

Minutes of the 1,251st meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, March 20th, 2012 at 5:30 pm in the Library.

Present: Dr. Jonathan Steels (Chair)
 Dr. Bruce Kidd (Warden)
 Ms. Emma Arppe-Robertson (Temporary Executive Assistant to the Warden; Recording Secretary)
 Ms. Sharanya Chander (Finance Committee Student Member)
 Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
 Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee Chair)
 Ms. Natalie Lai (Art Committee Secretary)
 Ms. Evelyn Smith Romero (Social Justice Committee Secretary)

Guests: Mr. Michael de Angelis (Director of Programme Administration)

Regrets: Mr. Abhishek Vaidyanathan (Debates Committee Secretary)
 Mr. Guled Arale (UTSC Representative)
 Ms. Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
 Ms. Noemie De Vuyst (Farm Committee Secretary)
 Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [*ex officio*] Designate)
 Ms. Susan Froom (APUS Appointee)
 Ms. Amanda Greener (Executive Assistant to the Warden; Recording Secretary)
 Ms. Ashleigh Ingle (GSU Appointee)
 Ms. Johanne Roberge (RAC Senior Member)
 Mr. Munib Sajjab (UTSU Appointee)
 Dr. Helen Slade (Presidential Appointee)
 Mr. Andrew Ursel (UTM Representative)
 Mr. Franklin Wan (Music Committee Secretary)
 Ms. Elizabeth Wooster (RAC Secretary)
 Ms. Jesica Samuel (Theatre Committee Secretary)
 Ms. Chanelle Hanlan Hudson (Literary and Library Committee Secretary)
 Ms. Kay Dyson Tam (Farm Committee Secretary)

Please note that this meeting did not reach quorum.

1. Approval of Agenda

The members present agreed to follow the distributed agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 6th 2012, January 9th 2013, and February 14th 2013.

The minutes of the 1,248th meeting held April 26th,2012, the minutes of the 1,249th meeting held January 9th, 2013 and the minutes of the 1,250th meeting held February 14th 2013 were unable to be approved.

2. Business Arising

- a) **Council on Budgets Motion** (Bruce Kidd, Warden and Rita O'Brien, CAO)

This motion was deferred to the April 11th meeting due to lack of quorum.

- b) **Finance Committee Terms of Reference Motion** (Bruce Kidd, Warden and Rita O'Brien, CAO)

This motion was deferred to the April 11th meeting due to lack of quorum.

3. New Business

- a) **Election Results** (Bruce Kidd, Warden)

The Warden thanked the Chair and Mr. de Angelis before announcing the results of the election. Mr. de Angelis was invited to speak to the recommendations of the Committee on Elections. He noted that there was a greater focus on social media as a way to reach students and that the committee would also look into the timing of the elections, the clarification of secretary and co-secretary positions for next year. The idea of delinking the Board of Stewards representatives from the secretary roles and allowing each Club and Committee to appoint their own representatives was also suggested. Mr. de Angelis suggested that these recommendations could be launched in the fall to coincide with the incoming batch of secretaries.

Mr. Davy noted that for university elections it is normal to have a 7-8% engagement with the student body and enquired if Hart House reach was similar. Mr. de Angelis stated that the turnout for the Hart House elections was much lower than this and a larger examination of the issue was required.

Mr. Dreger noted that the nature of the House is changing, and that most students are not engaged with the clubs and committees. This decreases the proportion of those who will be interested in voting.

The Warden suggested that elections could be opened up, allowing those who were not previously Committee secretaries to run for office. Mr. Templin noted that this would leave the House open for takeovers by a specific group.

Ms. Slade suggested that Committee secretaries continue to serve on the Board but that several member-at-large positions be opened up to the greater University community.

This issue was tabled for discussion until the fall.

b) Committee and Departmental Presentations*

i) Social Justice Committee (Evelyn Smith Romero, Social Justice Committee Secretary)

Ms. Smith Romero presented the mission of the Social Justice Committee which is “to raise awareness of social justice issues through proactive engagement of partnerships, networks and the student body as a whole, bringing about a well-established and long-lasting dialogue based around awareness, appreciation, and action into the lives of individuals and communities within and around the University of Toronto.” The four pillars of this mission are sustainability, international and community development, equity, and empowerment through education.

Ms. Smith Romero then highlighted some of the most exciting events held by the Social Justice Committee: the Fundamentals of a Green Economy talk with David Miller and Dr. Fran Cunningham, the International Women’s Day Conference in memory of 40 years of the inclusion of women at Hart House, the award they received from the Anti-Racism department, the Community Kitchens, and Just Rights Radio.

The focus and interests of the Social Justice Committee shift yearly based on the student members and that the focus this year has been on health and nutrition. They exemplify the Vision and Values by creating inclusive and affordable events.

ii) Programme Department (Michael de Angelis, Director of Programme Administration)

Mr. de Angelis noted that the most rewarding part of Programme is working with students, such as the Board members in attendance. He commented that Hart House was created as a unifying space on campus and that the values of equality, inclusiveness, civic mindedness and human rights have long been central to the work of the Programme Department. The Department works to serve multiple constituencies across three campuses and to keep art, culture, and recreation as a central part of a university education.

There are four major strands of programs: staff initiated programs, Club and Committee - initiated programs, programs initiated through the Good Ideas Fund and registered classes. These programs are designed to invigorate and challenge those who enter Hart House. Staff programming this year has included: Family Sundays, Conscious Activism Documentary Film Series, Talking Walls, the Living Library at UTM, the Trade School and Black History month events. The Good Ideas Fund has allocated \$1400 for 40 different initiatives in the past year. This program grew out of the recognition several years ago that there were programming ideas beyond the House that simply needed support to be launched.

Student led events in the past year include: the Alumni Debate, the Churchhill debate, the high school debates tournament, the sugaring off, Calm Sunday, UofT Idol, Sunday concerts, midday mosaics, Jazz at Oscar`s and the Film festival. Creative and fitness classes have also had an incredible turn out over the past semester with 251 and 4,521 participants respectively.

Mr. de Angelis noted that the Programme Department continues to extend their reach with support for Campus Agriculture, the Mental Health Fair, student-staff training, and MoveU, a tri-campus project which works to engage underrepresented groups in physical activity.

4. Warden`s Report

The Warden mentioned several important events which had occurred at Hart House since the last meeting. These included the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Churchhill Debate, Bent which was directed by an undergraduate student and played at the Hart House Theatre, Breaking New Ground, a conference for International Women`s day, and the opening of A Story of Canadian Art in Edmonton which showcases the pre-1960 Hart House collection. Upcoming events include the Festival of Dance, the Hart House chorus` presentation of sacred music, a play written by a University of Toronto student, an exhibition of student photography, the film festival, Calm Sunday, and Open Doors Toronto.

The Warden informed the Board that the University Affairs Board approved the Hart House budget on Tuesday, March 18th. The Co-Curricular Record working group will be presenting to the Board of Stewards on the April 11th meeting but are ready to recommend in principle that Hart House institute a co-curricular record. The Baird, Samson, Neuert team is also moving forward on the Green Heritage Renewal Study and will report in April.

The Department of Design and Engineering had been commissioned to design an accessible entranceway for the eastern side of the House but have reported that due to environmental conditions such an entrance would be prohibitively expensive and they have proposed improvements to the western accessible entrance instead. Design plans for these improvements have begun, and construction is scheduled to occur during the construction of the Back Campus playing fields. Toronto 2015 will be asked to contribute funds to this renovation.

The Warden noted that the evergreen and mulberry trees in the Quad have been removed as they have reached the end of their lifecycle and their roots have begun to damage the membrane which protects the Theatre and Fitness Centre. A small working group will be formed to redesign the Quad and trees in pots will be brought in.

The Library and Literary Committee have asked for a calendar of important dates. This will be compiled and included in the orientation package for next year.

5. Other Business & Announcements

Ms. Comella informed the Board that the Council of Athletics and Recreation is holding elections and asked the Board of Stewards to spread the word among students.

Mr. Dreger remarked that most students coming through Hart House thought it was just another building and he emphasised the need to make students more aware of Hart House programming.

6. Next Meeting

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11th, 2013.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

March 20th, 2013