RYERSON UNIVERSITY

ELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE REPORT ON CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF CANADA (WUSC) REFERENDUM RESULTS

FROM: **MEMBERS OF THE ELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

TO: [redacted]**, WUSC REFERENDUM – "NO" SIDE REGISTRANT**

RE: **REPORT ON CHALLENGE TO THE WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE OF CANADA (WUSC) REFERENDUM RESULTS**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 25, 2010**

On Tuesday, November 23, 2010 members of the Election Procedures Committee met to review a recommendation made by Catherine Redmond, Returning Officer regarding the challenge to the World University Service of Canada Referendum Results. The Election Procedures Committee has the following membership.

Erin McGinn, Committee Chair
Janet Lum, Secretary of the Committee, (RFA Representative)
Olga Payne, member (Staff Representative)
Abdullah Snobar, member (Alumni Representative)
Mohammad Ali Aumeer, member (CESAR Representative)
Toby Whitfield, member (RSU Representative)
Catherine Redmond, Returning Officer

With the exception of Mr. Aumeer, all members of the Committee participated in this review of the Returning Officer's recommendation. Ms. Redmond's Report is attached for your reference.

The Election Procedures Committee carefully reviewed the following points highlighted in the challenge document and the Returning Officer's responses to them.

1. *A conflict of interest was present within the Yes campaign team.*
2. *An outside organization was unfairly assisting the Yes campaign.*
3. *Pressure and bribery tactics were used to extort votes, inside classrooms.*

4. The No campaign was silenced by poster defacing.

5. Campaign rules were clearly broken, by posting in the library building.

6. There is still the question whether campaign funds were misused.

Findings and Recommendation of the Committee

While the Committee did not feel that any of the points made by [redacted] warranted overturning the referendum results, the Committee did recommend that certain changes be made to the Referendum Procedures to make them more robust, less ambiguous and provide clarity. [redacted] points helped crystallize these changes and the following recommendations were made by the Committee.

Recommendation One: That while the Referendum Procedures document has previously stayed silent on campaigning in classrooms. It is recommended that this activity be written into the procedures as a permitted activity (with permission of the professor) and that every effort be made to advise faculty that both sides of a referendum question be given the opportunity to campaign if requested.

Recommendation Two: That Custodial Services be informed by memo that referendum posters should not be removed during the course of a referendum and that posters should be stamped in order to easily identify their provenance.

Recommendation Three: Future consideration may be given to reviewing the amount of money each side of a Referendum can spend on their campaigns.

Final Ruling of the Committee

After due consideration, the Committee concurred with the Returning Officer's recommendation that [redacted] challenge to the WUSC Referendum Results be denied. The decision of the Election Procedures Committee is final and not subject to further appeal.