduate student York University.

Ali - What do you plan on achieving this year as graduate representative?

Angelique - We have already planned events and campaigns geared towards research and dissertations. We also want to increase Grad participation and offer more resources and social opportunities. We are working with the Yeates school of Graduate studies on initiative to improve programmes and resources like partnering with larger Grad Unions and Universities.

Maklane - Call to question - Carries

c. MOTION 2018-06-20 G04 - Town Hall Meetings

Operational Policy - Town Hall Meetings

Preamble:

RSU Board of Director members are in charge of managing the property and business of the union (bylaw 1.2). They are supposed to be assisted by permanent and ad-hoc committees. (bylaw 1.3). They are in charge of ensuring oversight of any contract made by the union and overall supervision of financial operation. (bylaws 2.5, 2.9, 2.11).

Due to the nature of the responsibilities of the directors outlined above it is crucial for them to keep the members who they represent (such as the students of respective faculty in case of faculty directors) on the decision being made by the board, policies adopted, the discussions that are happening at the board and committee meetings and any other relevant and useful information that can be beneficial for the members to be aware of. Hence, town hall meetings can be a great way to directly engage with the members on a regular basis as well as to receive their feedback on important issues.



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Scope:

Members of Board of Directors of RSU

Protocol:

- RSU board members from each faculty (including at large representative members such as Senate, Board of Governor Representative etc.) will set up at least one town hall meeting each semester for the students of their respective faculties (in case of at large representative directors, all members of the union instead of any one specific faculty) to keep the members updated about the decisions and policies made by the RSU. This will be a shared responsibility for faculty directors as they share the responsibility of representing the students of their faculty.
- Board members will not receive their honorarium, if they fail to comply with this motion once it is approved.
- RSU's communication team (or equivalent of that) will assist the board members in promoting these town hall meetings to ensure that there is a good turnout. At least two weeks of promotion both online and offline will be done to market these meetings.
- These town hall meetings will have free food available as that has been something that is proven to be a factor behind a good turnout at many events.
-

Moved: Fahim Khan
Meeting

Seconded:

Result: Tabled to Next

Maklane - Motion to table
Result: Carries

Seconded: Shehroz

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. POLICY AMENDMENTS - Student Groups and Course Unions Policy
MOTION 2018-07-18 G01



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WHEREAS the Student Group and Course Unions Policy is in need of updating; and

WHEREAS the Student Groups and Course Union Committee has met and approved these amendments;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following amendments be accepted as presented in Appendix B:-

Amendment #1 - [SG Probation Termination Policy](#)

Amendment #2 - [Student Group Policy](#)

Amendment #3 - [Funding Policy](#)

Amendment #4 - [Course Union Probation Termination Policy](#)

Amendment #5 - [Course Union Policy](#)

Moved: Edmund Sofu

Seconded: Savreen

Result: Carries

Dawn Murray , Campus Groups Coordinator presents the amendments to the Board of Directors.

Discussion

Ram - This is important because the Student Leadership Summit is July 28 and we would like to have the new policy in the manuals.

b. MOTION 2018-07-16 C03 - Cell Phone Charging Stations

WHEREAS smartphones are widely used by students as a mode of communication as well as to conveniently perform day to day tasks; and,

WHEREAS functional smartphones can play a crucial role in ensuring safety and security of students on campus; and,

WHEREAS secured cell phone charging stations on campus can play a vital role in ensuring accessibility as well as safety and security of the students;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT RSU takes necessary steps to bring back the secured cell phone charging stations by October 2018 at Student Campus Centre and ensures that there is necessary budget allocated to maintain them on a regular basis.



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Moved: Fahim Khan Seconded: Result: Tabled to
next meeting
Motion to Table - Carries

c. BUDGET 2018-2019 AMENDMENTS - Good Food Centre and Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line

MOTION 2018-07-18 F01

WHEREAS the Board of Directors reviewed the proposed budget for the Good Food Centre (GFC) and the Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line (SASSL); and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors recommended that the Finance Committee revisit the proposed budget;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors accept the amended budget proposal for the GFC and SASSL as presented in [Appendix C](#).

Moved: Savreen Gosal Seconded: Ram Ragupathy
Result: Carries

Discussion

Savreen - We sat with the Centres in question and reviewed the proposed budget. These are restricted funds as discussed at the last meeting. We worked with Dharshini and the staff to create the amendments and it is here to be ratified.

Niall - Why is the total staff expense double?

Savreen - A full time staff person will be hired as per the referendum.

Niall - What are the reserve funds?

Savreen - Reserve funds will be used to the following year like a savings account.

d. BYLAW AMENDMENT - PROXY VOTING AT BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

MOTION 2018-07-18 G02



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WHEREAS: Every elected and appointed member of the RSU's Board of Directors is given the right to vote at the monthly, or emergency board meetings.

WHEREAS: The members of the RSU's Board of Directors are students with busy schedules; the timings and durations of board meetings make it inaccessible to board members.

WHEREAS: The members of the RSU's Board of Directors are unable to cast their vote on contentious matters without calling in or physically being present at board meetings.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: An elected or appointed member of the RSU's Board of Directors is given the right to proxy their vote to a fellow board member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: An elected or appointed member of the RSU's Board of Directors informs the chair of the board in writing, stating their intent to proxy their vote to a fellow board member, 12 hours before the board meeting is called into order.

Moved: Ram Ganesh Seconded: Result: Carries with 4 abstentions

Maklane - The way to get votes is to have a lot of friends. I think this does not how we should conduct ourselves. This will give people the incentive to not show up to meetings. I do not think we should have people wielding more votes.

Ram - This still gives you your chance to have your vote heard in your absence. We think that the Board members will not abuse this. This increases accessibility.

Ali - As Ryerson students they are people who can't make it due to their barriers and we should give everyone their opportunity. I was voted in to represent the TRSM students and my vote is on their behalf, we are their voice, not popularity voice.



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Maklane - In regards to accessibility , we make a commitment to be here. This undermines your ability to make a decision before knowing the information.

Sheroz - I agree with both, we need to meet to make some amendments - limits to proxying there vote. This will be a good compromise.

Ram - the number of times you can proxy your vote is 3. This is for the people who cannot make the first two meetings and can still transfer their votes. It is up to the Director to give direction to the proxy on how to vote. This just gives the opportunity to the person to vote.

Alessandro - Reiterates Ram's point

Div - We have proxying in RESS. We get the agenda in advance. We know what we are voting on and we can make these decisions in advance. We have always had proxies in RESS.

Maklane - I am sure that works but we are not RESS. If you are not here you should not have a vote.

Cristal - If someone proxies 3 times they get kicked off? How does this work.

Ram - If they are absent 3 times - they can still have their vote counted but they will be kicked off the board as per the bylaws.

Alessandro - This is not making an uninformed decision, you are letting someone else vote on your behalf. If I can't make it , why shouldn't my vote be heard.

Ram - It is easier to accommodate folks if we have policies in place.

Salman - Call to question - Carries

7. REPORTS

a. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 2018-07-18 R01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Reports of the Executive Committee be accepted as presented in Appendix D.

Moved: Ram Ganesh Seconded:Savreen Result: Carries

Discussion



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Canada 150 campaign

- Ram Ganesh - The equity service staff requested a statement to be posted. Only 3 board members have responded. The Exec committee requests that the board responds before they can move forward with the campaign.

Concert

- Ram Ganesh - We have sent initial payments. We have been invited to the companies team meetings. We have 5000 tickets , we will be selling these to students at a subsidized cost. Tickets will be launched in August.
- Cristal - What is the company?
- Ram Ganesh- Live in Toronto. If anyone is interested in seeing the contract you can stop by.
- Maklane - Who are these people?
- Ram Ganesh - These people are from Live Nation - one of the Live Nation groups reached out to us to collaborate. We took the contract to an entertainment lawyer before it was signed. We are not taking any liability on the concert.
- Cristal - How are the expenses being done and tracked?
- Ram Ganesh - We are not hosting the concert , we are just reselling tickets at a discounted price.
- Cristal - Where are the records of transactions being kept?
- Ram Ganesh- Dharshini and the Finance department will be keeping track of everything.

b. REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS

MOTION 2018-07-18 R02

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Reports of the Commissioners be accepted as presented in Appendix D.

Standing Committees:-

- Athletics Committee - Not filled
- Bursary Committee - Savreen Gosal
- Course Union Committee - Ali Mulji
- Equity and Social Justice Committee - Hirra Farooqi
- Events and Entertainment Committee - Shivangi Gaur
- Finance Committee - Savreen Gosal



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- Governance Committee - Ram Ganesh
- Student Action Committee - Iyvan Chandran
- Student Group Committee - Ali Mulji
- Sustainability Committee - Kruti Dave

Ad-hoc Committees:-

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded:Savreen

Result:Passes

8. OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Orientation Presentations - Class Talks
- b. Student Leadership Summit Volunteers - July 28, 2018
- c. Board Honorarium - Criteria will be sent to Board Members with the new rubric.
- d. Canada 151
 - Cristal - What is the status
 - Karolina - we need more input from the Board of Directors. I want to hear everyone's opinion before we go forward.
 - Ram - Only 3 people have responded. If this does not go out this year, next years team will have it for next year. I will put this into place that the next team will be prepared to be released before Canada 151.
 - Div - I would like to see what everyone says
 - Amber - I do not believe they are no indigenous students on the board. Why is RSU in charge of what the equity centres says or do not say.
 - Ram - I agree, we won't forced Board members to agree to something they don't want to say. The Centres received the funding from the RSU, so the Board gets to sign off on their statements as RSU matters. The Board needs to approve.
 - Maklane - Can we have a vote on this?
 - Div - I am afraid to reply because I do not want to offend people.



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- RAM - i have received hate mail and I can see why folks do not want to respond.
- Hirra - I saw the responses. I was not able to respond. I think we should send out another email with a deadline to respond so we can move forward with this.
- Cristal - I agree with Amber - ESC represent marginalised students like indigenous students. The University has created a plaque. We have land acknowledgements. Our personal opinions does not count. We have to recognised these groups and the ESC who do the work for these groups.
- Ram - I agree with what you are saying, this statement should go out. I am not going to break the rules. Everyone here has to approve the statement. They
- Cristal - You can make any post you want. You were elected by indigenous student. Students pay for us to do our jobs. As leaders we cannot be silent because I have a personal opinion. We work for these students. We have a mandate to represent indigenous. Indigenous students are the ones who brought this forward. Other student organisation have recognised the issues and been successful.
- Maklane - We need a chairperson for future meetings.
- Amber - I do not understand why the ESC cannot put forward statements. Any other union structure, they aren't limited because of who is funding them. THEY have mandates.
- Karolina - I just want to clarify. They ESC are the RSU. They are not a separate organisation, that's why we have to make these decisions.
- Niall - If they are a part of the RSU , we should have a vote on the canada 151.
- Cristal - Past precedent has always been that the ESC an make these statements on behalf of the students they represent. There should be a discussion around the statement but we cannot dictate how these groups operate.



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- Khadija - For the next president, regarding 152. This email was not clear, we did not know we had to reply with our opinion on this matter. THAT way folks can respond timely.
- Hamza - Can we discuss it as a motion.
- Ram - we can add this motion to the next meeting
- Hirra - We are not Indigenous and this statement is being led by indigenous people and put yourself in their place.
- Just to clarify are we going to respond to the email
- Ram - this biggest issue is the board not discussing the issue. The committees can make statement.
- Salman - If the wording is the issue, then that can be amended.
- Ram - the Equity and Social Justice Committee can make a statement as the committee, not the whole board.
- Edmund - the next issue is why doesn't the RSU want to make the statement as a whole.
- Salman - The Board can vote on if they wish to release this statement.
- Ram - Can the Equity and Social Justice Committee take this on.
- Hirra - The Committee will take this one and the board should reach out to me.
- Maklane - I am not an indigenous student, I cannot police the content and I will not silence these students. We need to be mindful of this. I think this year the statement was well done.
- Internal Coordinator asks for order.
- Ram - The Equity and Social Justice committee will meet with the community to finalise the statement and will present to the Board.

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e. Proxy Vote

- Cristal - Just to clarify , Bylaw 9.25 means that it has to go the AGM first?
- Ram - I interpret it as the Board can change the bylaws without going to the General Meeting. The membership can see if it works and then they can vote it in.

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- Cristal - That is not what the bylaws says.
- Ram - I think it does. This is how I interpret it.
- Cristal - But that is not what the bylaws says.
- Ram - I think it does.
- Cristal - The bylaws are very clear. The process is very clear. This must be sent to the SAGM.
- Salman - We aren't amending the bylaws. We are just amending the policy.
- Ram - We can discuss this after.
- Cristal - This was called a bylaw amendment. It is in the minutes as a bylaw amendment. We have to follow the Bylaws.
- Ram - We are going to send this to the membership but we are going to start following this now. We can discuss this later.
- Cristal - This is irresponsible. We have to follow the bylaws. We cannot decide to not follow them.
- Ram - Past precedent was set that we can do this. There are other bylaw changes that have not been passed by General Meeting that we use.
- Cristal - That is not true. Staff have confirmed that there are many bylaw changes that are not in effect because they have not been approved at the AGM as yet.
- Ram - Proxy voting is going to start now, it's been voted on already.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 2018-07-18 A03

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the July 18, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting of the Ryerson Students' Union be adjourned.

Moved: Ram Ganesh

Seconded: Niall

Result: Carries