Minutes of the 1,243rd meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday April 26th, 2012 at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room

Present: Dr. Bruce Kidd (Warden)  
Mr. Nicholas Arrigo (Music Committee Secretary)  
Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)  
Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [ex officio] Designate)  
Ms. Clara Ho (UTSU Appointee)  
Ms. Klara Kovar (Art Committee Secretary)  
Mr. Ben Peel (Debates 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)  
Ms. Tori Prouse (Social Justice Committee Secretary)  
Mr. Franklin Wan (Incoming Music Committee Secretary)  
Ms. Chanelle Hanlan-Hudson (Incoming Literary and Library Committee Secretary)  
Ms. Noemie De Vuyst (Incoming Farm Committee Secretary)  
Ms. Evelyn Smith Romero (Incoming Social Justice Committee Secretary)  
Ms. Sharanya Chander ( Incoming Finance Committee Student Member)  
Mr. Abhishek Vaidyanathan (Incoming Debates Committee Secretary)  
Ms. Amanda Greener (Executive Assistant to Warden: Recording Secretary)

Guests: Mr. Michael De Angelis (Director, Program Administration)  
Ms. Rita O'Brien (CAO)  
Mr. Philip Khaiat (for Matt Dreger)  
Ms. Barbara Fischer (Director/ Curator, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery)  
Mr. Peter Wambera (Senior Development Officer)

Regrets: Ms. Elizabeth Wooster (Incoming RAC Secretary)

1. Approval of Agenda

An amendment to the agenda was made to include the report of the Elections Committee.

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

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of March 15, 2012
On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD APPROVED the minutes of the 1,242nd meeting held March 15, 2012.

3. Business Arising

a) Elections Committee

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD ACCEPTED AND APPROVED the report of the Elections Committee unanimously.

b) Warden Search Committee Announcement—Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice-President, Student Life

Ms. Fromowitz congratulated Professor Kidd on his appointment and outlined the process of the search, which attracted more than 100 applicants for the post of Warden, as well as several nominations. One of these nominations was Professor Kidd, Interim Warden. After the interview phase, Ms. Fromowitz and Ms. Jill Matus recommended Professor Kidd to the UAB, which approved the recommendation.

Professor Kidd stated that he was grateful and thankful Ms. Fromowitz for the kind words, and noted that he had been energized by colleagues, staff, and Board members, which had motivated him to take up this permanent position.

c) COSS Retreat—Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice-President, Student Life

Ms. Fromowitz outlined the purpose of the Council on Student Services and the membership of this body. Ms. Ho and Ms. Sandhu were commended for furthering the dialogue around the COSS table. Ms. Fromowitz explained that the COSS focuses mainly on the budget and that not all vested student bodies were included or briefed on these meetings. She also noted that other possibilities for the administration and student unions to collaborate have not been given space for exploration. The COSS retreat has been planned for June 14th. All incoming and outgoing student members of the Board of Stewards were invited to attend.

Ms. Ho spoke about the rare opportunity to be a part of this event and repeated the invitation to all students present.

4. New Business

a) Hart House Case for Support and Funding Priorities—motion—Peter Wambera, Senior Development Officer

Mr. Wambera stated the objectives of the case and detailed the process to date including the three presentations to the Board this cycle.

Discussion ensued.
On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
the motion of the Hart House Case for Support and Funding Priorities.

b) 2012/13 Agenda Planning Committee Selection—Bruce Kidd, Warden

The Agenda Committee shall be composed of the Warden, one senior member of the
Board and up to four student members of the Board. The Chair shall be an ex-officio
non-voting member of the Agenda Committee. The Committee shall be struck by the
Board near the end of each fiscal year.

The Warden outlined the preparation process for each Board meeting, noting the
important role of the Agenda Planning Committee. Professor Kidd asked that a new
Agenda Planning Committee be struck for the 2012/13 Board cycle. The Committee
was nominated as follows: Professor Kidd to chair, Ms. Dyson Tam, Mr.
Vaidyanathan, Mr. Wan, Mr. Dreger, and Ms. De Vuyst.

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED
the Agenda Planning Committee for 2012/13.

c) Committee Reports

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

- Music Committee
- Social Justice Committee
- Theatre Committee
- Art Committee
- Farm Committee
- Music Committee

d) Departmental Reports

Appended reports from representatives of the following departments were
submitted for the information of Board members.

- Events and Catering
- Information Technology and Finance
- Program

5. Warden’s Update

Professor Kidd thanked outgoing members of the Board and welcomed incoming
members.
Ms. Greener agreed to organize meetings between the student secretaries and the Warden in the near future to discuss how best to support them in their roles.

a) Heraldic Shield Contest update

The Warden announced that Mr. Carlo Schefter was the winner of the Heraldic Shield Contest and shared the winning image with the Board. He also thanked the members of the selection committee and outlined the plans to produce the shield and mount it in the Debates Room.

b) Hart House Constitution Update

Professor Kidd informed the Board that the new constitution had been approved by the UAB on April 17th and thanked all those who participated in its review and revisions.

c) 2015 Pan Am Games

The Warden informed the Board that the Governing Council approved the turfing of the backfield for field hockey competitions at their April 11th meeting, leaving a safer, year-round legacy for students. He stated that he would like Hart House to become central to the Pan Am games as an arts and cultural centre, academic forum and in various other ways. Mr. De Angelis will head a focus group on the implication of the games to which the Board members are asked to give their input.

d) Theatre Review Update

The Warden announced that a draft of the report is forthcoming and thanked Mr. De Angelis and the committee for their work. He noted that due to the timing of the report Mr. De Angelis has recommended that Jeremy Hutton’s contract be extended for one year and that the new production year be released.

e) Facilities Review Update

The report was circulated to the Board. Professor Kidd informed the Board that he would be implementing all recommendations and noted that Chris Lea had resigned from his position as Facilities Manager. The Warden expressed gratitude to Mr. Lea and invited all Board members to attend a reception being held for him. The search for a Facilities Manager is to begin shortly.

f) Revised Budget

The Warden emphasized the need to mitigate the deficit as soon as possible and informed the Board that a revised budget was underway. He requested a meeting
on June 25th to approve the revised budget and the audit review. Sufficient notice will be given to the Board if there are any significant policy changes required.

The Warden stated that the deficit is structural, as Hart House does not make enough to cover its expenses. In the past Hart House has borrowed from the Deferred and Major Maintenance fund to cover this shortfall. More vigorous donations, expense cut backs including Clubs and Committees allocations, and increased revenue generation is needed. He informed the Board that the staff is exploring increased rentals in the west wing as a way to increase revenue. In the interests of equality it was also suggested that there be increased space made available to all University of Toronto student groups although this would mean reducing Clubs and Committees bookings.

Professor Kidd stated that there would be an opportunity for students to participate at all stages of this process but that only major changes would be brought to the Board for approval.

6. Orientation and Training for Board of Stewards and Clubs and Committees

The floor was opened for discussion on what would make for effective orientation and training for Board members and Club and Committee members. Suggestions included a forum for Clubs and Committees to meet each other with a small group presentation from different Clubs and Committees; a better overall orientation on Hart House so that Board members could represent the House more fully on the COSS retreat; information on how to be an effective steward; how Clubs and Committees can bring programming to UTM/UTSC in meaningful ways; and more information on the Committee on Budgets process.

The Warden suggested that an orientation be scheduled prior to the COSS retreat with Ms. Greener to circulate a poll to determine the best date.

7. Other Business and Announcements

2011/12 and 2012/13 Board of Stewards members were invited to join in a post-meeting reception in the North Dining Room.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The meeting to approve the revised budget and audited financial statements will take place on Monday, June 25th.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.
April 26th, 2012