

Minutes of the 1,240<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

- Present:
- Dr. Bruce Kidd (Interim Warden)
  - Mr. Nicholas Arrigo (Music Committee Secretary)
  - Mr. Zeljko Bavcevic (RAC Secretary)
  - Ms. Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
  - Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
  - Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee)
  - 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)
  - Dr. 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)
  - Ms. Virginia Ise (Manager, Communications)
  - Ms. Rita O'Brien (CAO)
  - Mr. Paul Templin (Director, Events and Catering)
- Regrets:
- Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [*ex officio*] Designate)
  - Ms. Clara Ho (UTSU Appointee)
  - Mr. Matt Janicki (UTM Representative)
  - Mr. Justin Goldenthal (APUS Appointee)

### 1. Approval of Agenda

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

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011

**The minutes of the 1,239<sup>th</sup> meeting held on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, were approved.**

### 3. Business Arising

#### a) Warden Search Committee Update—Bruce Kidd, Interim Warden

The search committee has been announced and Hart House is highly represented in the composition. Board members who are not part of this committee should feel free to share their views with committee members you may know, or contact Joan Griffin, the search

committee secretary. Although search committee members are bound to confidentiality and cannot share committee business with outside others, they are prepared to listen and bring ideas back to the committee for consideration.

#### **4. New Business**

##### **a) Approval of the 2012-2013 Operating Plan and Budget—Motion—Rita O'Brien, CAO**

Rita O'Brien announced that the Finance Committee approved the budget that morning. The budget will next go to COSS on Monday, and then SARG in February, and then finally to UAB for University approval. Hart House is unique because it has to present to COSS and SARG, as we are both student funded and revenue generating.

Ms. O'Brien presented the 2012-2013 budget, which will be going forward at a deficit. The Finance Committee felt strongly that the Deferred and Major Maintenance (DMM) reserve not be depleted in order to balance the budget, considering the aging of the building infrastructure and the fact that Hart House has not been sufficiently keeping pace with DMM needs.

Hart House is asking for a 5.3% increase, which would equate to \$3.80 more per term for full-time St. George students. Under this fee structure, student fees would make up 52% of Hart House's budget, with 48% of the budget being revenue driven. Student utilization of space has increased—student bookings at no charge now account for 81% of all bookings in the House, with only 19% to a client base. We maximize our external client revenue considering what little room we have to generate bookings.

Utilities are fixed cost increases, and unionized staffing increases are set. We are currently budgeting \$1.3M for maintenance and capital assets, which is less than the \$2M the Engineer's report stated was needed to responsibly steward the building.

COSS and SARG will ask how we will rectify this deficit to bring the budget back on track. Departments have done a great job at making operational efficiencies wherever possible, putting the onus on revenue generation. Ms. O'Brien noted that there has been great brainstorming in response to this situation, and she presented a number of ideas that are currently being implemented, planned for and considered, including revenue generating, funding and advancement opportunities.

On the motion duly made and seconded the BOARD APPROVED the Hart House 2012-13 Operating Plan and Budget as presented.

##### **b) Establishment of a Working Group to Review the Process and Protocols for Hart House Elections—Motion—Michael De Angelis, Director of Programme Administration**

Michael De Angelis noted this business would normally come through the House Committee, but that the House Committee is currently inoperative.

The present election process has been in play since 2009, prior to which all standing committee members were elected. Membership was mostly arrived at by acclamation, and so a change to hold elections for secretary positions only was passed. In 2009, a first year student position for all

standing committees was also created, and facilitated through student application. The 2009 changes were driven by a desire to increase participation; however, although opportunities have been created, we haven't seen any increase in interest. With this in mind, and to make the elections process more accessible, it is proposed that a working group be established to look at Hart House elections policies and procedures. Vinitha Gengatharan, a former long-standing Board of Stewards Chair and most recently Chair of the House Committee, has agreed to chair the working group.

On the motion duly made and seconded the BOARD APPROVED that a working group made up of the current serving student secretaries of the Board of Stewards; Jonathan Steels, current Chair of the Board of Stewards; and Vinitha Gengatharan be struck to review the policies and procedures for Hart House Elections.

### **c) Committee Reports**

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

- Finance Committee;
- Literary and Library Committee;
- Music Committee;
- Social Justice Committee;
- Theatre Committee.

### **d) Departmental Reports**

Appended reports from heads of the following departments were submitted for the information of Board members:

- Events and Catering;
- Facilities;
- Justina M. Barnicke Gallery;
- Programme;
- Theatre.

## **5. Interim Warden's Update**

### **a) Good News Stories**

The Warden gave overview of some of the diverse and engaging programming and events currently happening at Hart House, and noted that all of these live out the vision in very important ways.

### **b) Blackamoor Shield Update**

The Warden provided an update on the removal of the Blackamoor head. It has been decided that we will hold an open competition for the design of a new image for the now blank shield site to illustrate Hart House through the lens of the vision. A budget has been established, with the winner being awarded \$1500 and \$250 for the runner up. Details will be available on the Hart House website very soon. We will seek approval for the winning submission to become an official shield of heraldry.

**c) Departmental Reviews Update**

The Facilities review is well underway, with results forthcoming soon.

The Theatre review committee composition has now been set, with representation spanning individuals in the House, those with involvement in theatre at the University and from theatre across Toronto and the GTA. Michael De Angelis has agreed to chair the review. The inaugural meeting of the committee is next Thursday.

**d) Pan Am Games 2015 Update**

A committee has been struck to assess the Pan Am Games in terms of its impacts and opportunities. Board members are welcome to submit ideas or comments to Michael De Angelis.

**e) Fundraising Update**

The Warden relayed that Peter Wambera, Hart House Senior Development Officer, states that many Board of Stewards secretaries have submitted questionnaires to him, but to please submit if you haven't as of yet. The Warden asked members to consider what priorities or initiatives they feel donors might give to, and to send these ideas to Mr. Wambera.

**f) Staffing Announcement**

The Warden announced the upcoming departures of Allan Shatzky (Coordinator of Special Projects) and Lynette Spence (Coordinator, Equity and Diversity Initiatives). Both had been employed at Hart House on limited-term contracts in the Warden's Office, and will be leaving upon their contracts expiry at the end of the month. Mr. Shatzky and Ms. Spence were invaluable in the development and implementation of the vision, in developing a more comprehensive equity platform, and as advisors to the previous Warden. It was noted that their contributions have been so valuable that Hart House must continue this work with ongoing staff. The Warden has commended them and thanked them on behalf of the House, but please do so yourselves if you see them in the House prior to their departure.

**6. Other Business and Announcements**

Stacey Redick announced the Literary and Libray Committee's January 24<sup>th</sup> event, I Shall Not Hate, with Dr. Abuelaish.

Jimmy Truong announced that *The Varsity* is featuring an article on the Farm Committee in its next issue.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

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Chair

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Recording Secretary

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012