

Minutes of the 1,238th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday, November 10th, 2011, at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

Present: Dr. Bruce Kidd (Interim Warden)
Mr. Nicholas Arrigo (Music Committee Secretary)
Ms. Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee)
Ms. Clara Ho (UTSU Appointee)
Ms. Klara Kovar (Art Committee Secretary)
Ms. Ann McPherson (GSU Appointee)
Mr. Ben Peel (Debates Committee Secretary)
Ms. Tori Prouse (Social Justice Committee Secretary)
Mr. Naufil Rasheed (Finance Committee Secretary)
Ms. Stacey Redick (Literary and Library Committee Secretary)
Ms. Johanne Roberge (RAC Senior Member)
Dr. Helen Slade (Presidential Appointee)
Dr. Jonathan Steels (Chair)
Mr. Jimmy Truong (Farm Committee Secretary)
Ms. Phoebe Uguy (Theatre Committee Secretary)

Ms. Amanda Greener (Executive Assistant to the Warden; Recording Secretary)

Guests: Mr. Michael De Angelis (Director, Programme Administration)
Mr. Chris Lea (Facilities Manager)
Mr. Hugh McBride
Ms. Rita O'Brien (Chief Administrative Officer)
Mr. Allan Shatzky (Coordinator, Special Projects)
Ms. Lynette Spence (Coordinator, Equity and Diversity Initiatives)
Mr. Paul Templin (Director, Events and Catering)
Ms. Heather Thornton (Advancement Development Assistant)
Mr. Peter Wambera (Senior Development Officer)

Regrets: Mr. Zeljko Bavcevic (RAC Secretary)
Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [*ex officio*] Designate)
Mr. Matt Janicki (UTM Representative)

1. Approval of Agenda

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD APPROVED the agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 13th, 2011

The minutes of the 1,237th meeting held on October 13th, 2011, were approved.

3. Business Arising

4. New Business

a) **The Culture of Governance**—Louis Charpentier, Secretary of Governing Council*

Louis Charpentier gave a brief history of the University of Toronto Act and the Governing Council, explaining that Hart House is closely linked to the Governing Council. The Hart House Constitution mirrors the University of Toronto Act in many ways, the Hart constitution is approved by the University Affairs Board of the Governing Council, and the Governing Council approves the appointment of the Warden.

Mr. Charpentier outlined the responsibilities of Board members, noting that Boards are responsible for the short and long-term wellbeing of the organizations they serve. Board members should put personal agendas aside, instead using good information to vote with the best interest of the organization in mind. Board members are obliged to attend meetings, to come fully prepared, and to vote. Abstentions are only acceptable when there is a conflict of interest. Although conflicts of interest are rare, if in doubt Board members should speak to their chair to disclose the possible conflict.

It is important to have clear, objective communication around the table during debate. Board members should not personalize within debate; debate should reflect the organization members are serving and where members want the institution to go.

It is also vital that Board members keep sensitive information in confidence.

It is the job of the administration to initiate and guide new business, to consult with and educate the Board on all issues coming forth, and to manage the organization well.

Boards approve and set policy on the advice of the administration and in accordance with an organization's vision; Boards provide oversight to ensure the administration is following mandate and doing the job it was hired to do, as well as to oversee the finances; and Boards are advisory bodies, concerned with the organization's image and representation.

The Governing Council has recently codified such principles in governing: *Principles of Good Governance*, *Mandate of Good Governance*, and *Expectations and Attributes of Governors and Key Principles of Ethical Conduct*. (These documents are appended to the minutes.)

Mr. Charpentier stated that the Governing Council is now going through a major effort with colleges and faculties to create consistency in their constitutions. He noted that 2001 was the last time that the Hart House Board of Stewards Constitution was revisited, and relayed that he'd like to have a conversation with the Interim Warden around this. Because the process is underway elsewhere at the University, now would be a good time to review the Hart House constitution—whether that be to affirm the existing constitution or to suggest revisions. Any such revisions would have to be submitted to the Board of Stewards (and University Affairs Board) for approval.

b) **Warden Search Committee Update**—Bruce Kidd, Interim Warden

As Lucy Fromowitz was unable to attend the meeting due to an urgent matter, the Interim Warden spoke to this agenda item. The call for nominations for the Advisory Search

Committee for the Warden has opened, with a deadline to nominate oneself or others by November 24th. The Interim Warden encouraged Board members to consider representing the committees on which they serve. The nomination call has been cast widely in an effort to get the best possible representation; in turn, the Advisory Search Committee will be expected to seek the best possible potential candidates. Members of the Search Committee will receive *Legacy and Renewal: Report on the Term of the 10th Warden of Hart House, 2007 to 2011* and the 2007 Hart House Review as guiding documents during the search. Professor Kidd circulated copies of *Legacy and Renewal* to the Board.

c) Draft Plan for a Revised Advancement Campaign for Hart House: Feedback and Approval Process—Peter Wambera, Senior Development Officer*

Peter Wambera gave a presentation outlining the new draft plan for a revised campaign at Hart House, making use of a stakeholder engagement model that fits well within the larger University plan, *Boundless*, launching on November 20th. (Presentation is appended to the minutes.) Mr. Wambera noted that this presentation was a means to begin a conversation about thinking of the fundraising efforts around the House, but that in time, he'd like to have discussions with each committee as well.

Discussion ensued.

d) Committee Reports*

Appended reports from representatives of the following groups were submitted for the information of Board members:

- Art Committee;
- Finance Committee;
- Literary and Library Committee;
- Music Committee;
- Recreational Athletics Committee;
- Theatre Committee.

e) Departmental Reports*

Appended reports from directors and managers of the following departments were submitted for the information of Board members:

- Communications;
- Events and Catering;
- Finance and Operation;
- Justina M. Barnicke Gallery;
- Programme.

5. Interim Warden's Update

Congratulations to all those who facilitated the 10th Hancock Lecture with Sean Martindale on the struggle to reclaim urban spaces. This is just one such example of the remarkable programming at Hart House.

The Interim Warden invited committee chairs and secretaries to a conversation to enable him to learn more about committees' upcoming activities/initiatives and to discuss how committees are deepening the vision in their work on Thursday, November 17th, 5 – 7 PM in the Committees

Room.

Professor Kidd announced that he would be permanently removing from the Debates Room the shield depicting the image of a Blackamoor head, after much consultation with the Anti-racism and Cultural Diversity Office, various academics, senior administrative colleagues, Hart House staff, British Heraldry experts and experts in Human Rights, and in accordance with Hart House's Vision. The Interim Warden welcomed suggestions on what to do with the blank site of the removed Blackamoor image, and discussion ensued on this topic. The Interim Warden also noted that an equity audit of Hart House would be valuable. However, such an endeavor must be treated with great care to balance traditions with the necessity to engage and affirm "all voices and rhythms" in the House, and to respect people and human rights, and he doesn't feel confident that he could see this process through in his short term.

The Interim Warden stated that in accordance with the recommendations from the report on the recognition of significant days in the calendar, the Winter Buffet will once again be set against the backdrop of the Canadian winter landscape and the fabric of nature.

Professor Kidd congratulated Dr. Johanne Roberge on receiving a Standup For Kids Award for exemplary innovative work in provision of clinical services.

6. Other Business and Announcements

There would be a debate following this evening's Board meeting on "cyber security".

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1st, 2011.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

November 24th, 2011