

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

Friday, July 17th, 2020

Executive Committee

1. Ali Yousaf President
2. Siddhant Satish Vice-President Education
3. Vaishali Vinayak Vice-President Equity
4. Liora Dubinsky Vice-President Operations
5. Usama Sheikh Vice-President Student Life and events

Faculty of Arts

6. Alexandra Nash
7. Gabriele Douglas
8. Anika Zaman

Faculty of Ted Rogers School of Management

9. Akif Anwar
10. Hilla Yaniv
11. Homra Ghaznavi
12. Abaan Ahmed
13. Preet Patel

Faculty Communication and Design Directors

14. Aidan Falkenberg
15. Ashan Mahendran
16. Ton Cassie

Faculty of Community Services Directors

17. Steph Rychlo
18. Sabrina Ahmed
19. Dusty Luck

Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science Directors

20. Zain Choudhry
21. Umar Abdullah
22. Salar Syed

Faculty of Science

23. Elwad Gedleh

24. Mishel Galperin

International Representative

25. Amr Shaikh

Other Representatives

26. Board of Governors Representative - Ivyan Chandran (absent)

27. Course Unions Director

28. Vacant First Year Representative

29. Vacant Residence Representative

30. Senate Representative

31. Student Groups Director

Ryerson Students' Union Staff

32. Priya Paul Financial Controller

33. Reanna Maharaj Executive Director

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

AGENDA

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Toronto is in the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory'. The Dish With One Spoon is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

2. PRESIDENT WELCOME REMARKS - ALI YOUSAF

Ali: Welcome to the 3rd meeting. My pronouns are he/him. I hope we can have a productive meeting. We want to pass the budget now and not in August because there are a lot of students hurting. I hope to get it approved today so we can disperse funds for grants. Students are looking for financial support during these times and it is very difficult. We must be there for students because this is why we exists. I sincerely hope that we can roll up our sleeves and pass this budget today, to help students during these difficult times.

3. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

- a. **MOTION 2020-07-17 A01:** Appointment of the chairperson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Shoaib Ahmed be appointed as Chairperson for the Ryerson Students' Union Board of Director Meeting for July 2020

Moved: Ali Yousaf Seconded: Alex Result: PASSED

4. REMARKS OF THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson will provide a brief introduction to how the meeting will be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order.

Chair: Pronouns he/him. Thank you for allowing me to be your chair for the 3rd time. We will follow Roberts Rules of Order. I'm here to help as you see fit.

5. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY

- a. **MOTION 2020-07-17 A02:** Appointment of the Interim Recording Secretary

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Reanna Maharaj, be appointed as the Interim Recording Secretary for the RSU Board of Directors meeting.

Moved: Ali Yousaf Seconded: Hilla Result: PASSED

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- a. **MOTION 2020-07-17 A03:** Approval of the agenda

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the July 17th, 2020 agenda be approved as presented.

Moved: Ali Yousaf

Seconded: Siddhanth

Result: PASSED

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. **MOTION 2020-07-17 A04** - Appendix A

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the June 30th, 2020 minutes be approved as presented in Appendix A.

Moved: Ali Yousaf

Seconded: Siddhanth

Result: PASSED

8. RATIFICATION

- a. **MOTION 2020-07-17** Ratification of the graduate representatives.

WHEREAS the RSU has graduate student representative positions on the board of directors and,

WHEREAS the Graduate students position on the board is currently vacant.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate positions on the RSU board of directors be filled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Waqas Ahmed be ratified as the graduate representative chairperson on the RSU board of directors for July 2020 - April 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Bilal Khan be ratified as the Deputy Chairperson Finance for the graduate committee on the RSU board of directors for July 2020 - April 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Fayez Shahzad Qureshi be ratified as the Deputy Chairperson Education for the graduate committee on the RSU board of directors for July 2020 - April 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following people will hold the interim Grad positions until the BOG ratifies the RGSU or until the RSU holds a by-election ****FRIENDLY AMMENDMENT****

Moved: Ali Yousaf Seconded: Siddhanth Result: PASSED

Alex: I would like to make an amendment since the following people were not elected by grads. Be it resolved that the

Ali: Let me clear something up because there is a lot of confusion. I did my best to send an email about this to the Board. In February during the elections, there were a few grads students that wanted to run, but they were told that there will be no grad student representatives for 2020-2021. I tried to argue this with the CRO and DRO and explain the process. The referendum process is quite long, I have experience with this. First a survey must be done and submitted to the BOG, after that they create a yes or no questions and proper voting can be scheduled. Just because someone sent out an email saying that it is a referendum does not mean that it is a referendum. I have been supporting the grads, and I will continue to do so. The names of those on the agenda are those people that applied to run for the RSU as the grad reps for 2020-2021. This is the situation that is being given to me, I did not like it, but that is what happened. These students should have been able to run. Later on an Operating Agreement with the University was signed stating the RSU still represents grads.

Steph: part of what you said is correct. At the SAGM last year there was a vote for the grads to be independent. This was also around the time when the RSU operating agreement was terminated and that is why we had to hold elections the way we did. Right now the RSU will continue to receive the funds for the grads until they are ratified by the BOG

Alex: I wanted to clarify the last point, there are different procedures for an RSU referendum and a University referendum. Under the RSU by-laws the Grads met all of the criteria for a valid RSU referendum. RSU is a separate organization from the University, and we can have a valid referendum that is not a University referendum.

Ali: This needs to be a Ryerson run referendum. This is the same referendum that happened to SASSL and the RU pass. The last years Board has to sign an agreement saying that the RSU is liable for the Grad. I understand the referendum in undergoing the process, but the process needs to be followed. Legally we are still responsible for the grads. I am trying to find something that is fair for everyone. I have been working with the BOG and they said that they will follow the procedure.

Alex: I don't believe that anyone here is talking about fee structures. My intention is just to respect the graduate students wished for who they would like to have as their representative for the RSU. If we are not talking about fee structures we should be taking into consideration a valid referendum and the spirit of the

referendum. I certainly hope that we are not going to ignore a valid RSU referendum that successfully took place.

I move to amend the motion on the grounds that the Graduate Students who were elected by their constituents to represent them, twice, were not consulted for these appointments. We are putting these names forward on behalf of the Ryerson Graduate Students Union, which are fully recognized by the RSU due to their successful RSU referendum last year. Therefore BE IT RESOLVED that the following be accepted as the Graduate Council members for the 2020 - 2021 year. Chairperson: Angeliqne Bernabe; Deputy Chairperson Finance: Charlotte Ferworn Deputy Chairperson Student Life: Steph Hill Deputy Chairperson Education: Mahsa Aghamiri

Ali: No one is ignoring nothing. I am just appointed and ratifying the member that followed the procedure and process. These reps have contracted me and asked. I am trying to appoint the people that should be ratified. These people have been following the process. I have said things so many times, I do not want to keep repeating.

Alex: The RSU elections took place under the CRO and DRO that was appointed under that election. Their decisions are final. I don't believe that we would be following any sort of valid procedure if we just appoint people. The reason they were not approved is because at the previously SAGM there was a valid vote taken that proves that Grads would not participate in the electoral process to separate Grads from the RSU. Just because the process is not complete does not mean that we should not respect the Grad students. Grad students have voted for the RGSU to represent them. I am trying to support the wishes that Grad student have made while following the RSU procedure. There have been 2 referenda and grad students have shown who they want to be represented by.

Steph: Ali sent an email to graduate course unions saying that he was not aware that proper policy manual or operations manual during that time.

Ali: There is no point of going in circles. We are having the same argument. My point is, the nominations were submitted, there is nothing wrong with the application. We still need to have grad reps and I am just appointing a few people.

Alex: If the discussion is over can we move to a vote on the amendment? I propose the amendment

Ali: We are respecting grads and that is why I brought up this motion. I want there to be grads on the board

Alex: I don't see how were working with grad students when the governing body that was voted on twice was completely sidestepped. That's all I'm trying to do. I did not just bring forth these names I asked grad students and these are the names that they chose to represent the RGSU.

Steph: Amendment. I would like these to be interim people. And once the BOG ratifies the grads then they can have a vote

Alex: Why don't we just make it until a by-election? Isn't that the normal process? Article 6 states that appointment

Ali: Amendment ** these people will be interim until the BOG ratifies the RGSU or until we hold a by-election **

Alex: Can we add a person to deputy student life - Steph hill

Ali: I will make a google form and allow all graduation students to apply.

Alex: why not do that for all of the positions then? After the AGM a lot of student's didn't apply. Wouldn't it be fairer to allow all grad students to participate now, since they know the positions are available.

Ali: everyone has the opportunity in Feb.

Chair: We keep going back and forth. We are going in circles. You can have an offline discussion. We need to move on.

9. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

a. APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET - MOTION 2020 -07-17 F01 - Appendix B

WHEREAS the Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) is operating within the 2020 - 2021 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS the Finance Committee has met to review the proposed budget and has recommended it for adoption;

BE IT RESOLVED the budget presented in Appendix B for the fiscal year 2020-2021 be approved.

Moved: Liora Dubinsky Seconded: Siddhanth Result: PASSED

Steph: Under the CAPEX I am noticing an increase. Last year it was \$30,000 and this year it is \$70, 000. We are not at full capacity, so I was wondering why the increase.

Liora: are you looking at the master budget

Steph: yes

Liora: I was going to go through every line and explain. Hopefully that will explain your questions. I would also like to give Priya Paul – Financial Controller speaking rights to answer anything more technical. I will be sharing my screen.

Liora: For student fees we are estimating less, incase SCI comes back and we have to return the money. Copyrite we can see that there will be a decrease because Copyrite will be closed until December, because there will not be any students, January and April and generally slower months.

Liora: Grants and sponsorships - we have a larger increase, this is because we get a lot of our funds for grants from sponsorship, and this is because we will be taking in less because of COVID-19. We also have our COVID grant that we will go through later. Line item 25 there is a big increase from last year. This is because we want to bring back the base funding for student groups. We want to make sure that student groups are supported. Otherwise most things are the same. For the CFS they charge \$17 per student this is an in and out fee, we do not get anything for this. For CAPEX its \$7.19 per student that is charged

Priya: This is collected in students fees. We set aside that money for any improvement that's needed in the RSU. the budget is built on a conservative model.

Liora: Ryerson radio and Eyeopener collect fees on their own. GFC and SASSL collect \$5.23 per student. The spending is not too far off from last year. Health and Dental we will get more into detail with those. Any questions for the Master Budget tab.

Liora - Moving on to Admin. Legal fees - we see a decrease compared to last year, the reason being because last year there was a court case, and the year before there was a lot of legal advice. Other than that most things are the same that they have been in the last 2 years. A lot of the things like insurance, telephones ect. The changes are very minor, unless there are questions. Executive funding - exactly what it was in the years before. This is the same for all execs. There is no VP Marketing so that is not in the budget. Any questions here?

Liora: CAPEX breakdown - we didn't put anything for projects. For workstation and computers we put some funds in that in case anything breaks. In the past year it has been budgeted for but not used. If the funds are not used they can be reallocated. Same thing goes for here (office chairs) there are some broken so

we accounted for those. For the SHIFT center we put \$10,000 because it is a new space. In Copyrite we were planning on construction to make it more accessible, we also have self-serve printers that are not working, we are hoping to fix that. Something new is the COVID-19 protective equipment like plastic shields, gloves, sanitizers, masks and anything like this. That is for this category

Alex: Question - in the line item for computer station I'm just wondering what you use to estimate that you need \$30,000 for

Liora: that is in case a computer breaks, some offices don't have computers or need new ones.

Alex: why is it almost double from last year.

Priya: Last year the budget was not utilized. Given the scenario we want to make sure that everyone can work remotely

Alex: thank you

Liora: CopyRITE - there is a significant decrease in sales and expenses. We cut it down significantly just in case to not overestimate the amount of revenues we will get from Copyrite. There is just a decrease there. postage - we are estimating more shipping since no one is in office. We want to introduce an ecommerce platform, there is a need for more online payment, shipping and shopping. CopyRITE has a huge lineup and you need to email for orders. We thought that this would be efficient. We got some quotes and it's about \$5000. Hopefully this will help support CopyRITE both during COVID and in the future.

RSU Merchandise - t shirts and hats, we have the return the same as the cost just in case. Orders will be made by purchases. POS was moved from Admin to CopyRITE. Movie ticket sales have gone down drastically because the movie theaters are not open.

Liora: Campus Groups - \$54,000 towards CU base funding. \$500 per semester per course union. For grants that's \$2000 per course union. Same thing goes for student groups. Most things are reduced since we cannot have events due to COVID-19

Liora: Educational Issues and Advocacy: We brought back the funding from last year. Very similar from last year, there are no significant changes. This operated the same as under SCI

Liora: Equity and Sustainability - In the past year there were no wages and benefits, we brought this back this year because we split it between the sections.

We have funding for various equity campaigns. Back to last year all of these things were in one line item, we separated this again this year.

Steph: How much did we vote on for organizations? Is that here?

Liora: that is under grants and sponsors

Liora: Equity Service group - the wages included all of the Equity Center staff, this year we split it into each center. We have the telephone. One thing to notice is that the fund raising is \$500 per center, that is because we are underestimating fund raising due to COVID-19. For RyePri since we already had Pride month/week this is exactly how much it cost since it already happened. SHIFT center - last year it was being built so there was a lot of funds allocated so we reduced it this year.

Liora: GFC - once again limited fund raising. Project stays the same. Operations has been reduced since we are not open. Emergency food relief grant - This will be reintroduced giving students money towards grocery shopping. We have a rental charge because the GFC has switched spaces with SASSL. This space costs more, that is the reason for the increase. Everything else is as is.

Liora: SASSL - I worked closely with the staff for this. We have an increase for projects and programming and training. Everything else remains the same.

Liora: Grants and Sponsorships - we created the COVID-19 grant, we wanted to increase it because the last time it ran out very quickly. We will be giving \$100,000. There is no emergency grant, only the COVID-19 grant. External sponsorship - this was high the years before and this year it decreased due to COVID-19

Liora: Grad Union - the main change is the admin since this is under RSU. We reduced the grant travel grants since you cannot travel a lot right now due to COVID-19. Orientation was also reduced because it will most likely be virtual, it will be combined with graduate and undergraduate and we can share the budget that RSU has also

Steph: Grad course union is at zero? Can you explain it. Cell 48

Liora: This was under campus so we combined that under campus. The funding for the grad students is under CU and SG department

Steph: Thanks

Liora: Health and Dental Plan - we dropped the cost of the plan and included coverage for doctors notes. \$340 per student and the premiums are lower once combined. That is the only change. There is a difference in funding and the expenses.

Liora: Member Development and Communication - We will not be doing the handbook until the winter semester. Usually revenue comes from sponsorship, that has been reduced since we cannot include as many in the handbook. Open houses cannot happen so that is reduced. Orientation kit - Since we cannot have an in person orientation we wanted to create a kit for students. Webpage - there is a drastic increase because we want to improve our website because it is complicated and there are some security issues. It should be easier for 1st year students.

Liora: MSO - this department does not exist anymore.

Liora: Organizational Governance - We do not have the board retreat. All meetings will be virtual so expenses have been reduced. There is also conferences that will not happen in person, so there is no travelling cost. Elections - the costs are the same.

Liora: Services - not much has changed here. Tax clinics and legal clinics are the same. Grad photos are also the same and they are operating offsite

Liora: Social events - there are a lot of things that should have already happened. We have reduced sponsorship just in case. The fall WOW gets more funding than the winter WOW. Since we will not have fall WOW we have moved the funding to winter to make a larger WOW. Culture Jam is happening in the winter, and it is important to showcase multiculturalism on campus. For the trips we are waiting to see what happens with COVID. Amounts can always be reallocated. I'm assuming we vote now?

10. UPDATES

a. Staff

Priya: The last week and a half was spent reviewing the budget. And just going into the office trying to make sure we are up and running and meeting our statutory obligations.

Reanna: Working on many HR related issues within the bargaining unit. We have many step 2 meetings as outlined in our CA due to the most recent layoffs. We may also be getting into arbitration in the coming months. I have been working on the Career Boost applications to get funding for the Fall 2020/Winter 2021 part-time jobs. We have also been working on moving over our listserv to the new Google Groups that the University is using. Lastly I have also been

helping with the revisions for the finalized budget, and going into the office bi-weekly to complete any payments, mail-outs and any onsite work that needs to get done.

b. Executives

Ali: The past weeks I have been working on the budget. Glad that has been approved. I have been working with VP Equity and the SASL staff. I'm making a few motions for the next meeting in regards to SASL. We will start planning for frosh week soon, since we have a clear amount for how much has been budgeted. For many students this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. These are a few things I have been working on.

Vaishali: We are working on the website and orientation events. We will be working with the Career and Co-op center. We are working with SASL to make a few by-laws.

Liora: The past 2 weeks were full of budget work. I want to thank everyone for working so hard for getting this together. I have been working with the social media assistant to get things up to date. I just wanted to let everyone know about the website updates.

11. OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alex: In the future can we get the Agenda and zoom link a few days before the meeting. It's hard for me to read through everything on the same day

Ali: We were having some technical difficulties. We will try to send it out 2 business days before.

12. ADJOURNMENT

a. **MOTION 2020-07-17 G01**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the July 17th,2020 meeting of the Board be adjourned.

Moved: Ali

Seconded: Alex

Result: PASSED