

Minutes of the 1,224th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

- Present: Ms Vanessa Laufer (Chair)
Dr. Louise Cowin (Warden)
Ms Sarah Bailey (House Committee)
Ms Kate Bruce-Lockhart (Social Justice Committee)
Ms Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
Ms Sarah Crowther (Literary and Library Committee)
Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee)
Ms Klara Kovar (Art Committee)
Ms Clara Luke (Farm Committee)
Mr. Matthew Poot (Music Committee)
Ms Jacqueline Raaflaub (RAC)
Ms Jessica Rose (Theatre Committee)
Ms Danielle Sandhu (UTSU, on behalf of Adam Awad)
Mr. Victor Wong (Finance Committee)
Ms Taraneh Zarin (RAC)
- Ms Cristina Oke (Recording Secretary)
- Guests: Mr. Sandy Henderson (Director, Athletics & Membership)
Ms Laney Marshall (Director of Programme)
Ms Rita O'Brien (Director, Operations and Finance)
Mr. Allan Shatzky (Coordinator, Special Projects)
Ms Lynette Spence (Coordinator, Equity and Diversity Initiatives)
- Regrets: Mr. Adam Awad (UTSU Appointee)
Ms Lucy Fromowitz (President (*ex officio*) or Designate)
Mr. Gregory West (GSU Appointee)
- Absent: Mr. Grant Gonzales (Governing Council Appointee)
Mr. Alexander Levy (Debates Committee)
APUS Appointee
Presidential Appointee
UTM Representative
UTSC Representative

1. Appointment of Chair

Ms Laufer withdrew from the meeting.

Dr. Cowin outlined the constitutional framework for the appointment of a Chair for the Board of Stewards and the procedures to be followed in this regard. She put forward the name of Ms. Laufer as her recommendation for the position of Chair and gave a brief summary of her background.

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD APPROVED

THAT Ms. Vanessa Laufer be appointed as chair of the Board of Stewards for a three-year term, effective October 2009 to May 2012.

Ms. Laufer rejoined the meeting.

2. Minutes of Meeting of May 7, 2009

The report of the Alumni Committee on page 4 of the minutes of the meeting of May 7, 2009 was amended to read:

*The Alumni Committee is preparing to reissue **A Strange Elation**, a book prepared for the eightieth anniversary of Hart House.*

The minutes of the 1,223rd meeting held on May 7, 2009 were approved as amended.

3. Business Arising

Dr. Cowin noted that the Board had approved the following motion at the meeting on May 7, 2009:

That the policies and recommendations proposed by the Committee on Budgets be approved in the fall 2009.

This matter would be brought forward to the November meeting of the Board.

4. Committee Reports

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

- Governing Council;
- Alumni Committee;
- Art Committee;
- Finance Committee;
- Farm Committee;
- Literary and Library Committee;
- Recreational Athletics;
- Music Committee;
- Theatre Committee;
- Social Justice Committee.

Dr. Cowin noted that the House Committee report had been received but, due to technical difficulties, had not been circulated. She also noted that the Social Justice Committee had asked whether any other committees wished to collaborate with them on an event.

5. Warden's Update

a) Administrative Re-organization

Dr. Cowin informed members that a new administrative structure to support programming in the House would be put in place effective November 2, 2009. She indicated that the positions of Director of Athletics and Farm, Director of Programme and Managing Director of the Theatre, will be replaced with the positions of Director of Programme Development and Director of Programme Administration.

Following questions from individual Board members, Dr. Cowin offered to meet with individuals or groups to further discuss the proposed changes

Several questions were raised regarding the administrative reorganization. On the topic of possible synergies in the new structure, Dr. Cowin stated that unification of programming could result in strengthened collaboration among committees and more creative use of themes in programming. On the question of salary savings that might result from the reorganization, Dr. Cowin explained that while there might be slight savings in salary, no funding would be removed from programming. With regard to termination costs and the length of the time taken to complete the selection and hiring process, Dr. Cowin indicated that all university procedures and HR policies had been carefully followed and that it would be premature to address such costs at this time, since the new positions had not yet been posted. Concerning the interaction between the intended cohesion of the programming function and the current autonomy of programming units, Dr. Cowin said that cohesion would develop over time.

b) Agenda Committee

Dr. Cowin informed the Board of the need to establish an Agenda Committee and outlined the Committee's composition and responsibilities as set forth in the Constitution. In response to Dr. Cowin's request for volunteers for the Committee, Ms Bruce-Lockhart and Ms Crowther agreed to serve. Mr. Dreger agreed to serve as the senior member of the Committee. Dr. Cowin indicated that she would send a reminder to members of the Board, requesting additional volunteers for the Agenda Committee.

c) Renovations to Athletic Facilities

Dr. Cowin acknowledged receipt of a document dated October 8, 2009 from the Recreational Athletics Committee (RAC) that summarized the concerns of Committee members over the state of repair of the women's and men's change rooms in the Athletics wing. The document had been placed on the table for the information of Board members.

Dr. Cowin provided context for the issues raised by RAC members and agreed that the delays in completing renovations were unacceptable. She indicated that this was a management issue which she would discuss with the Facilities Manager and the Director of Athletics, and committed to oversee the completion of the renovations to ensure they would be finished as expeditiously as possible.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

7. Other Business

- a) University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU)

Ms Danielle Sandhu, Vice-President, Campus Life of UTSU, advised members that Mr. Adam Awad had wanted to ask the Board to endorse the campaign to *Drop Fees for a Poverty Free Ontario*, and the day of action on November 5, 2009. The Chair explained that such an endorsement would require a motion to place the matter on the agenda, and needed to be supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting. No motion was made.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

November 26, 2009