

Minutes of the 1302nd meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards held on Thursday, November 14th, 2019 in the Council Chambers of University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (Room AA160).

- Present:
- Mr. John Monahan (Warden)
 - Ms. Janelle Joseph (Chair)
 - Ms. Amy Intrator (Recording Secretary)
 - Ms. Beth Ali (Presidential Appointee)
 - Ms. Charlie Jupp-Adams (Steward, Music Committee)
 - Ms. Chemi Lhamo (SCSU Representative)
 - Mr. David Newman (President [*ex-officio*] Designate)
 - Ms. Felicia Barber (Steward, Farm Committee)
 - Mr. J. Luke Kim (Senior Member, RA&W Committee)
 - Ms. Jenny Blackbird (Presidential Appointee)
 - Mr. Matthew Lee (Steward, Literary and Library Committee)
 - Ms. Melissa Giblon (Steward, Social Justice Committee)
 - Mr. Nicolas Sartor Campos (Steward, Finance Committee)
- Guests:
- Ms. Davina Chan (Senior Director, Marketing, Communications, Information Services)
 - Mr. Ian Browne (Member, Farm Committee)
 - Ms. Jenifer Newcombe (Director, Strategic Initiatives)
 - Marco Adamovic (Coordinator, Integrated Learning and Community Engagement)
 - Ms. Michelle Brownrigg (Senior Director, Co-curricular Education)
 - Ms. Sherry Kulman (Senior Director, Business and Ancillary Operations and Chief Administrative Officer)
- Regrets:
- Ms. Avani Singh (UTSU Appointee)
 - Mr. David Kim (Governing Council Appointee)
 - Ms. Emily Jin (Steward, Art Committee)
 - Ms. Habon Ali (UTMSU Representative)
 - Ms. Hareem Haider (Steward, Theatre Committee)
 - Ms. Kiran Sukdeo (Steward, RA&W Committee)
 - Mr. Leonardo Jose Uribe Castano (GSU Appointee)
 - Mr. Richie Pyne (APUS Appointee)
 - Ms. Sanaya Rau (Steward, Debates and Dialogue Committee)
 - Ms. Terese Pierre (Steward, Senior Members Committee)

The Chair began the meeting with a Statement of Acknowledgement of Traditional Land.

1. Approval of the Agenda

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 Nicolas Sartor Campos, seconded by Charlie Jupp-Adams, and carried unanimously by all present voting members of the Board of Stewards:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the November 14th, 2019, Board of Stewards Meeting Agenda be approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 1301st Meeting

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be made to the minutes and none were presented. The following motion to approve the minutes of the previous Board of Stewards meeting was made by Charlie Jupp-Adams, and seconded by Matthew Lee, and carried unanimously by all present voting members of the Board of Stewards:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the 1301st meeting be approved as presented.

3. Introduction to University of Toronto Scarborough Campus

a. Introduction to the Scarborough Campus Student's Union (Chemi Lhamo, President, Scarborough Campus Student's Union and SCSU Representative, Board of Stewards)

Chemi Lhamo (CL) introduced the Board of Stewards to the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU), the union that democratically unites the diverse student body of the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC) to advocate and advance student interests. CL added that this presentation is an opportunity to understand UTSC as more than a host for the meeting.

CL described the composition of the SCSU, which includes students, committees and commissions, elected officials, and staff. The SCSU's work falls under three pillars: events, campaigns and services. CL then detailed some of the services offered by the SCSU. The most popular service among students is the food centre, which is student-run and offers donations from the Daily Bread Food Bank. The recent provincial budgetary cuts have made it difficult to run, but the SCSU is committed to offering the service, which is assisted by the help of 82 volunteers. Other services offered by the SCSU include the Free Book Network, Racialized Students Collective, and the Volunteer Networking Portal.

The SCSU also offers various discounted services for students including free handbooks, International Student Identity Cards (ISIC), and passes to the CNE, Cineplex, Wet n' Wild, and Wonderland.

The SCSU is also committed to offering various other services. CL noted that the services are intended to help students with various needs (e.g. students who are also parents). Some of those services include grants and bursaries, health and dental coverage, graduation photos, tax clinics, multifaith prayer space, locker rentals, and clubs room booking. For the tax clinics, CL noted that this is another service that is difficult to provide due to the recent provincial government funding cuts.

In addition to the various services, CL noted that the SCSU executives form core initiatives each year that act as priorities for the union. The 2019-20 Core Initiatives include Democratic Engagement, Mental Health, Academic and University Affairs, Environmental Justice, Accessibility, and Global Citizenship.

See Appendix A for the full presentation.

CL welcomed questions. John Monahan (JM) noted that he was exhausted and impressed by the SCSU's breadth of work. In reference to the Food Centre, JM asked about the seriousness and expansiveness of food insecurity at UTSC.

CL responded that the Food Centre is a newer service at UTSC, so only recently have they started asking students to share information for the purpose of evaluation. The Food Centre expanded this year, with the assistance of a grant secured by CL, so there is now a second advisor who will be collecting data about the increase of Food Centre users. CL added that the staff and volunteers have noted that the centre is more used by international students, and there are more female than male users. Over 500 students are registered as Food Centre users, and past lineups for the foodbank have indicated the need for the service. This Food Centre is intended to improve the student experience at UTSC, like all services offered by the SCSU.

Nicolas Sartor Campos (NSC) clarified with CL that "events" is one of the three pillars.

CL confirmed and responded that UTSC Frosh is the largest event leads by the SCSU.

JM asked about the tax clinics offered by SCSU, referencing CL's comment that the clinics are expensive to operate. JM commented that though he doesn't want to speak on behalf of the Hart House Finance team, we do offer clinics to students at Hart House. NSC added that we run three clinics near tax season. JM elaborated that these workshops are run by CPA professionals and he then asked CL how many workshops the SCSU would be looking to run.

CL responded that the SCSU typically open the workshops for a few weeks near tax season.

JM said that the conversation can be taken offline, but there is potential for a collaboration to run these workshops as a partnership between SCSU and Hart House, potentially helping to train a coordinator on UTSC.

b. Hart House at University of Toronto Scarborough (Coordinator, Integrated Learning and Community Engagement)

Marco Adamovic (MA) began by introducing himself as the Integrated Learning and Community Engagement (ILCE) Coordinator. MA works one day a week as an embedded staff at UTSC and helps coordinate various Hart House programs on Scarborough Campus. MA noted that he has been building on the amazing foundational work of his colleague Trish Starling, who is currently on maternity leave. Hart House now has a fixed space at UTSC (SL 151), which is an exciting development.

The priority of having staff embedded at both UTSC and UTM is relationship-building with our tri-campus partners. Hart House works with various departments and groups at UTSC to help build partnerships. These partners include SCSU, Department of Student Life and International Student Centre, Department of Arts, Culture and Media, and the Centre for Critical Development Studies. Other connections between Hart House and UTSC include our Good Ideas Fund and a long-term connection with theatre and arts programming. Hart House is also building a relationship with Radio Forward, UTSC's radio station.

This year, as part of Hart House's Hip Hop programming, there have been several programs delivered at UTSC. Every month, there is a Producers Circle gathering for creators to learn and share with one another. There are also several upcoming programs including Humanz of Hip Hop on Feb. 6th, an Introduction to Turntabling Workshop on Mar. 11th, and a Hip Hop 101 Café on Mar. 18th. Additionally, Hart House is co-hosting a poetry slam on Feb. 5th.

Visit <https://harthouse.ca/%20series/hip-hop> for the full listing of Hip Hop Education programs.

Hart House also delivers Global Commons programming in partnership with UTSC. MA explained the Global Commons programming is offered through two distinct opportunities: the conference held in Fall and Winter, and the 5-week cohort workshop series offered both terms. UTSC students are involved in the conferences, cohort sessions, and sit on the organizing committee. MA then shared a few words of student reflection including the calls to action from students involved in the latest cohort focused on Climate Justice. Some of these messages included a call for more Indigenous leaders in government and a call for more vegetarian/vegan options on campus.

MA finished his presentation by highlighting upcoming programs. See Appendix B for full presentation.

Matthew Lee (ML) asked the best way for his committee to collaborate with UTSC student groups, whether he should connect with the groups directly or through Hart House.

Michelle Brownrigg (MB) responded that both options are a good idea. Marco is the facilitator but he is only embedded at UTSC one day per week. Talking the student groups directly offers opportunities for students sharing knowledge and working collaboratively.

NSC asked if the poetry slam mentioned earlier will be happening at UTSC.

MA clarified that yes, all programs listed in the presentation are delivered at UTSC.

Janelle Joseph (JJ) asked whether Global Commons programming has shifted given how many international partners are involved in the program.

MA responded that absolutely, the program changes every year with the feedback received. Global Commons is a very responsive program and staff and students are constantly learning from experience and making necessary modifications.

JM expanded that there was no traditional opening during the 2017 Global Commons conference, and students from Cape Town expressed that they thought this absence was disrespectful. This year, ceremonial leader, Wendy Phillips, opened the conference.

MA added that those involved with Global Commons are always trying to better engage the international partners. This year, the moderator of the conference was based in Cape Town.

Jenifer Newcombe (JN) commented that students are also very involved in the planning for Global Commons.

Coming back collaborative programming at UTSC, JM commented that Hart House's Talking Walls exhibits have travelled to UTSC many times. JM has had discussions with Chemi Lhamo and Michelle Brownrigg to discuss the potential for dedicated Good Ideas Funds for each of the three campuses of UofT.

MB added that Talking Walls is another initiative that is collaborative in nature. Anyone can propose an exhibit for Talking Walls, including students from UTSC. MB added that UTSC regularly utilizes the Hart House Farm, even though the Scarborough Campus is the furthest away from the farm.

4. Committee Presentations

a. Farm Committee (Felicia Barber, Steward)

Felicia Barber (FB) introduced herself as the Co-Chair of the Farm Committee; she is joined by Ian Browne (IB), a member of the committee.

The committee's mission is threefold: to provide a space for students to explore the outdoors and discover a love of nature, to work with campus groups and community members to promote community-building and re-Indigenizing practices, and the educate about urban agriculture and sustainability.

The committee is dedicated to the tri-campus mandate. For committee events at the farm, a bus leaves from Hart House and is available for students from all campuses. For the recent Cider n Song event, a bus also stopped at UTM to pick-up and drop-off students. Attendees from events includes a mix of students from all three campuses, as well as community members.

The committee holds events at the farm each season including *Summer, Sauna, Sleepover!*, *Fall Equinox*, and *Cider n Song*. There are several upcoming events including a workshop with Indigenous educators Dr. Angela Mashford Pringle and Wendy Young. The committee will also host the annual *Sugaring Off* event where participants create maple syrup and have an opportunity to try it fresh out of the boiler. The committee collected feedback after the *Cider n' Song* event, which provided several important insights. 60% of people responding to the survey indicated that their connection with the farm land changed after attending the event.

IB then introduced some of the projects the committee is undertaking. One major project is the mapping project that seeks to create a map for guests to aide in navigation and to enhance spatial understanding. The project is focused on creating a visual map that shows the relation between spaces, but the committee is also dedicated to creating an accessible map for people who need visual aid. The accessible map may take the form of a tactile map and/or an audio map. The intention is to create something that can be brought to the Farm to help all those visiting to understand the space.

The Farming and Land-Use Subcommittee spearhead another project dedicated to investigating and implementing farming on the Farm land in respect to food systems, ecosystem health and community. IB noted that visitors and community groups could further utilize the land. There is also potential for education on the land. One of the fields has not been plowed in over 20 years, so there is potential for further use and creating healthy eco-systems.

For the full presentation, see Appendix C.

FB and IB then welcomed questions. Jenny Blackbird (JB) asked if the Indigenous community has been involved in programs, specifically the *Sugaring Off* event.

FB noted that yes, the Committee's staff advisor, Day Milman, is in conversation with members from First Nations House about this event.

JB added that she works at the Centre for Indigenous Studies, and there may be potential to collaborate on programming.

JM thanked the Farm Committee for their work and then provided some additional context about the Farm for the Board. Recently, Hart House received the University of Toronto Student Spaces Enhancement University Fund (SSEUF), a grant worth \$197,000. The grant was led by our academic partners at the Waakibiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health (WBIIH) at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health. The grant is intended to increase accessibility at the Farm with a focus on the physical spaces. Last year, the University's Elders Circle held a retreat at the Farm, and it was evident that several spaces were inaccessible. The grant will help with the construction of a ramp to the farm house, a renovation to make the washrooms accessible, and a renovation to increase the utility of the kitchen.

The SSEUF was granted to Hart House largely due to our partnership with WBBIIIH, which was formalized with a letter last year that established the Hart House Farm as a space for Indigenous land-based education. A sweat lodge and teepee were constructed at the Farm last year, with plans for a second teepee to be added soon. These additions are relevant to the Farm Committee's Farming and Land-Use Subcommittee, as these partnerships relate to the future use of Hart House Farm land. The land is not intended to be exclusively used by one group, but rather to be shared. Day Milman is currently involved in discussions about this grant, but there is also potential to involve student committee members in the future.

In addition to the SSEUF, there is also an ongoing Provostial review of all offsite University locations, including the Hart House Farm. This safety review resulted from the Fall 2018 event where a student died during an offsite University event. All offsite spaces are currently under review. We should receive a report shortly with the Review findings, and though we don't expect this to impede access to the Farm in any way, it is important to keep in mind.

Melissa Giblon (MG) asked if the washrooms at the Farm are currently gender inclusive, and if not, will they be all-gender following upcoming renovations.

JM responded that the washrooms are currently all-gender, but there are plans to make the washrooms accessible. There are also long-term visions for the Farm that include the potential of creating a retreat centre and changing existing architecture. James Bird, a student and member of the Indigenous community, has likened the bunkbeds at the Farm to residential schools, which is extremely triggering. We want to avoid any sort of association with this trauma for members of the Indigenous community.

JJ asked if we have an idea of the demographic of Farm users, especially in light of the partnership with Dalla Lana.

JM responded that through our Hospitality department, we can see which groups privately booked the Farm for events, including University departments, student groups, and community groups.

5. Warden's Report

The Warden directed the Board's attention to the written summary of departmental highlights that was circulated at the meeting. This document underlined several of the ongoing issues, opportunities, and activities of the House. For the full report, please see Appendix D. Following this, the Warden provided an update on several broader initiatives and achievements that were not in the written report. These included:

i. 100th Anniversary Initiatives:

Hart House Gala: On November 12th, Hart House hosted the "Gala of the Century" to officially mark our centennial anniversary. The event was attended by several members of the Board of Stewards in addition to many staff, alumni, dignitaries, and friends from across the University. Overall, we raised approximately \$70,000, which will go to the Hart House Innovation Fund.

The Hart House Centennial Art Commission, *waabidiziiyan doopwining* was revealed at the event for the first time. The next day, the artists behind the commission, Rebecca Belmore and Osvaldo Yero, delivered a free talk where they discussed the work. The event allowed a great mix of people to see the work and hear about its importance.

- a. Centennial Dialogue Series Featuring Stephen Lewis: Next Tuesday, we will be hosting the third event in our Centennial Dialogue Series, *Opportunity Lost? A Call to Action in the Age of Trump*

featuring Stephen Lewis (keynote), Michele Landsberg (opening remarks), Shelagh Rogers (moderator), and other special guests. The debate is inspired by the 1957 Hart House Debate, which was attended by special speaker John F. Kennedy, and then-student Stephen Lewis. General admission tickets are sold out for this event, but a few student tickets are still available.

- b. **Other Upcoming 100th Anniversary Events:** There are several events in our Centennial Concert Series including concerts on Nov. 17th, 24th, 25th, and Dec. 1st. These concerts are a great way to reach both students and community members, including seniors with a relationship to poverty. The low to no cost concerts allow for a warm, enjoyable experience for all attendees.
- ii. **Elections and Recruitment for Student Chairs:** At our next meeting, on December 5th, we will be creating the 2020-21 Election Commission, responsible for the election of Student Chairs for the Hart House Standing Committees. More details to come, but keep in mind the opportunity for two graduating students to serve as members of the Election Commission.
- iii. **Hip Hop Education:** We have already received great feedback about our hip hop education programming that has been taking place at all three campuses. There are still several events scheduled for this term and next term, including the Humanz of Hip Hop event on December 3rd, which will allow participants to talk to a member of the hip hop community about their experiences over one-on-one conversations.
- iv. **Winter at Hart House:** In addition to the non-denominational decorations that will be featured across Hart House this year, there will also be events organized by Hart House Committees including *Wintersong* on December 1st. We will also be holding *Winter Cheer* at the Gallery Grill, an opportunity to raise revenue through a specially themed winter experience for staff and community patrons of the Gallery Grill.
- v. **Major Gift Announcement:** Peter Wambera, Chief Development Officer, deserves special credit for this next announcement. Hart House faces unique challenges with fundraising, as most UofT graduates who donate to the University choose to donate to their graduating program, faculty or college. Peter Wambera has been integral in stewarding donor relations at Hart House. Upon the recent passing of Donald Burwash, Hart House received \$2.4M from his estate, the largest donation since Hart House's founding. Donald had a lengthy relationship with Hart House, including serving as the first non-Warden Chair of the Board of Stewards and later as interim Warden.

The funds donated from the estate will go towards repairs, fixings, and furnishings at Hart House in the South Wing (not including the Theatre or the Fitness Centre). The funds will be divided between long-term, medium-term, and short-term repairs. There will be more information and a public announcement to follow, and likely an event to recognize Donald's generosity.

For the full Warden's Report, see Appendix E.

6. Other Business & Announcements

The Chair asked if there was any other business or announcements.

JLK announced that next week is the campus-wide Wellness Week and the Recreational Athletics and Wellness Committee is organizing five events over the span of the week that address topics such as nutrition, medicine, sleep, self-defence, and injury prevention. Please see the Hart House website for more details.

NSC announced that this is also financial literacy month, and the Finance Committee is organizing 3 workshops over the span of the month on November 19th, 21st and 28th. Please see the Hart House website for more details.

JJ reminded the Board that November 20th is the Transgender Day of Remembrance. CL added that this day is part of the “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign,” which also includes the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada on December 6th.

7. Next Meeting

The next Board of Stewards meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5th, 2019 at Hart House in the South Dining Room.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by J. Luke Kim seconded by Chemi Lhamo.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Chair
July 14, 2020

Recording Secretary

Appendices:

Appendix A: Scarborough Campus Students' Union (Chemi Lhamo).

Appendix B: Hart House & UTSC (Marco Adamovic).

Appendix C: Farm Committee (Felicia Barber).

Appendix D: Hart House Departmental Report (John Monahan).

Appendix E: Warden's Report (John Monahan).