

Minutes of the 1324th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, October 6th 2022, in-person at the Hart House Burwash Room and virtually on Zoom video conferencing.

Present:**Voting Members:**

Advika Gudi (Steward, Student Social Justice Committee)
Dianne Acuna (APUS Representative)
Liliana Bechtold (Steward, Student Literary and Library Committee)
Kathryn Beukeboom (Steward, Student Farm Committee)
Robert Fisher (Steward, Community Members Committee)
David Kim (Governing Council Appointee)
Victoria Liu (UTSU Representative)
John Monahan (Warden)
David Newman (Presidential [*ex-officio*] Designate)
Lucas Olmstead (Steward, Finance Committee)
Nadia Rosemond (Presidential Appointee)
Jamie Sit (Steward, Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Committee)
Samara Tower (Steward, Student Theatre Committee)
Eugenia Wong (Steward, Student Art Committee)
Yihang Xu (Steward, Music Committee)

Non-Voting Members:

Paul Bagus (Recording Secretary)
Terry Gardiner (Chair)

Guests:

Marco Adamovic (Coordinator, Learning and Community)
Davina Chan (Senior Director, Marketing, Communications, and Information Services & Chief Marketing Officer)
Jimmy Cheung (Director, Facilities and Capital Projects)
Janelle Joseph (Assistant Professor, Critical Studies of Race & Indigeneity, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education)
Gillian Lewis (Education and Production Coordinator)
Aron Mohr (Director, Hospitality Services)
Jenifer Newcombe (Director, Strategic Initiatives)
Vanessa Treasure (Director, Fitness, Wellness & Recreation)

Regrets:

Beth Ali (Presidential Appointee)
Sierra Codeluppi (GSU Representative)
Hasna Hafidzah (Steward, Student Debates and Dialogue Committee)
Thai Higashihara (SCSU Representative)
Reagan Roopnarine (UTMSU Representative)

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 1324th meeting of the Board of Stewards followed by a Land Acknowledgement. This meeting also marks John Monahan's (the Warden) last Board of Stewards meeting. To start off the proceedings, previous Chairs of the Board of Stewards Janelle Joseph and Jonathan Steels (through a message read by the Chair) paid tribute to the Warden and acknowledged his wonderful contributions during his tenure at Hart House.

2. Approval of the 1,324th Meeting Agenda (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the agenda and none were presented. The following motion to approve the agenda was made by Eugenia Wong, seconded by Dianne Acuna.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the agenda of the 1,324th Meeting.

The motion was carried by voting members of the Board of Stewards.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 1,323rd Meeting (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the Minutes from the September 2022 Board of Stewards meeting and none were presented. The following motion to approve the Minutes was made by Lucas Olmstead, seconded by Jamie Sit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the Minutes of the 1,323rd Meeting.

The motion was carried by voting members of the Board of Stewards.

4. Introduction to the Hart House Board of Stewards Rules and Procedures (Jenifer Newcombe, Director of Strategic Initiatives and John Monahan, Warden)

Jenifer Newcombe and the Warden introduced the review of the Report of the Special Committee on Rules and Procedures, which was last updated in 2006. This work is part of the broader Policy Review Project that is underway which aims to ensure that all policy and governance documents are in alignment with Hart House priorities and current university-wide practices.

The report served as a resource guide and reference on how to properly conduct Board of Stewards meetings based on Bourinot's Rules of Order. This current update renames the report as the *Hart House Board of Stewards Rules and Procedures* and focuses on aligning the document with other governance documents, such as the UofT Governing Council By-Laws, and using more timeless language. Other key changes include the inclusion of gender neutral language and the removal of any references to outdated practices that are not relevant to how the board or the committees conduct their business. In addition, the following new sections have been added: 12. Participation in meetings by virtual means, 13. Approval of certain confidential time-sensitive matters by electronic votes between meetings, 49. Conflict of Interest, and 50. Amendments of Rules and Procedures.

The latest version distributed to the board was reviewed and vetted by the Office of the Governing Council. This version is positioned to ensure the smooth conduct of Hart House Board of Stewards meetings going forward.

Lucas Olmstead asked about section 4 (b) that was referenced in the presentation but did not appear in the final distributed version of the Rules and Procedures. Section 4(b), which refers to increase in student ancillary fees, was removed entirely from the document since it was supplanted by Governing Council's

Policy for Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees.

Looking ahead, the Board of Stewards will review and approve the Standing Committee Terms of Reference which will provide guidance as to how each Hart House Committee conducts their business and manages their affairs.

a. Motion to Approve the Hart House Board of Stewards Rules and Procedures (John Monahan, Warden)

The following motion was made by the Warden, seconded by Robert Fisher.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the Hart House Board of Stewards Rules and Procedures.

The motion was carried by voting members of the Board of Stewards.

5. Committee Presentations

a. Literary and Library Committee (Liliana Bechtold, Literary & Library Committee Steward)

The Hart House Literary and Library Committee (HHSLLC) Steward, Liliana Bechtold gave an overview of the group's highlights from the past year, goals for this academic year and a listing of events they wish to hold. The group's mandate is to reach a diverse group of people on and off the University of Toronto campuses to enrich their lives through literature and creative writing. They provide opportunities to leverage the strong literary talent in Toronto in order to help students and community members in engaging with the literary arts.

HHSLLC places a high priority in equity and diversity in the work that they do and created an equity and diversity subcommittee in their committee structure. In 2021-2022, they had a diverse offering of events such as Dead Poet's society, Decolonize ENG Symposium, The Worldbuilding of Wakanda: Black Panther and Afrofuturism, and their Endnote Podcast series. In this academic year, they are working towards increasing tri-campus engagement, hosting more in-person events, increasing first year participation, promoting diverse authors and works, and spotlighting the Hart House Library. The committee has a number of exciting events this year including an October reading list with the theme of Horror and Fantasy: A Racial and Gendered Experience, as well as running a series of workshops on how to get published. They are also planning on holding a book launch with Laboni Islam and collaborating with Shale Project on an upcoming Writer's Co-op.

HHSLLC membership has been trending upwards in the past few years and the events they hold welcome students and community members as well.

b. Music Committee (Yihang Xu, Music Committee Steward)

Hart House Student Music Committee (HHSMC) Steward, Yihang Xu spoke about their committee structure, their achievements, and what their proposed events are for the year. Their mandate includes student engagement by offering resources, support, and performance opportunities, creating an inclusive environment, exploring the Toronto music community and tri-campus outreach. The structure of HHSMC is divided into subcommittees that represent their main work buckets that include: DEMO Magazine, Communications Subcommittee, Events Subcommittee, and Open Mic.

This year HHSMC has already achieved a lot through their subcommittee work. They have been able to launch the 48th issue of their music-focused magazine DEMO in May and 7 articles have already been released this term. The Communications Subcommittee has been able to connect with UTM and UTSC's music clubs including Soundwaves, Music 303, and Radio Forward. Most recently, they were able to hold their first Open Mic in the newly-renovated Hart House Arbor Room where 70 people attended. HHSMC is planning to hold more listening parties, jam sessions and open mics throughout the year. They are also hosting a Music and Mental Wellness Workshop in the new year.

6. Warden's Report (John Monahan, Warden)

Thank you to Members of the Agenda Committee 2022-2023

The Warden thanked the members of the newly-formed Agenda Committee (including Terry Gardiner, David Kim, Dianne Acuna, Thai Higashihara, Reagan Roopnarine, and Eugenia Wong) who are volunteering their time to review approve the agenda and materials for the Board of Stewards meetings. The committee currently has a full compliment of students with representation across all three campuses and different organizations in the university.

Xplore Hart House

Xplore Hart House was a huge success with well more than 1000 students coming into Hart House for the first in-person "Open House" since 2019. The entire staff team was on board providing support throughout the day and engaging with students, many of whom are coming to Hart House for the first time. A quick video summary of how the day went that was shared across social media channels can be found [here](#).

Regular Programming is Back!

Hart House programs are up and running for the academic year. From the fitness center classes, to Hip Hop education's community connector chats, to UofTea talks, the popular open Mic night, weekly get crafty events, and many more. This year there is noticeably more in-person programs with virtual components to increase access to all that we can offer at the house. The Warden encouraged everyone to read the departmental report distributed prior to the meeting which provides a more detailed overview of each department's activities over the summer. To find out more, please refer to the departmental reports that were distributed prior to the meeting.

Well-Being Collective Event at Hart House Farm

The Well Being Collective @ Hart House, working in partnership with the UofT MultiFaith Centre and Brown Girl Outdoor World, held an amazing outdoor retreat for students at the Hart House Farm the weekend before last. Thanks to everyone from the Fitness, Wellness and Recreation team and from Marketing & Communications for their great work both on the day, and on compiling clips from the trip to a video that will be shared to social media channels. The link to view the video is [here](#).

Three Sisters

The Howland Company and Hart House Theatre will premiere Three Sisters on October 26th and will run until November 12th. The production is adapted from Anton Chekhov and directed by Howland Company's Paolo Santalucia, who is both a U of T and Hart House Theatre alum. For tickets and more information, follow the link [here](#).

Changemakers – Kimahli Powell: LGBTQI+ Individuals & the Search for Home

The Changemakers series invites guests who actively devote their lives to effecting meaningful and sustainable change in the interests of justice and equity. This year, Changemakers invites guests who will explore issues around migration and refugees, and in particular, to share stories of resilience and support

for the millions who are on the move around the world. Changemaker's first guest for this year's series is Kimahli Powell,, executive director of Rainbow Railroad. The Warden will facilitate this conversation with Kimahli who has a wealth of knowledge and is sure to inspire the audience. For more information, follow the link [here](#).

2023-2024 Budget Submissions

Budget submissions are underway, and the staff are hard at work at building the budgets for 2023-2024. The Board of Stewards is accountable for reviewing and approving the house's operating budget next year. Key dates to be aware of include a budget workshop in December, the final presentation of the budget to the finance committee, and a vote on approval of the budget will be held on the January Board of Stewards meeting.

Infrastructure Renewal

Hart House is proceeding with plans for a comprehensive multi-year Infrastructure Renewal Project to ensure the building's future viability. The Schematic Design is now 100% complete. Next steps include meeting with Central Facilities team to review mechanical, electrical, and sustainability design specifications. Following this review, the final stages of the design, Design Development, will begin. The estimated start date of construction is spring/summer 2023.

Orange Shirt Day

On September 30th, Hart House was honoured to host the University's Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event. Professor Brenda Wastasecoot, Assistant Professor at the Centre for Indigenous Studies, provided the keynote address: "The Nikis Story is the Story of Canada: Reflecting on the Impacts of the Indian Residential Schools." There were about 200 people who joined in-person and the event was viewed 1700 times online. Indigenous students, staff, and faculty were able to travel to Hart House Farm to debrief and hold space for each other a few days after the event.

Final Remarks

The Warden shared his final remarks as Warden of Hart House thanking the entire Hart House staff team and members of the Board of Stewards for a wonderful seven years at the university. Members and guests of the Board of Stewards expressed their gratitude to the Warden and wished him well as he takes on the position of President and CEO of the Mount Pleasant Group.

7. Next Meeting

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on November 3rd, 2022 at the University of Toronto Scarborough AA-160 Council Chambers.

8. Adjournment

The following motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Lucas Olmstead, seconded by Katherine Beukboom.