New College Council

Meeting of Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 2053, Wilson Hall

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the Meeting of November 17, 2014 (attached)

2. Business Arising from the Minutes
   i) Toilet Paper in Residence

3. Report from Standing Committees
   i) NEWSS

4. Report of the Principal – Y. Roberge


6. Report from the Registrar’s Office – K. Huffman

7. Report from ORSL – S. Wilmot

8. Report from Student Councils
   i) NCSC
   ii) NCRC
   iii) Course Unions

9. Other Business

10. Adjournment
NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Monday, November 17, 2014
12:10 p.m., Sally J. Walker Council Chamber, New College

Present: O. Almasi, S. Brown, D. Chang, L. Chester, N. Crawley (Secretary),
A. Edem Afenu, K. Huffman, B. Ing, L. Jiang, K. Klaas, A. Lazaro,
A. Mahder Bashi, L. Manicom, J. Newman (Chair), B. Parry, Y. Roberge,
D. Rodricks, B. Russell, S. Sasikumar, H. Si, M. Skinner, L. Stahlbrand,
T. Toneatto, R. Vander Kraats, A. Wasi, S. Wilmot, R. Wilson

Regrets: A. Guerson, K. Ikuta (ASCU), J. Larkin, R. Nicol (BPSU)

Agenda

On a motion by S. Wilmot, seconded by O. Almasi, the agenda for the meeting was accepted.
CARRIED

Minutes of the Meeting of October 8, 2014

The minutes of the meeting of October 8, 2014 were accepted as recorded
CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Report from Standing Committees

• Academic Affairs
  D. Knott reported the following:
  • The committee met in mid-October to review proposed Calendar changes. The main changes discussed include:
    ♦ Caribbean Studies – the program is being brought into compliance with Arts & Science regulations for Major and Specialist programs following its external review. The Program will go through the POSA Advisory Committee this fall and will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee in January. Additionally, a new 100-level required course is being introduced to the Program.
    ♦ Equity Studies – a new Minor program has been proposed. It will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee in January.
    ♦ New One – the program is being restructured with the aim to increase enrolment. Instead of 4 full-credit courses, there will be 8 half-credit courses.
Additionally, students will only have to commit to 3 hours/week instead of the current 5 hours/week.

♦ Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health – a new course “Meditation and the Body” is being proposed.

♦ Independent Studies – the process and application form are being updated. Policies regarding projects requiring approval by the Research Ethics Board or study abroad will be implemented. Additionally, earlier deadlines have been proposed to encourage students to apply earlier and to allow for the increased complexities involved in processing independent studies applications.

♦ The November 1 program enrolment figures have been released. Equity Studies is the 2nd largest College Major (Criminology is the largest). Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health is the largest College Minor. Between its 4 programs, New College has the largest program enrolment on the St. George campus.

♦ The new SDFs are Jonathan Luke Melchiorre (African Studies); Mariana Bockarova (Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health); Chandni Desai (Equity Studies); and Gary Fogal (IFP). The Spring Speaker Series is being planned for February/March 2015.

• **NEWSS**
  S. Wilmot reported the following:
  • The NEWSS Committee has had a very busy agenda this fall.
  • The Dean of Students now chairs the Committee instead of the Associate Director of Student Life and Leadership.
  • A more formal process (motions and voting) is being developed for NEWSS meetings. A subgroup is working with the Principal on this and will be reporting back to NEWSS.
  • The Committee is currently reviewing the orientation program and comparing it to the orientation charter.
  • The Orientation Chairs completed the transition report. S. Wilmot thanked the Chairs for their hard work.

**Report from the Principal**

Y. Roberge reported the following:

• **Associate Director of Development Search**
The process is going well. An announcement should be made soon, and the selected candidate will likely start in December. Our current campaign goal is $7 million, and we are currently at $6.4 million. The incumbent will begin developing new priorities. The search committee included D. Chang, J. Larkin and a few external members.

• **Provostial Report**
The report from the Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health has been published on the Provost’s website ([http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/Provost+Digital+Assets/Report+on+Student+Mental+Health.pdf](http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/Provost+Digital+Assets/Report+on+Student+Mental+Health.pdf)). It contains a framework for approaching student mental health. There are 22 recommendations grouped into 5 categories. The 5 categories are:
Institutional Commitment
Awareness, Education, Training and Anti-Stigma
Inclusive Curriculum and Pedagogy
Mental Health Services and Programs
Supportive Policies and Procedures
An implementation plan will be developed.

• Provostial Priorities
The Provost has announced 7 priorities for her term in office. They include:

♦ Administrative streamlining – one portfolio has been eliminated in merging two Vice Provostial portfolios into one. A new portfolio will be created: Innovations in Undergraduate Education.
♦ Reinventing Undergraduate Education – looking at the stem disciplines and looking how the humanities can fit in, experiential learning and examining all that is currently being done in this area.
♦ Re-Thinking Graduate Education – time to completion, skills development. Currently, colleges don’t play a large role in graduate education, but should think about how the college could play a bigger role.
♦ Student Experience – including mental health, embedded counselling, creating communities for students, and promoting the idea that “Any door is the right door”, meaning that wherever a student goes for help, they will receive the right information either there or be redirected to the place that has the information or help they need.
♦ Leadership Development – faculty leadership, training junior faculty for leadership roles.
♦ Faculty Relations – working with UTFA, doing more outreach.
♦ Enrolment Planning – domestic vs international and how the budget is impacted by enrolment.

♦ New College Initiatives Fund and Principal’s Innovation Fund
The PIF consists of donations from 2 donors who give annually. The fund was created at a time where the College had very little discretionary funding available for new initiatives. There are 2 rounds of applications. The NCIF recognizes the College’s new fiscal reality, and consists of 7 “bins”, each with a manager, to which applicants can apply at any time. Students can apply to either the PIF or NCIF via a faculty or staff sponsor. The NCIF is a relatively new fund, and it was decided to review the guidelines after a year of them being in place and report on how the funds were used. It is suggested that a report be made in Fall 2015, reviewing the NCIF activities and process for 2014-2015.

On a motion by Y. Roberge, seconded by S. Wilmot, the first report on NCIF expenditures will be presented in October/November 2015. CARRIED

Both the NCIF and PIF work in a similar manner. It is proposed that a sub-committee examine the possibility of eliminating PIF and having only one fund for initiatives. The sub-committee would make recommendations on what to do with the funds that come from the donors: (1) merge the PIF with the NCIF or (2) find
another priority at the College and redirect the funds there (in consultation with the donors).

Y. Roberge moved, seconded by D. Rodricks, that a sub-committee be formed to discuss the restructuring of the two initiatives funds. CARRIED

The following individuals were named to the sub-committee: D. Knott, L. Chester, and the new Associate Director of Advancement.

♦ J. Newman will be on leave from January – June 2015. A hiring committee for his replacement is in place. 78 applications for the position were received.

Report of the Registrar

K. Huffman distributed material (attached) and reported the following:

- **Update on ReOrientation: Paths Beyond Your Post**
  This event, consisting of workshop sessions geared toward 2nd year students, will take place January 12-16, 2015. The workshops aim to help students transition into their 3rd and 4th year. Each College/set of College partners will host one large event open to all students. Innis and Woodsworth have partnered and will focus on grad school (grad school fair, workshops on recommendation letters, writing statements, etc) on Monday and career options (writing résumés, CVs, networking, etc.) on Friday. University College will be hosting co-curricular and mentorship fair on Wednesday. New College will focus on “What do you do with your degree?” and will have panels talking about how to make the most of your degree on Thursday. Each College will offer smaller events throughout the week. Registration is not required; students can drop-in to as many sessions as they like. This is a Step Forward initiative, and will be on the Step Forward website.

- **November 1 Enrolment Data**
  There are 4,900 Faculty of Arts & Science students registered at New College. Professional Faculty students living in New College residences are also part of New College, and total 303. This bring the total number of students registered at New College to 5,200.

- **Awards Update**
  New College students have access to 2 streams of funding. The first is UTAPS, which is administered through Enrolment Services. Over 250 New College students are receiving over $1 million in UTAPS funding. The other source of funding is general bursary funds allocated to New College from Enrolment Services. To date, almost 90 students have received a total of $162,949 from this fund, with the average award being $2,000 per student. $265,000 in in-course merit-based scholarships has been awarded to 268 students.

- **November Convocation**
  166 New College students will be graduating at the November 18, 2014 convocation ceremonies.
Report from the Freedom of Information Liaison (FOIL)

K. Huffman introduced herself as the New College FOIL and reported the following:

- The FIPPA Office asked local units to review their practices with respect to handling private data and ensure they are compliant with FIPPA guidelines.
- IT staff can work with Faculty to make devices (laptops, etc.) compliant.
- Student groups must also comply with FIPPA guidelines.
- An information event will be held in early 2015 geared toward teaching staff. Representatives from the FIPPA office will be in attendance.

Report from Business Services

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

- **New College Plaza Project**
  
  All of the initial documents have been signed. The Centre has taken $1.1 million dollars from the College and put it in a project account. The project design team is in place. Terence Van Eslander (has worked on many projects for New College) is the lead architect; Johnny Terzis is the capital project manager; Alan Webb, from the Central Infrastructure Group, is the University’s liaison with community groups and City Hall; and both a landscape architect and a surveyor are in place. We are currently going to tender for an arborist. The project is tentatively scheduled to begin May 1, 2015, and it is planned to be complete within 3 months. There will be a 2 week disruptive period (loud noise; jackhammers), hopefully in June. We are currently looking at poured concrete vs pre-fab structures in terms of cost, time to completion, etc. The project design has been approved with a few modifications by the Central Design Committee. Neighbourhood associations will be consulted in January.

Discussion followed. L. Chester asked what the area would look like for convocation in June. R. Vander Kraats said that it is unknown at this point. O. Almasi asked about access to the library during this time. R. Vander Kraats said that the library may have to be accessed via the basement instead of the external entrance at 20 Willcocks for a short period.

Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life

S. Wilmot reported the following:

- With the addition of more bed over desk doubles, New College is now the largest residence at University of Toronto.
- The annual holiday decorating competition and dinner will be November 29.
- The 45 Willcocks residence will be open over the holidays. International students in particular appreciate this.
- The “You Beyond New” conference held in October went very well, with 40-60 students participating. The keynote talk was on self-branding.
• Events are being planned to capitalize on the ReOrientation momentum. All of the Colleges are going together to book out Ripley’s Aquarium. Another exciting event will be a talk by Dr. Greg Wells called “Biohacking Your Way to Better Grades”.

Report from Student Councils

• NCSC
  B. Parry reported the following:
  ♦ UTSU held its Annual General Meeting. For now, the proposed equity directors will not be replacing College directors, but it is likely that this issue will come up again next year. NCSC is planning to hold a meeting with students in January to discuss what students want out of UTSU.
  A. Lazaro reported the following:
  ♦ A number of successful events were held in the fall, including the Halloween Haunt, held in conjunction with NCRC; a Halloween pub night; Toronto Raptors game; and graduate school and job seminars.
  ♦ A ski trip is being planned for Reading Week in February. The first deposit has been paid.
  ♦ C4 (Commuter Coffee Cookie Community) is ongoing in the Commuter’s Lounge on Wednesdays.
  ♦ The annual formal will be held in February.
  ♦ Students are volunteering at the soup kitchen at Avenue & Bloor.
  ♦ The fall round of grant applications is now complete.

• NCRC
  B. Ing reported the following:
  ♦ Meal Plan Limitations
    All New College residents have a meal plan. There are 3 types: (a) Carte Blanche, which allows unlimited access to the cafeteria; (b) Plan 15, which allows 15 meals/week; and (c) Plan 330, which allows 330 meals over the course of the year. Plans 15 and 330 don’t allow students to access the cafeteria more than once per meal period, so if a student wishes to have a late lunch (late in the afternoon), it will count as dinner, and the student cannot access the cafeteria later in the evening. Students would like more flexibility in this area. R. Vander Kraats stated that he is the liaison between the College and Aramark, and he will bring it up when discussing next year’s contract.
  ♦ Recycling in Residence
    Recycling in residence doesn’t seem to be happening. Despite having multiple bins for sorting, everything seems to be sent to the landfill because it’s cheaper.

Discussion followed. S. Wilmot stated that it is not a cost issue; it’s a contamination issue. The recycling company won’t accept the items for recycling if there’s more than 10% contamination. Some students won’t sort their garbage; 2 students in a house can ruin it for the entire floor. A. Edem Afenu said that some of the bins fill very quickly and seem to take a long time to be emptied. D. Rodricks said that recycling bins sometimes
take days to be returned to the floor. R. Vander Kraats said that this is a caretaking issue that needs to be addressed. S. Wilmot mentioned that there isn’t a recycling-inclined attitude in residence, and students need to be educated regarding recycling. Municipal recycling programs didn’t work until the city started limiting the amount of garbage that could be collected. There needs to be an incentive to drive behavioural change. B. Parry asked if the entire university is struggling with this issue. S. Wilmot said this is an issue faced by all university residences, not just New College. R. Vander Kraats stated that there are special bins that allow students to sort in their room. H. Si asked if there is a way to tell which residence does the best job at recycling. S. Wilmot said that it is a hard thing to measure, with many factors to consider, including the style of residence and the percentage of international students in the residence, among other things.

D. Rodricks moved, seconded by A. Edem Afenu, to refer the recycling issue to the Building Committee. CARRIED

♦ Toilet Paper
Residents complain about the toilet paper in residence. They do not like the 1-ply toilet paper currently used.

Discussion followed. R. Vander Kraats said that 1-ply toilet paper is the University standard. As the University buys such large quantities, there is a significant discount. The cost of 2-ply toilet paper is at least 4 times the cost of the 1-ply. S. Wilmot said that the College does as much as it can to keep costs for residents low. Additionally, the toilet paper in use now is actually 1½ ply paper. D. Rodricks suggested trying other types of 1-ply paper. B. Parry commented that residents may be willing to pay slightly more in order to have 2-ply toilet paper. A. Edem Afenu agreed, and said that students have been complaining about the toilet paper for years. It was mentioned that since the College is in a better place financially, perhaps the College could cover the additional cost. Y. Roberge stated that the residence budget and the operating budget are completely separate entities. It was decided that this issue will be revisited at the February meeting of NCC.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. on a motion by D. Rodricks, seconded by B. Russell.
Enrolment: November 1/14 statistics (November 1/13 figures in parentheses)

- Arts and Science: 4,900 (4,8904)
- Professional Faculties: 303 (282)
  Total: 5,203 (5,186)

Bursary/grant (need-based) applications
Students at New College have access to bursaries/grants from two principal sources:

i) the UTAPS program (part of the financial aid guarantee) in which the University provides
top up grant assistance to students whose assessed need under the OSAP* program is
greater than the maximum loan possible;
ii) Over $1 million in UTAPS grants to over 250 students
(* approximately 50% of full-time New College students have OSAP loans)

iii) general bursary funds which are allocated to New College from Enrolment Services
(∼$600K), and college funds from private donors and base budget. Grants from New
College opened on Oct. 1st, and so far we have awarded almost 90 students grants that
total $162,949 – the average award is $2000 per independent students

Scholarship (merit-based) awards

- 268 students received in-course awards this term, based on achievement in 2013/14. The
total amount awarded was $265K, (about the same as last year). Awards range in value
from $250 - $2500.

Nov. Convocation
Our Fall Convocation is tomorrow night and 166 New College students will be
graduating (162 in 2013).