

Minutes of the 1334th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, December 07, 2023, in-person at the Burwash Room UTSG and virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing.

Present:**Voting Members:**

David Kim (Warden)
Beth Ali (Presidential Appointee)
David Newman (Presidential [ex-officio] Designate)
Tee Duke (Governing Council Appointee)
Aidan Thompson (UTSU Representative)
Shanti Dhoré (APUS Representative)
Jacky Yu (Steward, Student Literary and Library Committee)
Robert Fisher (Steward, Community Members Committee)
Riddhi Sahaye (Steward, Social Justice Committee)
Lucas Olmstead (Steward, Finance Committee)
Samara Tower (Steward, Student Theatre Committee)
Victoria Lee (Steward, Art Committee)
Yun Ying (Jane) Wen (Steward, Music Committee)
Arjun Yanglem (Steward, Student Farm Committee)
Jaime Sit (Steward, Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Committee)

Non-Voting Members:

Emerald Ekong (Recording Secretary)
Terry Gardiner (Chair)

Guests:

Sherry Kulman (Chief Administrative Officer)
Davina Chan (Senior Director & Chief Marketing Officer)
Jenifer Newcombe (Director, Strategic Initiatives)
Peter Wambera (Associate Director, Advancement)
Stan Xiao (Director, Finance)
Jaime Kearns (APUS member)
Dianne Acuna (APUS member)
Jennifer Coggon (APUS member)

Regrets:

Nadia Rosemond (Presidential Appointee)
Ruth Alemayehu (UTMSU Representative)
Jady Liang (GSU Representative)
Afsana Miah (SCSU Representative)

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions (Arjun Yanglem, Steward, Farm Committee and Terry Gardiner, Chair)

Terry Gardiner (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 1334th meeting of the Board of Stewards. Arjun Yanglem provided the land acknowledgment.

2. Approval of the 1334th Meeting Agenda (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the agenda and added that Jenifer Newcombe would lead the Hart House election presentation on behalf of Michelle Brownrigg. The following motion to approve the agenda was made by Robert Fisher, seconded by Victoria Lee.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the agenda of the 1334th Meeting as amended.

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

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 1333rd Meeting (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the Minutes from the November 9th, 2023, meeting and none were presented. The following motion to approve the Minutes was made by Shanti Dhoré, seconded by Jacky Yu.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the Minutes of the 1333rd Meeting.

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

4. Committee Presentation: Community Members Committee (Robert Fisher, Steward, Community Members Committee)

Robert Fisher started by paying tribute to Matt Dreger, a resigning longstanding member of the Community Members Committee.

Updates from the Dinner Series:

- John Northcott, the CBC journalist attended the last dinner and spoke about his career with special focus on his time in Japan anchoring NHK's English language broadcasts.
- Phillip Khaiat announced this is his last year organizing the Series. The Committee faces a formidable challenge replacing Phillip who has made the event an important link between Hart House and the larger Toronto Community over the years.
- Next year will face finding replacements for key roles filled by both Matt and Phillip.
- Plans are moving ahead for this renowned Cellist's February Dinner Series talk and concert on the 14th and 15th.
 - Elinor will be accompanied by Lucas Harris as part of the February 15th concert which should augment the evening.
 - Ticket prices will be increased to cover his fee. Students will be offered a reduced rate of \$25 for their tickets, half the full \$50 ticket price, limiting student tickets to 25 seats of the 100 available.
 - Investigating the possibility of having CBC Radio's Sunday in Concert programme air Elinor's concert but have heard nothing yet.

Hart House Secrets Exhibit - an initiative to explore the House's history, through an exhibit of artifacts, which is still in the development stage by Gary Westwood, a committee member.

The weekly Life Drawing sessions have all been sold out during the Fall Term, with a third of its attendees being regulars.

David Newman asked about the Life Drawing session details and Robert Fisher mentioned that a model is provided and it's an opportunity for participants to explore drawing.

Aidan Thompson asked for the date of the January Hart House Dinner and Peter Wambera provided the date as the 17th of January 2024. Additionally, Terry Gardiner asked for the dinner capacity and Robert Fisher responded that it would be 26 people.

5. Hart House Election Presentation (Jenifer Newcombe, Director, Strategic Initiatives)

Jenifer Newcombe provided the timeline/process for the Hart House elections. Nominations are open on January 8 - 29, 2024. The campaign period is from February 1 - 23, 2024. The elections will be conducted from February 26 - 27, 2024 via an online voting system. Finally, the elections will be announced on February 28, 2024.

Terry added the importance of the elections and observing how representation happens and engaging with students across the tri-campus.

a. Motion to Approve the appointment of the 2024 Hart House Elections Commission (David Kim, Warden)

The following motion was made by David Kim, seconded by Shanti Dhoré.

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Stewards approve the appointment of the Hart House Elections Commission.*

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

b. Motion to Approve that the 2024 Hart House Elections Commission hold University-wide elections. (David Kim, Warden)

The following motion was made by David Kim, seconded by Shanti Dhoré.

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Stewards approve that the Hart House Elections Commission hold University-wide elections.*

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

6. Committee Presentation: Finance Committee (Lucas Olmstead, Steward, Finance Committee)

Lucas Olmstead provided an overview of the Finance Committee. The committee is comprised of both students and community members and provides opportunities to develop financial management skills. The committee conducts monthly meetings to learn and discuss about Hart House's finances and analyze/review the next fiscal year's budget. Financial literacy workshops (like tax strategies) are run several times during the year for students. Additionally, the committee runs panel events every semester, that involve industry experts. Other Projects that the committee run is the "Artists in the 6ix Workshop" and the "Financial Literacy for Youth".

Dave commended the commitment of the committee including the 16 non-voting student members, and the early time commitment they provide to review finances and budget.

Shanti Dhoré asked if the finance workshops are open to all students across the tri-campus and if they are hybrid. Lucas Olmstead responded that the workshops are accessible, and all students are welcome to join. He also

commended Stan Xiao's work with the committee.

7. Student Union Presentation: Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (Shanti Dhoré, Steward, Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS); Jaime Kearns; Dianne Acuna; and Jennifer Coggon)

The Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students' members introduced themselves. An overview of the association was provided, and it was founded in 1968 by part-time students. It comprises of 6,000 – 8,000 students. The structure and governance include board members, elected board of directors (7 in total) and elected executives (5 in total). APUS and Hart House have been worked closely together for a couple of years, with a shared vision.

APUS services include APUS health and dental, APUS bursary program, APUS long term laptop loan program, academic support workshops, lunch and learn career workshops, individual academic support, tax clinic, financial aid workshops for part-time students, weekly newsletter *The Voice* for APUS and tri-campus community news including Hart House event promos.

8. Warden's Report (David Kim, Warden)

Dave began by expressing his appreciation to everyone for engaging in the chats at the Gallery Grill before the meeting. He highlighted some past events that have been hosted by Hart House and conducted by the clubs and committees. The Art Committee curated and installed "Generation Why", an art exhibition featuring 20 student artists with the aim to portray a generation that thrives on not accepting the status quo and wondering about the world it has inherited and the one it's shaping. Victoria Lee added the exhibition had a successful opening night and can be found on the walls across Hart House.

An update of the work in the Map room was provided. The Indigenous Artist Residency, a Hart House and Art Museum initiative is an opportunity to reflect on U of T's call to action in making Indigenous art visible across the campus. The residency will provide artist(s) funding and a platform for research and relationship-building made through connections to faculty, staff, students, libraries, community, archives, and presentation opportunities (ex: performance, exhibition, walking tours, etc.). The project is still in the development stage and has been presented to the Art Committee. The residency is planning to be launched this spring with a selecting jury, and an artist by next summer.

The budget process timeline was provided:

- December 5th, 2023: Draft budget presented to Finance Committee
- December 12th and 13th, 2023: Virtual Budget Workshops for Board of Stewards Members to review draft.
- January 9th, 2024: Final Budget presentation to Finance Committee for Endorsement
- January 11th, 2024: Final Budget presentation to Board of Stewards for Approval
- January 16th, 2024: Budget presentation to COSS

The previous Warden, John Monahan's painting was unveiled on November 28th and can be viewed in the Great Hall. Additionally, John has made a donation to support EDIA at Hart House.

Upcoming Events:

- December 16th - 20th, 2023: Gallery Grill Winter Cheer
- Winter Break Programming
 - December 20th, 2023: Winter Edition Board Game Café
 - December 21st, 2023: Winter Edition Button Making
 - December 27th and 28th, 2023: Two hot chocolate movie screening nights on for students
 - Fitness

- Drop-in fitness classes – no classes on Dec. 24-26, 31 and Jan. 1
- Asynchronous fitness online
- Asynchronous well-being collective programming – guided meditations, cooking videos, workouts, podcasts
- January 17th, 2024: Black Self Care Fair

Dave commended the Board for the welcoming transition into the role.

9. Other Business

Robert Fisher asked about the Chapel closure, and mentioned the importance of it being an open space for students and community members to drop-in. Dave mentioned a fire incident that led to its closure, with Chapel use being reviewed to see the best action, with some indication that a sign-up process might be developed for future access. Davina added that there have been positive comments towards booking the space as privacy is appreciated.

10. Next Meeting

The 1335th Board of Stewards meeting will be held from 5:30pm-7:30pm on January 11th, 2024, at the Burwash Room in Hart House.

11. Adjournment

The following motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Victoria Lee seconded by Jacky Yu.