New College Council

Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2014, 12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 2007D, Wilson Hall

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the Meeting of January 27, 2014 (attached)

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

3. Report from Standing Committees
   i) Academic Affairs

4. Report of the Principal – Y. Roberge

5. University of Toronto Budget Presentation


7. Report from the Registrar’s Office – S. Walker

8. Report from ORSL – S. Wilmot

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

10. Other Business

11. Adjournment
NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Monday, January 27, 2014
12:10 p.m., Room 2007D, New College


Regrets: J. Curnow, A. Jung

On a motion by B. Russell, seconded by J. Charnaw-Burger, the agenda for the January 27, 2014 meeting of NCC was approved.

Minutes of the Meeting of November 7, 2013

On a motion by S. Walker, seconded by R. Vander Kraats, the minutes of November 7, 2013 were accepted as recorded. CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Report from Standing Committees

- Academic Affairs
  J. Larkin reported the following:
  ◆ All summer course proposals have been approved.
  ◆ The first draft of the 2014-2015 timetable is due February 7, 2014. Program Directors were thanked for their cooperation in submitting their timetable information in a timely fashion.
  ◆ The Senior Doctoral Fellows Speakers Series is starting later than it usually does due to space issues. Details are nearly finalized, and the series will be publicized widely.
  ◆ The New College Initiative Fund’s Academic Bin still has some funding available. To date, 4 proposals for amounts under $5,000 have been approved, and two larger proposals have been forwarded to the sub-committee of PP&B for consideration. Another proposal is expected shortly.
Money for the Belize internship program has been received. The Namibia internship program will be running on a greatly reduced scale this year (only 2 positions), as the coordinator is currently writing his dissertation.

Several Step Forward proposals have been submitted, including a proposal for a one day conference and a joint proposal with the Career Centre.

**NEWSS**

S. Wilmot reported that the Committee met at the end of the semester. They are currently working on hiring the new orientation chairs and discussing the division of responsibilities between ORSL, NCSC and the orientation leaders.

**Report from the Principal**

Y. Roberge wished the Council a Happy New Year and reported the following:

- The winter term is going very quickly and many things are happening:
  - David Cameron has been named Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science until summer 2016.
  - Rick Halpern has been reappointed as Vice Principal (Academic) and Dean of UTSC until summer 2019.
  - The deadline for nominations/expressions of interest for the New College Vice Principal position is February 5, 2014.
  - Applications for the Disability Studies lecturer position are being reviewed. The search committee will meet soon to develop a shortlist.
  - The new Registrar and Assistant Principal of New College has been selected. Kerri Huffman will start on April 7, 2014. The search committee was thanked.
  - An “Events Coordinator” position is being developed.
- PAG will meet with the Central Office regarding FIPPA general guidelines. All units within the College will be asked to follow these guidelines
- The deadline for Step Forward proposals is tomorrow (January 28). All of the Colleges are working together on a proposal called “ReOrientation”, which targets 2nd year students.
- Richard Rooney has donated $650,000 toward the Plaza Project. This donation, along with NCSC’s commitment of $150,000 over 5 years means that the project is now fully funded.
- There will be a Principal’s lunch next week.
- S. MacInnes was thanked for her work during C. Richards’ absence.

**Presentation from the Food Systems Coordinator**

L. Stahlbrand introduced herself as the Food Systems Coordinator. Food is becoming a focus of many of the College’s activities. In 2003, the “Food Security” course was launched. It was the first of its kind in Canada. In 2006, the student-initiated partnership with Local Food Plus at New College was instituted. 2008 saw the first “World Food Day”, and in 2009, the “Theory and Praxis in Food Security” course was offered. In 2012, the New One course “Food Matters” was launched. For the past several years, the
event “Home is Where the Spoon Is” has been held at New College. Many events and courses, along with faculty research at New College have a link to food. The Food Systems Coordinator position was created to bring all of these together. Other initiatives include the community garden and a seed library. An international agroecology conference is planned for the fall of 2015, featuring keynote speaker David Suzuki. A mini conference is planned for the fall of 2014. For the moment, the position is ½ day per week.

Report of the Director of Business Services

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

- The New College Initiatives Fund has received many applications. Generally, expenditures should be used for projects by April 30.
- The ancillary budgets will be forwarded to SARG. These budgets are to project the year-end position and project the next five years. For residence and food services, a break-even position is the desired outcome. This year, there will be a $200-250,000 surplus, which will be used to reduce the accumulated deficit.
- Rates must be approved by SARG, then University Affairs, and finally Governing Council. Meal plans will increase by 3.5%. Single rooms in Wilson and Wetmore Halls will increase by 3.4-3.5%, and in 45 Willcocks by 4-4.2%. The bed over desk double room, which is the most economical option for students, will increase by 1.8%. There is a plan to make financial aid available for double room applicants. S. Walker and S. Wilmot are working on the application form.
- The “Event Planner” position mentioned by the Principal will have 3 functions: a back-up for the summer assistant position; the facilities side of room booking; and an event planner. This position will be a part-time casual contract at first in order to determine the exact job description.

Facilities – Current Projects

- The Council Chamber (WI 2053) is moving along. Completion is expected in mid-March.
- The Wilson Hall basement bathroom project is also expected to be complete in mid-March.
- The Wetmore Hall basement men’s bathroom will be renovated and will include a universal bathroom. 50% of the cost of this project will be paid by the Centre.
- All full-time staff and faculty will have their workstation hardware refreshed. The Registrar’s Office will be the first to receive the new computers. The goal is to have everyone’s workstations upgraded by the end of the spring. Machines will be standardized and all will have a 23” monitor. All software will be FIPPA-compliant.

Facilities – Upcoming

- The multi-purpose teaching space will be completed before summer. The ventilation will be much less expensive than originally thought.
- The Plaza Project – the initial goal is to break ground in Fall 2014. The concept will be reviewed, as the review group wants the design expanded. The project will be tendered to architectural firms.
Report from the Registrar’s Office

S. Walker distributed material (attached) and reported the following:
- Approximately 6,000 academic advising appointments have been held so far this year in the Registrar’s Office. 4,885 are returning students and 1,199 are new admits. April, September and November are the peak times.
- Bursaries: Approximately 200 awards have been made.
- 290 late withdrawals 47 credit/no credits have been processed.
- 280 petitions have been processed since September. The Faculty of Arts and Science is working on a new petition system.

Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life

S. Wilmot reported the following:
- StudyFest was very successful.
- Olivia Chow gave a talk in January.
- The Academic Rebounding Communities have been launched. The first event was held last week.
- An “Alternate Reading Week” is being planned. There are 2 main events:
  1. Outdoor Education Leadership at Camp Kawartha
  2. Student Voice Project - mental health promotion and reducing the stigma attached to mental health issues. Partners in this project include CAMH, “Mind Your Mind” and Health and Well-Being. Students will be creating zines to promote what students on campus need to know about mental health.
- A Step Forward proposal has been submitted by ORSL for a “Wilderness Outdoor Orientation Program” (also known as “WOOP”). The program would last 5 days and would include various challenges during a hike through Algonquin Park. The program will be targeted at commuting students.
- Funds from the Student Life bin of the NCIF have been used to update music rooms. Rooms have been painted, and the rooms at 45 Willcocks have been soundproofed. The pianos are being replaced. Funding is also being used to buy a digital piano for events, to support the zine project and the WOOP initiative.
- Don applications for 2014-2015 are due February 7. The goal is to again have a mix of graduate (75%) and undergraduate (25%) dons.
- StarRes is being updated.

Report from Student Councils

- NCSC
  T. Fung reported the following:
  ♦ NCC reps held an online and paper survey to find out more about New College students. Questions included “Where do you spend most of your time at New College” and “What kind of events are you most likely to participate in”, etc. While the response wasn’t large (approximately 150), it is a starting point.
  ♦ The Mental Health Awareness Fair is being held currently. The Wilson Lounge is being used as a conversation space.
A new initiative this year is “Fantastic Fitness Friends”, where first year students who haven’t used the Athletic Centre are paired up with an experienced senior student.

Another initiative is “C4” (Commuter Coffee Cookie Community). It is held on Mondays from 10-1 in the Commuters Lounge.

A mid-year retreat was held recently for NCSC to review the year.

B. Parry reported the following:
- New 2.0 was very successful. There were games, a dessert mixer, skating at Harbourfront and a talent show. $500 was raised for charity (Peace by Peace).
- The NCSC bulletin boards have been refreshed and are now hopefully more informative for students.

J. Gabison reported the following:
- NCSC will be offering two different trips during Reading Week: a ski trip to Blue Mountain and a Montreal trip. The Blue Mountain trip is sold out.
- A semi-formal will be held February 27 at Hart House.
- NCSC will receive its 2nd instalment of funding soon.
- The winter round of grant applications has begun.
- There is special funding available by application to NCSC-recognized groups. In the fall round, New Dragonz was granted $6,000 and the Black Students’ Association was granted $400.
- NCSC is creating an “emergency funds bin”. Once $30,000 has been set aside for the 2014-2015 Council, any excess will go to the bin. Procedures for accessing this money are being developed.

T. Fung reported the following:
- C. Maniscalco, the NCSC VP Admin has resigned due to personal reasons. A new VP Admin will be chosen soon.
- Regular elections for the 2014-2015 Council will be held in March.

Other Business

H. Si reported that two new program will be offered during the summer session: the summer IFP and UTPrep. They are now actively recruiting, with a target of 20 students per program during this pilot year. The IFP numbers are healthy, and it is expected that the UTPrep numbers will come up in March, as students begin to receive their admission letters. The for-credit course in both programs will be thematically based, with food being one of the themes.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. on a motion by S. Wilmot, seconded by S. Walker.
Academic Advising Appointments

The yearly total of academic advising appointments (including those who attended drop-in times) in 2013 was 6084 (6086 in 2012). Of these, 4885 were returning students, 1199 were new-admits. The numbers are high most months, with peaks in April, September and November.

Bursary/grant 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;
   * ~45-50% of full-time New College students have OSAP

ii) general bursary funds which are allocated to New College from Enrolment Services (~$618K), and funds from private donors.

(In addition, many students will have received the “30% tuition rebate” (~$1700 at UT) from the Province of Ontario, if their combined family annual income was under $160K).

Awards made from September 2013 – December 2013

- UTAPS: $194,809.
- New College general bursary funds/other funds: 206 students have been awarded a total of approximately $420K (average ~$2,029).
- We expect to make further awards of ~$200K in the second term.

Late Withdrawals

As of the end of December the Registrar’s Office has processed 290 Late Withdrawals (LWDs) for students who did not drop courses by the November deadline; also 47 CR/NCRs were processed. In order to obtain an LWD, or CR/NCR, students must have a meeting with an academic advisor in the RO.

Petitions

Since September, 280 petitions have been forwarded to the Faculty: 145 of these were processed in December and January.