New College Council

Meeting of Wednesday, May 6, 2015, 12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 2053, Wilson Hall

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the Meeting of March 26, 2015 (attached)
2. Business Arising from the Minutes
3. Report from Standing Committees
   i) Academic Affairs – D. Knott
4. Report from the Communications Committee – K. Huffman
5. Report of the Principal – Y. Roberge
7. Report from the Registrar’s Office – K. Huffman
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 Thursday, March 26, 2015
12:10 p.m., Sally J. Walker Council Chamber, New College


Regrets: A. Guerson, J. Larkin, B. Russell, H. Si, S. Stevenson, T. Toneatto, V. Tropepe, A. Wasike

Minutes of the Meeting of February 4, 2015

On a motion by S. Wilmot, seconded by A. Victoriano-Martinez, the minutes of the meeting of February 4, 2015 were accepted as recorded. CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:
• Toilet Paper in Residence & Laundry Facilities
  Both of these items have been referred to the Facilities Committee, which will meet on Monday, March 30.
• Elevators
  There are continuing service issues with respect to the elevators. A new elevator maintenance company has assessed the issues and is preparing a written assessment and cost estimate.

Report from Standing Committees

• Building Committee
  R. Vander Kraats reported the following:
  • Plaza Project
    The Design Review Committee has asked for a change in the design. While there were no major objections, they have asked for a “grander” design that incorporates more green space.
  • Refurbishing Wilson Lounge
    It has been 6-7 years since the Lounge was last refurbished. Historically, it has been funded by an NCSC capital levy. However, since this money is now going to the
Plaza project, we need to find other funding. A subcommittee has been formed to discuss the project and will report back to the Building Committee.

- **Wilson Hall Apartment**
  A subcommittee has been formed to discuss this space and will report back to the Building Committee.

- **Recycling in Residence**
  There is a very low rate of recycling in residence. D. Rodricks, a don in residence, volunteered his floor for a pilot project looking at ways of increasing recycling. As it is close to the end of the year, this project may not happen until next year.

**Report from the Principal**

Y. Roberge reported the following:

- **Labour Disruption**
  The current labour disruption is taking a long time to resolve. Many people are stuck in the middle, most notably undergraduate students, but also instructors lacking TA support. The Vice Principal, Program Directors and Registrarial staff were thanked and commended for their hard work amidst constantly changing directions from central administration.
  
  Tentative agreements were not accepted. Yesterday, the President requested binding arbitration. CUPE will be voting this afternoon as to whether or not to accept binding arbitration. If it is accepted, there will be an immediate return to work, effective as early as tomorrow.
  
  Locally, the College has 6 suspended courses (courses were taught by members of CUPE 3902 Unit 1) in addition to courses that are affected by the loss of TA support. The Principal and Vice Principal have been working closely together on these issues, on both a conceptual and policy level. They met with the Program Directors regarding affected courses and agreed on courses of action. D. Knott and Y. Roberge have been going to the suspended courses to answer questions and reassure students that there will be no penalties for a situation that is out of their control. There will be mechanism for unhappy students to express their discontent.

Discussion followed. A. Victoriano-Martínez thanked Y. Roberge and D. Knott for their leadership during an extremely stressful period, and reminded everyone that we can’t lose sight of the fact that in the end, everyone will be back here, working together. O. Almasi asked if there will be a tuition refund provided to students. Y. Roberge replied that the issue has come up, especially from students who are more concerned about academic integrity and want meaningful grades than those who just want to pass. Students will have the option to change to credit/no credit (CR/NCR) or opt for late withdrawal much later than they normally would. If they choose to drop the course, the University should listen to requests for tuition reimbursement, and Y. Roberge will advocate on their behalf. B. Parry asked who students should approach regarding this issue. Y. Roberge said that the students need to make the request, but there are more pressing issues at the moment. K. Huffman explained that fees are set through Governing Council and the Provost’s or Dean’s Office. D. Knott said that ASSU is supporting students who want to organize around this
issue. Y. Roberge emphasized that if no one complains, nothing will happen. K. Huffman said that the goal is for students to complete the courses they've started. B. Parry asked if any additional mental health supports will be in place. K. Huffman replied that the current strategy is that the options that have always been in place will remain in place. S. Wilmot said that while, generally, stress levels are high, they have not seen an increase in the number of acute issues. K. Huffman explained that there are registrarial tools to help manage stress (late withdrawal, CR/NCR – students will be able to drop or change to CR/NCR after grades are posted), and that the goal is to help students not be disadvantaged by the strike. More than half of the conversations with students in the Registrar's Office are questions regarding “Is this true?” regarding the above-mentioned options. It is critical that we publicize the FAQs on the Faculty of Arts & Science website.

Report of the Registrar

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

- **Labour Disruption**
  Students in “S” and “Y” courses will have the option to change to CR/NCR after marks are posted in addition to the option of late withdrawal. Students are being advised to wait to see the outcome rather than just drop courses. Generally, courses that are taken as CR/NCR cannot be used to fulfill program requirements, but any 2015 winter courses taken as CR/NCR can be used. Additionally, any courses taken CR/NCR during this term will not count towards a student's limit. However, programs requiring minimum grades in particular courses for admission will still be able to see the underlying grade should a student opt for CR/NCR. The FAQs on the Faculty of Arts & Science website are most pertinent to our students and are updated frequently. The staff in the Registrar's Office were commended for their work during a very stressful and busy period. In order to deal with the increased pressure, appointment times have been shortened. Additionally, there is the ability to deal with emergency situations.

Discussion followed. B. Parry asked what options are available to students who fail a course due to the strike. K. Huffman said that students can petition. Y. Roberge commented that May 19th or 20th will be the deadline for students to choose CR/NCR or late withdrawal.

- **Admissions**
  Approximately two-thirds of the offers have gone out. A new centralized communications tool is being used so that the first communication a new admit has is from a current student. Messages can be tailored in various ways, such as for international students or to promote New One.

Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life

S. Wilmot reported the following:

- Residence move-out will begin soon.
• The end of the term is very busy, with lots of hiring. Orientation Coordinators have been hired; the 1st round of don hiring is complete (2nd round to come); WOOP leaders have been hired, and currently in the middle of commuter don hiring. In total, 40 students have been hired.

• 302 students signed up for residence readmission in less than 6 hours. It is expected that there will be approximately 240 returning students.

• The commuter social and the Lacy Green events were very successful, drawing approximately 100 students and 270 students, respectively.

• The office is working on 2015-2016 residence space allotment. It is expected that there will be approximately the same number of returning students.

• There were 59 graduates from the Leadership Certificate program.

• There was a Big Brothers Big Sisters mentorship program reception. 25 mentors and 35 mentees attended.

• StudyFest is approaching. Numerous types of “therapy” animals will be present, including a kangaroo.

• Some of the projects funded by NCIF (Residence bin) include upgrading storage for students groups, purchasing a new sound system for NCRC, as well as many other student group initiatives.

J. Charnaw-Burger reported the following:

• Alternative Reading Week
  The Camp Kawartha Outdoor Education and Leadership program was very successful, as was the “Student Voice Project”. The Student Voice Project made a presentation to the Student Life group. There is an interest in expanding the project and including a strong international advisory focus.

• 2nd Leadership Certificate
  The current leadership certificate program has been modified so that it is now easier to complete in a year. As a result, there is interest in a second leadership certificate, with an emphasis on developing peer facilitation skills.

Report from Business Services

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

• Plaza Project
  Initially, it was planned that construction on the New College Plaza would begin this summer. However, the Design Review Committee has a more urban vision for this project; College members like the trees and green space. The revisions to the plan make construction this summer impossible, and we are now planning for a start date next summer. The scope of the project has increased and will cost 30% more (which translates into an increase of $250,000 - $300,000). We are working with Urban Forestry and community liaison groups to develop a plan that will satisfy all parties.

• Infill Project
  Structural engineers have examined the building and have said the proposed infill project to the north side of Wetmore Hall is feasible. We are now examining how much useful space would result from this.
• **Summer Facilities Projects**
  ♦ The 4th floor of Wilson Hall will be renovated.
  ♦ The Wilson Hall and Wetmore Hall roofing project will continue.
  ♦ Exterior wall maintenance will continue.
  ♦ Planning to remove all of the old electronic locks from residence rooms in Wilson Hall and at 45 Willcocks. Wetmore Hall will be done in 2 years.

• **Food Services**
  Aramark’s 10 year contract ends soon. The College will be spending $150,000 to put more restaurant-style furniture into the dining hall. The floor in the Wetmore side of the dining hall will be repairs. There is a new chef (Robert Mills) who has lots of ideas for the cafeteria. One change this fall will be the introduction of a noodle station.

• **Finances**
  There are no major issues with the College’s finances. The operating budget is balanced. The Faculty of Arts & Science gives the College a base budget allocation, which is 60-65% of the College’s budget. There will be a central cut to the budget, but departments will not be affected.

**Report from Student Councils**

♦ **NCSC**
  NCSC reported the following:
  ♦ Elections were held, and there are a number of students returning to the Council in the fall. There are a few minor outstanding grievances to be resolved, but nothing that will affect the results of the elections.
  ♦ UTSU elections are on now. Many New College students are participating.
  ♦ There are constitutional issues surrounding being on UTSU and on NCSC. Students can hold multiple positions, but have only one vote on NCSC.
  ♦ The New College student newspaper is being revived and re-named: The New Edition.
  ♦ A number of events are coming up, including a pub night, the formal and exam de-stressor events.
  ♦ There is a new “Appeals Board” for student societies at the Provost’s Office.
  ♦ The Student Commons was approved at Governing Council last week and will be run by students.
  ♦ There will be a reconstruction meeting held to discuss the structure of NCSC. The current Council has 30 positions, and it is hoped that the new structure will result in 19-21 positions. NCC representatives will be eliminated. Changes won’t be seen until 2016-2017.

♦ **NCRC**
  NCRC reported the following:
  ♦ Elections have been moved to the fall.
  ♦ A number of changes have been made to the constitution.
  ♦ Upcoming events include a house t-shirt competition, soccer tournament and the Spring Dinner/Dance.
  ♦ The elevator at 45 Willcocks has been a bit better.
♦ **ASCU**

ASCU reported the following:

♦ Elections were held. Hawa Noor has been elected president for 2015-2016. A junior representative is still needed.

♦ A constitutional review will be held.

♦ **CARSSU**

CARSSU reported the following:

♦ A film festival was held in March and was well attended. Directors from the USA and one from Guyana were in attendance.

♦ The Caribbean Quilt journal launch has been pushed to September.

♦ A social will be held tomorrow, with Caribbean food and games. All are welcome.

♦ The next event is the Diasporic Voices conference. Archaeology students who did research in St. Lucia over the summer will be presenting their work.

**Other Business**

O. Almasi asked about the status of the current fundraising campaign. A. Liddell responded that we’re currently at $6.705 million, so we are $295,000 short of our $7 million goal. The campaign wraps up in December 2016. The University has reached $1.62 billion, with a goal of $1.7 billion. The faculty and staff campaign will start soon. The campaign cabinet will meet in May, and there will be a renewal of the cabinet’s membership.

D. Knott thanked R. Vander Kraats for installing the art in the Council Chamber.

Y. Roberge reported that a memo was received from the Faculty of Arts & Science regarding the search for a new director of Human Biology. The search committee has been formed and they are now looking for suggestions/nominations.

Y. Roberge mentioned that R. Vander Kraats has had a change in position title: he is now the “Chief Administrative Officer”. The job description is unchanged, but the new title is more reflective of his position.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. on a motion by S. Wilmot, seconded by A. Victoriano-Martínez.
New College – Registrar’s Office

Report to New College Council – March 26, 2015

Admissions:
The early round of offers to Ontario Secondary School (OSS) applicants went out in late-February & Mid-March. These two rounds will account for about 2/3 of the FAS OSS offers. The third round will go out around the third week of May. Offers to non-OSS applicants go out on a rolling basis. Overall FAS targets are same as last year.

Admission Scholarships: 175 offers made so far ($2000 or $3000). We expect to spend around $150K (55-60 awards).

Welcome Events: May 23 (Saturday) & June 4 (Thursday)

Admissions Communications – use of Hobsons, central tool to send targeted communications.

Graduation:
- 774 students have requested graduation for the June Convocation (June 2015)
- This is about the same time last year.

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;
   * approximately 45% of New College students (full-time) have OSAP

ii) general bursary funds which are allocated to New College from Enrolment Services and funds from private donors.

Awards made from September 2014 to February 2015:

- UTAPS: $1.1 million – to about 300 students
- general bursary funds/other funds: over 200 students have been awarded a total of approximately $450K.
March Events:

- Dinner for National Scholarship Finalists
- Graduation Info Session
- **Subject POST Info Sessions**
- IFP Course Enrolment Session,
- TYP Info Session
- March Break Campus visits