Minutes of the 1315th meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, September 9th, 2021, hybrid meeting in person in the East Common Room at Hart House, and on Zoom video conferencing.

Present: In Person:
Mr. Terry Gardiner (Chair)
Mr. John Monahan (Warden)
Ms. Lena Yusim (Recording Secretary)
Amy Wang (Audio Visual Technician)

On Zoom:
Ms. Beth Ali (Presidential Appointee)
Mr. David Kim (Governing Council Appointee)
Mr. David Newman (President [ex-officio] Designate)
Ms. Kimia Karachi (Steward, Theatre Committee)
Ms. Charlotte Koch (Steward, Art Committee)
Ms. Calista Barber (Steward, Farm Committee)
Ms. Lauren Duan (Steward, RA&W Committee)
Ms. Varsha Pillai (Steward, Social Justice Committee)
Mr. Matthew Lee (Steward, Literary and Library Committee)
Ms. Alison D’Cruz (Steward, Finance Committee)
Mr. Ryan Tomlinson (UTMSU Representative)
Ms. Chan-Min Roh (Steward, Debates and Dialogue Committee)
Ms. Tara Behruz (Steward, Music Committee)
Ms. Catherine Lai (UTSU Appointee)
Ms. An-Noûra Compaoré (GSU Appointee)

Guests: On Zoom:
Ms. Allison Zhao (Student Co-Chair, Committee on Budgets)
Ms. Rachel Shi (Student Co-Chair, Committee on Budgets, Chair, Finance Committee)
Mr. Stan Xiao (Director, Finance)
Ms. Davina Chan (Senior Director, Marketing, Communications, and Information Services)
Ms. Jenifer Newcombe (Director, Strategic Initiatives)
Ms. Michelle Brownrigg (Senior Director, Chief Program Officer)
Ms. Michele Cheh (Events Coordinator)

Regrets:
Mr. Rimsha Rahman (SCSU Representative)
1. **Welcome and Introductions (Terry Gardiner, Chair)**

The Warden began the meeting by addressing the attendees and giving welcoming remarks. The Chair then introduced himself and provided the Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land. Lena Yusim introduced herself as the interim Recording Secretary for the Board of Stewards until the vacant position of Executive Coordinator in the Warden’s Office is filled.

2. **Approval of the Agenda (Terry Gardiner, Chair)**

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the Agenda and none were presented. The following motion to approve the Agenda was made by David Kim, seconded by Beth Ali.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Stewards approve the 1315th Agenda.

The motion was carried by voting members of the Board of Stewards, 1 abstention.

3. **Motion to Create the 2020-2021 Agenda Committee (John Monahan, Warden)**

JM introduced the Agenda Committee, a standing committee of the Hart House Board of Stewards composed of the Warden, one non-student voting member of the Board and up to four student members of the Board. The responsibilities of the committee include reviewing materials, identifying errors and omissions, reviewing the minutes from the previous meeting, and deciding whether to cancel meetings. The committee reviews materials in a thorough but expedient fashion to help ensure all members of the Board of Stewards receive the final materials in advance of the meeting. Most of the committee business takes place over email.

The Chair invited anyone interested to join the Agenda Committee. Matthew Lee spoke about his experiences on being part of the Agenda Committee and encouraged new members to participate. Attendees were asked to contact Lena Yusim to express their interest in joining the Agenda Committee.

The following motion was made by the Warden and seconded by Ryan Tomlinson:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards create the 2021-22 Agenda Committee.**

The motion was carried by voting members of the Board of Stewards.
4. **Presentation on the 2021-2022 Committee on Budgets Allocation** (Allison Zhao, Co-Chair of the Committee on Budgets)

Allison Zhao introduced the Committee on Budgets (CoB), a committee responsible for the allocation of budgets to the nine student-led Hart House Standing Committees. The CoB is comprised of student chairs of the Standing Committees and members of the Finance Committee. The committee is supported by Hart House staff Michelle Brownrigg (Senior Director, Co-Curricular Education) and Stan Xiao (Finance Director).

   a. **Motion on the 2021-2022 Committee on Budgets Allocation** (John Monahan, Warden)

   The following motion was made by the Warden and seconded by Alison D’Cruz:

   **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards approve the 2021-22 Committee on Budgets allocation of Committee budgets.**

   The Warden pointed out a typo in the Meeting Agenda, where the date read 2020-21 rather than 2021-22. An amendment to the agenda was made. (NB: There was no error in the drafted Motion itself.)

   The motion was carried, with 1 abstention.

5. **Presentation on Preparing the Table: Hart House Strategic Plan 2021-2026** (Jenifer Newcombe, Director, Strategic Initiatives)

Jenifer Newcombe and the Warden presented *Preparing the Table: Hart House Strategic Plan 2021-2026* for the endorsement of the Board of Stewards. The plan includes 5 major commitments that will guide the work of Hart House for the next several years, and it builds upon the work of the previous Hart House Strategic Plan, which ran from 2016-2017 to 2020-2021, inclusive.

   a. **Motion to Endorse Preparing the Table: Hart House Strategic Plan 2021-2026** (Jenifer Newcombe, Director, Strategic Initiatives)

   Over the next five years, Hart House will continue to build on the aspirational objectives laid out in our previous strategic plan, *Delight in Discovery: Experiential, Operational and Reputational Excellence*.

   Hart House will expand and deepen our focus on these objectives through a series of five broad Commitments. These commitments will reflect our mission, vision, values; recognize the critical role played by Hart House at the University of Toronto; reinforce our Tri-Campus mandate; respond to the key issues facing students today; and deepen essential relationships with our partners. Collaborative action to facilitate planning, and enhance student engagement, reach and
impact will continue to be critical to our success, and so we look to enhance strategic partnerships with student, campus and community across all five (5) Commitments.

More specific “sub-commitments” were identified by asking the question “How might we move toward these broad commitments?” Measures of Success identify specific outcomes that will enable us to track and demonstrate progress towards making good on our Commitments.

The Five Commitments are as follows:

1. Foster a climate of inclusivity and belonging in our spaces and programs.
2. Encourage students to explore who they are and who they aspire to be through the arts, dialogue and wellness.
3. Offer students rich experiential learning opportunities.
4. Deepen student engagement with local and global communities and issues.
5. Steward resources and relationships carefully and creatively to meet the challenges of today and the opportunities of tomorrow.

The following motion was made by the Warden and seconded by Matthew Lee:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Stewards endorse *Preparing the Table: Hart House Strategic Plan 2021-2026*.

Matthew Lee spoke positively about his experience being involved in the Strategic Plan process as a member of the Board of Stewards and encouraged other members to lend it their support.

The motion was carried, with 1 abstention.

6. **Warden’s Report** (John Monahan, Warden)

The Warden directed the Board’s attention to the written Department Report that was circulated prior to the meeting.

Following this, the Warden provided an update on several broader initiatives and achievements from across Hart House. These included the following:

i. **Resumption of In-Person Activities and Protocols**
   a. Our doors are open with modifications to ensure the health and safety of our community and we are excited to see students back on campus.

ii. **Virtual Hart House**
   a. Virtual Hart House has been active since the closure of Hart House on March 17, 2020, and we will continue to offer programming online throughout the term, ranging from live programming to asynchronous programming that can be accessed any time.
iii. Orientation
   a. Each year in September, Hart House invites students to stop by for a visit, check out all the different ways to get involved and meet our friendly staff and the students who run our clubs and committees. This year we invited students to join us for the following orientation events, some in-person, some virtual:
      ii. Sept. 14: Hart House Farm Committee Plant Sale & Indigenous Market Place in the Quadrangle
      iii. Sept. 21: In Person Don Tours of Hart House
      iv. Sept. 24: Queer Orientation Film Night in the Hart House Quadrangle

iv. Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) Project
   a. Hart House and the Art Museum have had a very active summer working on the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) project together; this outdoor exhibit is now open until Spring 2022. The TPZ installation, curated by Mig Migwans and Maria Hupfield, features specially commissioned mural-sized works by eight Indigenous artists and their collaborators that consider the preservation of life, water, and kin and how each is inextricably linked to the protection of trees.

v. Hart House Facilities Updates
   a. There are a significant number of recent or ongoing changes to the physical space at Hart House. These include the scheduled reopening of the Arbor Room in September, the temporary relocation of the Etrog Sculpture from the front of Hart House to accommodate the Landmark Project, and comprehensive renovations to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} floor washrooms that included the addition of ablution stations.

vi. Hart House 2020-21 COVID Impacts – By the Numbers
   a. Over the course of the pandemic, we have been tracking participation closely to understand how our community is staying connected with us.
      i. In 2020-21 Hart House hosted 489 events with 16,455 participants. In addition to our events, we also had a total of 68,512 views/listens of our online asynchronous programming. During the brief periods of time where the physical spaces of Hart House were open, 5,209 people visited Hart House in person.

vii. Hart House Staffing Updates
    a. The pandemic has had continued impact on staffing levels across several functions of the House, although as more and more in-person activities are held, these numbers are expected to continue to rise and eventually return to pre-pandemic levels.

viii. Staff Highlight: Alicia Brown
      a. Hart House’s own Alicia Brown led off the Canadian women’s 4x400 metres relay team in the event’s final at the Tokyo Olympic Games. Alicia ran a personal best as she and her teammates Kyra Constantine, Maddy Price, and Sage Watson
came together to finish fourth, just 60-100ths of a second behind bronze medallist Jamaica and only 63-100ths off Canadian record pace. By day, Alicia is the Fitness Marketing & Sales Associate in our Fitness Centre.

7. Other Business & Announcements (Terry Gardiner, Chair)

With the permission of the Chair, Michelle Brownrigg, the Chief Program Officer for Hart House who had also helped guide the Committee on Budgets process, spoke up to note that the term “Clubs & Committees” had appeared in error on the presentation slide about the Committee on Budgets motion.

To clarify the true intent of that Motion and to avoid any misunderstanding, the Warden moved a Motion to confirm that the 2021-2022 Committee on Budgets Allocation pertained only to Hart House Committee budgets, and not to “Club” programming as the slide had erroneously suggested. The motion was seconded by Ryan Tomlinson.

The Motion passed.

8. Next Meeting

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, October 7th, 2021, in a hybrid format.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Beth Ali, seconded by David Newman.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 pm.