

Minutes of the 1,271st meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, November 19th, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the VIP Boardroom, Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre, UTSC.

- Present: Dr. Jonathan Steels (Chair)
Mr. John Monahan (Warden)
Ms. Emma Arppe-Robertson (Recording Secretary)
Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
Ms. Lucy Fromowitz (President [ex officio] Designate)
Ms. Coco Lee (Theatre Committee Secretary)
Ms. Tal Oren (Farm Committee Secretary)
Ms. Yasmin Rajabi (UTSC Appointee)
Mr. Ortega Tapambwa (GSU Appointee)
Ms. Evelyn Zhang (Finance Committee Secretary)
- Guests: Ms. Michelle Brownrigg (Director, Physical Activity and Equity, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education)
Ms. Amanda Greener (Manager, Strategy Implementation and Staff Operations)
Ms. Tasneem Latheef (Admin Staff, Office of Student Affairs, UTSC)
Ms. Zahra Murji (Communications & Marketing, Student Life, UTSC)
Ms. Rita O'Brien (Senior Directory Business and Ancillary Operations and CAO)
Mr. Desmond Pouyat (Dean of Student Affairs, UTSC)
Ms. Abidah Shirazi (Athletics & Recreation, UTSC)
Mr. Paul Templin (Director, Meeting and Event Services)
- Regrets: Ms. Rita Alsalaq (Social Justice Committee Secretary)
Ms. Gini Chin (RAC Secretary)
Mr. Michael De Angelis (Alumni Committee Chair)
Ms. Margaret Ebifegha (APUS Appointee)
Ms. Sarah Harrison (Debates Committee Secretary)
Mr. Terry Johnston (RAC Senior Member)
Ms. Vere-Marie Khan (UTSU Appointee)
Ms. Michelle Monteiro (Literary and Library Committee Secretary)
Mr. Alec Roxas (Music Committee Secretary)
Dr. Helen Slade (Presidential Appointee)
Mr. Housam Silim (Social Justice Committee Secretary)
Ms. Theresa Wang (Art Committee Secretary)
Ms. Freda Zhang (Music Committee Secretary)

1. Approval of the Agenda

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

2. Minutes of the 1,270th Meeting

a) Approval of Minutes of the 1,270th Meeting

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the minutes.

3. Special Introduction to University of Toronto Scarborough

The Warden welcomed the Board of Stewards to Scarborough (UTSC) and thanked our colleagues at UTSC for hosting the meeting. He noted that collaboration between Hart House and UTSC has been a priority since the beginning of his tenure and also acknowledged the challenges inherent in this collaboration.

Mr. Pouyat welcomed the Board of Stewards to UTSC and expressed the hope that this would be the start of a deeper partnership between UTSC and Hart House. UTSC is a growing campus which had 12,143 students registered in the previous academic year. It has a particularly diverse student body with a high number of students who are new Canadians, first generation students, take out OSAP loans and who live at home.

Key challenges facing students at UTSC include financial difficulties, inefficient transportation, and distance from the St. George campus. The campus is currently focusing on increasing their number of international students and student exchanges as well as strengthening their robust mentorship programs.

Hart House already partners with UTSC on several key programs and projects such as MoveU, Conscious Docs, embedded work-study students, the Pan Am Path and more. One of the major challenges to this partnership is ensuring that students are aware of programming, and that it is made accessible either through transportation or events being hosted at UTSC.

4. New Business

a) Senior Member Eligibility (John Monahan, Warden)

Current eligibility requirements for Senior Membership at Hart House require that Senior Members be graduates of a recognised university. In practice this is not enforced as Senior Members are not asked to prove that they are alumni. The Warden proposed to the Board of Stewards that this requirement be eliminated in order to strengthen connections with the surrounding community, increase the potential market for Senior Members and address a policy which has historically been exclusionary and which runs against the inclusive values of Hart House.

If the Board of Stewards were to change the eligibility requirements for Senior Members it would require a Constitutional change. One of the issues which would have to be addressed would be the potential need to set an age requirement for Senior Members. The Members present were generally in favour of this proposed change.

5. Committee and Departmental Reports

b) Farm Committee (Tal Oren, Secretary)

The Farm Committee manages the 150 acre Hart House Farm located in Caledon. They focus on food related mandates such as healthy eating, local and seasonable menus, agriculture and gardening policies, and environmental sustainability. The Farm Committee has three subcommittees: the gardening committee, the food committee, and community kitchen. The Committee runs several large farm events a year, all of which are well attended. This year the Sugaring Off event will be held a second time to allow interested students from the Centre for International Experience to participate. A new initiative, in partnership with Social Justice, is the Community Kitchen which is currently in development for public school students in the Flemington Park area and will consist of ten sessions beginning in January.

One of the major challenges for the Farm Committee is transportation. As the farm is located outside the city it can be costly and logistically difficult for students to host events at the Farm. Additionally, the Farm Committee is working to build a strong volunteer base which is essential when hosting large events. They will also consider transportation links with UTSC and UTM in the future.

5. Warden's Report

Hart House is in the midst of designing a 5-year Strategic Plan. The consultants on this project, the Divinsky Group, will be attending the December 3rd Board of Stewards Meeting for an initial consultation. The Board is also reminded that budget information sessions for Board of Stewards members will be held on December 7th and January 14th.

The Warden will be presenting to the University Affairs Board (UAB) and the Council on Student Services (COSS) in the coming week. These are two of the governance bodies which need to approve the budget.

The Travel policy for Senior Members has been updated, and senior members will be free to arrange their own transportation to events provide that they sign a waiver. They will not be able to transport students.

Hart House will be reclaiming four offices and a washroom on the third floor from CIUT and has agreed to undertake improvements to the remaining CIUT spaces.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Chair

Recording Secretary

October 22nd, 2015