Minutes of the 1,257th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, February 13th, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the Library.

Present: Dr. Jonathan Steels (Chair)
Dr. Bruce Kidd (Warden)
Ms. Emma Arppe-Robertson (Recording Secretary)
Ms. Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee Chair)
Ms. Susan Froom (APUS Appointee)
Ms. Maia Johnstone (Social Justice Committee Secretary)
Ms. Jesica Samuel (Theatre Committee Secretary)
Dr. Helen Slade (Presidential Appointee)
Ms. Agnes So (UTSU Appointee)
Ms. Elizabeth Wooster (RAC Secretary)
Ms. Emiry Yu (Finance Committee Secretary)

Guests: Ms. Ramlah Marvi (Art Committee)
Mr. Spencer MacEarchan (Student at Hart House Theatre)
Mr. Jaby Mathews (Graduate Students’ Union)
Ms. Jenifer Newcombe (Acting Director, Programme Administration)
Ms. Rita O’Brien (CAO)
Mr. Peter Wambera (Senior Development Officer)

Regrets: Mr. Hamza Ansari (UTM Representative)
Mr. Guled Arale (UTSC Representative)
Ms. Jingwei Chen (Literary and Library Committee Secretary)
Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [ex officio] Designate)
Mr. Terry Johnston (RAC Senior Member)
Ms. Natalie Lai (Art Committee Secretary)
Ms. Erin Makino (Music Committee Secretary)
Mr. Louis Tsilivis (Debates Committee Secretary)
Ms. Theresa Wadawek (Farm Committee Secretary)
Ms. Susanne Waldorf (GSU Representative)
Ms. Sophia Zamaria (Farm Committee Secretary)
Ms. Freda Zhang (Music Committee Secretary)

1. Approval of the Agenda

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

2. Minutes of the 1,257th Meeting
a) Approval of the Minutes of the 1,256th Meeting on January 16th, 2014.

The following amendments, with revisions, suggested by the Graduate Student’s Union Designate were made:

In section 4(a) a paragraph was added to note: “Ms. Waldorf requested speaking rights for all three GSU colleagues in the room – Mr. Matthew, Mr. Gebru, and Ms. Gallinger. The Chair ruled, according to the rules of order, that only one of Ms. Waldorf’s colleagues would have speaking rights for one time only.

In section 4(a) before Ms. Waldorf’s proposed amendment a sentence was added which stated: “Ms. Waldorf told members about the difficult financial situation that many graduate students are in and asserted that only approximately 200 students are projected to purchase the summer pass and suggested that this would leave approximately 15,000 more without access and make Hart House only approximately $20,000 in revenue. This was contested.”

In section 4(a) it was added that: “The chair ruled that the vote on the amendment would need a 2/3rds majority to pass since it was overturning a motion in principle from last year. Ms. Waldorf questioned the chair on her ruling as she was under the impression that the motion that passed last year was specifically about the passing of the 2013-2014 budget, and not specifically about the institution of summer fees. The chair responded that there was a specific motion on the institution of summer fees last year.

Directly prior to the vote, Ms. Froom inquired if her vote in favour of the amendment would mean that the budget itself would pass with no further opportunity to amend the budget. The chair responded that this was correct.

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the minutes of the 1,256th Meeting as amended.

3. Business Arising

a) Advancement at Hart House (Peter Wambera, Senior Development Officer)

Mr. Wambera outlined the history of fundraising at Hart House and broke down the University’s fundraising goals. Current projects include the physical restoration of the House, Club and Committee endowments, program endowments and paid student internships. Fundraising at Hart House is particularly rich and complex as it draws on alumni from across the university.

The Board raised concerns about whether there was enough strategy to raise the necessary money and queried whether alumni were being engaged regularly in the House. It was noted that deeper volunteer engagement was needed. Going forward Hart House should be referred to as non-faculty or non-academic as it is an educational institution. A suggestion was made that a system of monthly donors be cultivated. The Board also
suggested that more effort be made to collect information on those who were coming through the house.

An alumni steering committee could be a useful tool in ramping up fundraising, but the alumni committee is not interested at this time. The Warden will work to create a sub-committee or informal Board of Stewards grouping to work with Mr. Wambere on these issues.

4. Committee and Departmental Presentations

a) Social Justice Committee (Maia Johnstone, Secretary)

The four pillars of the Social Justice Committee are sustainability, equity, international and community development, and empowerment through education. Most of their events are collaborations and students are careful to select those collaborations which fit within their mandate. Recent events include: community kitchen, Anti-Racism book launch, mental health un-conference, refugee rights.

In the future the group will work on increasing the commitment of general members, collaborating more effectively with other groups within Hart House and improving transition from year to year.

b) Theatre Department (Doug Floyd, General Manager)

The theatre had been the University of Toronto’s performing arts centre since 1919. They develop and showcase the next generation of Canadian arts, but also train the next generation of audiences. Recent events include: The Bone Cage, Twelfth Night, The Wedding Singer, and the University of Toronto Theatre awards.

Mr. MacEarchan presented his work on the Audience Development program. The theatre has been collecting detailed data on audience members and subscribers in order to build better relationships, measure marketing efforts and focus on community outreach. Current programs in this area include offering former subscribers a free night at the theatre, and sending post show thank-yous. These programs have been very successful in improving retention and reacquisition of audiences. A traveling marketing team, and increased social media presence have also been used to further engage students.

c) Theatre Committee (Jesica Samuel, Secretary)

The Theatre Committee acts largely as an advisory board for the theatre. Students get the opportunity to work with theatre professionals and alumni. The Committee also serves as a gateway for student involvement in the theatre. Current goals include: increasing student participation at the theatre, creating alternative marketing strategies, maintaining low cost tickets for students through fundraising and sponsorship.

d) Programme Department (Jenifer Newcombe, Acting Director)
The Programme department oversees programming at the House as well as the Fitness Centre and the HUB. They present programming to a wide array of students and senior members including 27 Clubs and Committees. Recent Programming includes, the Hancock Lecture, Get Crafty, and the Conscious Activism Documentary Series.

Key Programme priorities going forward include implementation of the Co-Curricular Record, Strengthening Clubs and Committees through the Committees Review, Strengthening student engagement in health and wellness, and the upcoming Pan Am celebration.

3. **Warden’s Report**

The Warden encouraged the Board to read the Committees reports for more information.

A Fitness Review has been completed, focusing on: Fitness Centre use, continuing and expanding new initiatives to engage students in wellness, creating more strategic and proactive programming, more effectively coordination programming with KPE, acquiring better data, initiating women’s only fitness hours. The Warden will be presenting this information to the Board of Stewards, the Recreational Athletics Committee and uploading it on the website for public consultation.

4. **Other Business and Announcements**

APUS is presenting Fruitville Station at 8pm on February 13th at OISE. Ms. Samuel is happy to offer complementary tickets to Goodnight Desdemona (Goodmorning Juliet) to any Board of Stewards Member.

5. **Next Meeting**

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, March 13th, 2014.

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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Chair                          Recording Secretary

February 13th, 2013