New College Council

Meeting of Wednesday, May 4, 2016, 12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Room 2053, Wilson Hall

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the Meeting of March 10, 2016 (attached)

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

3. Report from Standing Committees
   i) NEWSS – J. Charnaw-Burger

4. Report of the Principal – Y. Roberge


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

7. Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life – L. McCormack-Smith

8. Plaza Project Presentation – R. Vander Kraats

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 10, 2016
12:10 p.m., Wilson Hall, room 2053, New College


Agenda

On a motion by B. Russell, seconded by J. Charnaw-Burger, the agenda was approved.
CARIED

Minutes of the Meeting of December 4, 2015

The minutes of the meeting of December 4, 2015 were accepted as recorded.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Report from Standing Committees

- Academic Affairs
  D. Knott reported the following:
  ♦ Program Business
    All curriculum changes for the 2016-2017 Calendar as reported at the October meeting of Council have now been approved.
  ♦ June Larkin Award
    This year’s June Larkin award has been awarded to Prof. Anne McGuire for her project “The Pedagogical Promise of Disability: Building and Sustaining Accessible University Classrooms”. The project will generate a great deal of interest when it is completed. Prof. McGuire was also the recipient of the Tobin Sievers Prize for Disability Studies. Last year’s recipient of the June Larkin Award was Prof. Bill Ju, and he will be presenting the results of his project at one of the Pedagogy Group meetings next year.
♦ Academic Affairs sub-committee
A Joint Program Committee, a sub-committee of New College program directors has been formed. The program directors will be working together on creating strategic plans for the college programs and academic initiatives.

♦ Senior Doctoral Fellows
The current year’s SDFs are currently presenting. The list of presentations has been circulated. The call for applications for next year will be sent out shortly. The value of the SDF has been increased to $1500 for the 2016-17 academic year.

♦ International Initiatives
The Belize trip is planned for this year – it is a partnership between New College, Human Biology and Aboriginal Studies. Ten students will be going this year, and Principal Yves Roberge is to be the faculty member on the trip.

Two 399Y courses will be occurring this summer – Prof. Wasike will be taking two students to Kenya and Prof. Dei three will be taking students to Ghana on research trips.

Preceding the recent College retreat, the Academic Affairs Committee held an International Initiatives Consultation, bringing together all faculty and instructors who have participated in an international initiative to discuss future goals for international initiatives and opportunities. The primary discussion currently is to determine the core values of offering international initiatives, conduct consultation with students groups and conduct a comprehensive review of what international opportunities New College Programs have offered in the past and assess what we need to develop long-term, sustainable programs.

♦ International Foundation Program
B. Russell reported on the comprehensive review of the IFP, which was conducted in consultation with faculty, students and staff. One important finding was that students’ performance in IFP100Y1 was a good predictor of future success in students’ degree studies.

♦ Summer courses
A good range of summer courses are being offered by New College programs, and the Faculty of Arts & Science provided solid funding for the summer course offerings.

• NEWSS
K. Huffman reported that Madeline Peters and Nadine Abdel-Ghafar have been hired as the 2016 Orientation Coordinators. The Planning Executives will be hired in the coming weeks. Under the revised Orientation structure last year, there were four executives hired and there were challenges. As a result, eight executives will be hired this year, as well as Web Management and Financial Management positions.

Report from the Principal

Y. Roberge reported the following:
• Director, Office of Residence and Student Life
Leah McCormack-Smith was formally introduced and welcomed as the new Director of
the Office of Residence and Student Life. Leah joined New College in January, coming to us from University College. She is a great fit in her new role at the College

- **Office Staffing**
  F. Zhang will be away for the remainder of March. In her absence, Devangikunver Vaghela will be working in the Principal’s Office on a part-time basis.

- **New College Retreat**
  The Principal was very impressed with the work accomplished at the College-wide retreat held in February, and felt that, as a group, the College community works well together. Moving forward, the Standing Committees of New College Council will be charged with reviewing the retreat notes, distilling the recommendations and bringing forward the next steps and recommendations for action items to NCC in the fall. It was stressed that there is no reason to rush the process, as we want to work through the recommendations in a thorough way.

- **MasterCard Foundation**
  The application process is well underway for the 2016-2017 academic year. About 1,000 applications were received for the 16 available spots at U of T in Arts & Science and Engineering. This coming year will mark the 4th cohort, and the first cohort will be entering their final year this fall.

- **Fall Reading Week**
  The recent ASSU referendum on a Fall Term Reading Week has passed. As a result, a Fall Reading Week will be implemented beginning Fall 2017. Many details about adding a new reading week will have to be considered, as there will be an impact on Orientation, the fall class schedule and the December exam schedule, among others. Y. Roberge is on the implementation committee, and asks that students, faculty and staff forward concerns for him to raise at the committee. At the moment, the biggest concern is the impact on the length and timing of Orientation.

- **Convocation**
  New College convocation is scheduled for the afternoon of June 15, 2016. An Honorary Degree recipient was not allotted to our convocation, so New College can recommend a convocation speaker. The Principal asked for suggestions and noted that the speaker can come from anywhere around the globe.

- **Events**
  It was noted that it is a particularly busy time of year at the College, with a wide range of events happening. It’s great to see so many lectures, events and sessions being offered to the community. The organizers were thanked, and staff, students and faculty are encouraged to go to as many events as possible.

**Report from the Associate Director, Alumni & Development**

A. Liddell reported the following:

- **Boundless Campaign & Fundraising**
  We are very close to reaching the campaign fundraising goal of $7 million. The Boundless campaign was set to end by December 2016, but there has been no official announcement regarding the close of the campaign. The Alumni and Development
Office is also working on its regular annual fundraising, which will continue on into early spring.

- **Re:New**
  The alumni magazine Re:New is shifting to a fall publication date. It has been found that when it was published in May, much of the content was out of date. A new graphic designer has been hired and the theme for the upcoming issue is entrepreneurship.

- **Mentorship Program**
  The Mentorship Program has recently selected mentees for the coming year. There will be over 50 mentees. The current year’s participants recently took part in an etiquette dinner at the Faculty Club. The New College Mentorship Program is very well received and respected at the University. The Commerce program has been consulting with B. Registe as a means to enhance their own program.

- **Dinner@NEW**
  There have been six scheduled Dinner@NEW events so far this year. Three events have been recorded, and we hope to post small clips from the events on the New College website.

- **Spring Reunion**
  The New College Spring Reunion events will take place on May 27, 2016. This year, the goal is to find alumni who are in medicine. The discussion panel will focus on trends in the medical field.

**Report from the Chief Administrative Officer**

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

- **45 Willcocks Funding “Problem”**
  A Memorandum of Agreement between New College and the Faculty of Arts & Science has been reached regarding the funding formula for 45 Willcocks St. (aka the “$400,000 problem”). Under the MOA, the Faculty will provide funding for the office space for instructors and New College will support the William Doo Auditorium and the New College Student Council office spaces.

- **Finances**
  As reported to the Service Ancillary Review Group (SARG) in February, the accumulated deficit for the residence ancillary will be eliminated by the end of the current five-year planning cycle. Operating surpluses from our Food Services ancillary will be directed to the residence ancillary during the next five years, which is contributing to the deficit reduction plan. We will be able to eliminate the deficit without sacrificing the facilities renewal program for our three New College buildings.

- **Food Services**
  It was recently announced that New College will partner with U of T Ancillary Services to take over the Food Services at the College from Aramark. The end of the Aramark contract is July 31, 2016. The meal plan structure and the fees reported to SARG in February, 2016 will remain the same for the upcoming school year. There are several advantages to this new arrangement for students – the food quality and selection will likely improve, and students will have improved portability of their meal plan, as they will be able to use their meal plan cards at other outlets across campus (this will also
allow students from other colleges to use our dining hall). Other improvements for students will include a longer meal service time and students will be allowed to take their backpacks/bags into the dining hall.

There will be a major change in the kitchen – less packaged food will be used and more of the food preparation will take place on-site. The University is in the process of offering the current Aramark employees University employment which will be largely appointed U of T positions with benefits, etc. Aramark has agreed to cooperate during the transition period, and meetings will be taking place over the next months to determine how to best manage the transition.

Y. Roberge asked if it would be possible to encourage a staff/faculty day in the dining hall. L. McCormack-Smith said she will be meeting with the new manager and will be discussing programming opportunities such as special food days or events geared to the New College community. R. Vander Kraats added that if there are any concerns about the service and food quality in the dining hall during the transition, please let him know

- **Plaza Project**
  It was reported that we should have ‘guarded optimism’ with regards to the Plaza Project and that the current plan is to commence construction at the end of September 2016. The Plaza Project is part of the larger Willcocks Common project and New College has been part of a larger planning group. We will be at the Community Liaison Committee meeting on March 21st and we’re coordinating with the Willcocks Common plans. It looks as though Willcocks Common will have quite a bit of green space, and that the Plaza project will have less green space and more pavers. J. Charnaw-Burger raised concerns about construction starting during Orientation Week in September. R. Vander Kraats reported that a break would be written into the construction contract.

- **Summer Renovation Projects**
  The summer renovation project will include extensive renovation (painting, bathrooms, carpets and common rooms) at 45 Willcocks and that a colour scheme is currently being selected. The roofing project at Wetmore/Wilson is being completed after an 8-year process. This will free up some of the budget to go towards other building upgrades next year. The renovation of the public bathrooms is continuing with the last bathroom (Wetmore Hall) to be started during the winter break in December 2016. The goals are to have to all major public bathrooms accessible and to use a “touchless” design within the bathrooms. Some noise problems from hand drying units (selected for sustainability reasons) have been reported and are problematic if the bathrooms are near teaching spaces or offices. Quieter replacement units are being evaluated.

The Security Project Phase II is going ahead this summer. Improvements include “assistance stations” installed at various locations in the basement areas and some lounge/classroom spaces, cameras in some remote basement spaces and the last of the perimeter doors converted to electronic control.
Report of the Registrar

K. Huffman reported the following:

- **Admissions**
  The early round of admission offers went out in late February. The Faculty of Arts & Science has increased the number of offers issued in February in the hopes of increasing the percentage of students who accept their offer. In March, the largest group of admission offers will be sent out. Between February and March, about 70% of total offers are sent out. The remaining offers are sent out in mid-May. For the 2016-2017 academic year, the Faculty target is to return to the 2014-2014 admission numbers.

- **Admission Scholarships**
  New College has made almost 200 admission scholarship offers. Most of the scholarships are valued at $2,000-$3,000.

- **Welcome Events**
  The Registrar’s Office will host Welcome Events for new incoming students and their families on Sunday, May 29 and Thursday, June 9.

- **Graduation**
  787 New College students have requested graduation for June 2016. This is up slightly from the 774 graduation requests received at the same time last year, but we expect to have about the same number of students convocate in June 2016 as in June 2015.

- **Staffing Changes**
  Numerous staffing changes have happened in the Registrar’s Office recently. Sara Brown, Assistant Registrar, is on leave until August 2016. Justina Lee has stepped into that role while Sara is away. Lauren Vollmer has been hired as a Student Services Assistant while Justina is seconded into the Assistant Registrar role. Troy Mallari has recently been promoted to the Office of the Faculty Registrar.

- **Events**
  Numerous sessions/events are planned for March, including:
  - Graduate Information Sessions
  - Program Enrolment Information Sessions (March 25 & 30)
  - IFP Course Enrolment Session
  - TYP College presentation
  - March Break campus visits

Report from the Director, Office of Residence and Student Life

L. McCormack-Smith reported the following

- **Staffing**
  There have been a number of changes in ORSL. John Thomas recently took a new position at Grad House. Lauren Kilgour will be taking his place until August 31, 2016. Dirk Rodricks’ contract has been extended to the end of the summer.

- **Don Hiring**
  Offers have been made to prospective dons. The interviews for commuter dons will be taking place shortly.
• **Summer Interns**
  Two new summer intern positions will be created this year. One will be responsible for overseeing a new e-mentorship program for incoming students. The other will be orientation and transition, helping plan the two-day academic orientation.

• **Summer Programming**
  ORSL will be launching an e-mentorship program for incoming students. The program is delivered via email and is an opt-out program. Current students will serve as mentors and they don’t have to be on campus in the summer in order to take part. Students will receive regular emails from their mentors via a listserv. The program will run from June – September and will coordinate with Orientation events.

• **Academic Orientation**
  A two-day Academic Orientation will run as a standalone event for students who are not able to attend the longer Orientation program. It will focus on academic information and University Life. Jeff Newman and Deborah Knott will be part of the program planning team.

• **Programming Review**
  There will be a review of the programs and events organized by ORSL over the summer to develop central themes and promote a suite of programs for next year. The Living Learning Communities are being reviewed. The goal is to bring people together around pedagogical rationale, such as building around College programs, interdisciplinary themes and interests.

• **Residence**
  The goal for the coming year is to have about 70% first year students and 30% returning students.

J. Charnaw-Burger reported the following:

• **Alternative Reading Week Programming**
  The Student Voice Project took place recently. This is a tri-campus project that had very strong participation and excellent feedback. Lucy Fromowitz, the Assistant Vice President, Student Life, is aware of the project and is interested in showcasing it.

  The Camp Kawartha trip had 25 students participate and received great feedback.

• **Leadership Certificate**
  The Leadership Certificate program is wrapping up. A reception to honour the students who completed the certificate will take place at the end of March.

Report from Student Councils

• **NCSC**
  S. Sasikumar reported the following:
  ♦ Numerous events were held recently, including some well-attended panel discussions; the semi-formal in January, a grilled cheese social, and a ski trip during Reading Week. The ski trip was not as well attended as in previous years, but there
were other competing ski trips offered by multiple organizations during Reading Week, and that may have been a factor in the lowered attendance.

N. Grant reported the following:
♦ The finances for NCSC for the year have finally been completed. It took much longer than usual, but everything is now on track.
♦ Upcoming events include a pub night, the formal, and a karaoke night, held in collaboration with UC Lit.
♦ NCSC elections are upcoming, and prior to the elections, a referendum on a restructuring of positions and roles will be held. The elections will take place the following week. The changes to the NCSC roles are as follows:
  “Vice President Student Services” is now “Vice President Student Life”
  “Equity and Sustainability Director” is now “Equity Commissioner”
  “Male Athletics Representative”, “Female Athletics Representative” and “Co-Ed Athletics Representative” positions have been eliminated and replaced with two “Athletics Representatives”
  “New College Council Representative” positions have all been eliminated
  The number of “Social Commissioners” was increased from 2 to 4.
  All “Director” positions were retitled as “Commissioner”
  Additionally, the constitutional responsibilities were redistributed from the positions that no longer exists to the positions that exist currently.

T. Jeung reported the following:
♦ NCSC will be hosting a lunchtime social. The event, which is open to all students, will give students an opportunity to come in and meet with NCSC members, talk about the services they receive, and provide input about the kinds of events and initiatives that NCSC offers. The hope is for this event to be an ongoing one.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned.