New College Council

Meeting of Friday, March 10, 2017, 10:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Room 2053, Wilson Hall

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the Meeting of December 9, 2016 (attached)

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

3. Report from Student Groups
   i) NCSC
   ii) NCRC
   iii) Course Unions

4. Report from Standing Committees
   i) NEWSS – L. McCormack-Smith
   ii) Library Committee – J. Newman

5. Report of the Principal – Y. Roberge


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

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


10. Report from 2016 New College Retreat
    i) Academic Mission (attached)
    ii) Communication Strategy (attached)
    iii) Community Engagement (attached)

11. Other Business

12. Adjournment
NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Friday, December 9, 2016
1.10p.m., Wilson Hall, room 2053, New College


Regrets: T. Hoang, A. McGuire, S. Trimble, K. Villacorta

Agenda

The agenda was accepted as proposed.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Report from Standing Committees

• Academic Affairs
  D. Knott reported the following:
  ♦ Five new courses were proposed and all course proposals passed on November 1st. There was one name modification (NEW225H1 – Caribbean Sociology).
  ♦ In terms of New College Program Enrollment, two area programs, African Studies and Caribbean Studies are down a bit from previous years (AS 2015 – 2016, 111 students total, AS 2016 – 2017, 105 students total, CS 2015 – 2016, 41 students total, CS 2016 – 2017 30 students total). There has been an issue surrounding visibility with the timetable structure.
  ♦ Equity Studies and Buddhism Psychology and Mental Health are holding steady. In 2014 – 2015, there were more students enrolled in a Major in Equity Studies than currently (2014 – 2015, 420 students, 2015 – 2016 398 students, 2016 – 2017, 365 students). A Minor in Equity Studies was introduced in the 2015 – 2016 calendar to provide flexibility for the students to fit it into their schedule as well as provide a break in the Major.
  ♦ The total New College Program Enrollment for 2016 – 2017 is 1002 students. Equity Studies is the largest program at the Faculty of Arts and Science with 494 students enrolled in the program for 2016 – 2017 (as per November 1, 2016 report). Note: Paradigms and Arche. is no longer open but there are still 3 students grandfathering through.
  ♦ In terms of comparative data, New College Sponsored Program Enrollment is well above other College-Sponsored Program Enrollments.
3950 students enrolled in New College-Sponsored Courses and 1349 students enrolled in IFP/UTP Courses (combined data for 2015 – 2016 and 2016 Summer). Note: These are not individual students, some students are taking multiple NEW/IFP/UTP courses.

**Library Committee**

J. Newman reported the following:

- Library Committee met on December 8, 2016 and shared library usage at the NCC Meeting. The gate count (i.e. the number of people that walked through the front main doors of the Ivey Library) for 2014 was 56,059 and for 2015, it was 56,557. The count on December 6, 2016 was 93,845. This number is incomplete because it does not count the number of people entering the library from the basement. The library is operating at capacity and is well used by a broad sector of the New College community and programs.

- In terms of circulation statistics, the numbers are fairly constant. The students’ use of print material is remaining static which means that the library is collecting material that the students are finding useful and instructors are assigning research assignments that is driving students to the library.

- There are different classification ranges that are getting books signed out frequently, primarily in Women and Gender studies. Some of the most used books of the collections are 1. Feminism 2. Sex Roles 3. Pornography 9. Disability Studies 20. Buddhism Psychology and Mental Health. Because Caribbean Studies and African Studies are such small programs, their circulation figures do not appear.

- Overall, the library is being used as a physical space, its collections are being used consistently and well and it seems to have found its niche within the community.

**Report of the Principal**

Y. Roberge reported the following:

- New College will be hosting a dinner with the President of University of Toronto, Professor Meric Gertler on January 12, 2017. It is going to be a student-focused event. There will be also be a focus on food and the event will provide an opportunity to talk about food from a scholarly perspective as well as combining the dinner to showcase the change with Food Services. The Principal’s Office is working with Lori and the chefs at New College to plan for the event.

**Report of the Chief Administrative Officer**

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

- Reminder that everyone will be locked out of the college for the winter break and to let K. Carriere, N. Crawley, T. Serbina (HMB) or B. Russell (IFP) know by noon, December 12, 2016 if you would like access during the break.

- All three residence buildings will be open during the winter break to accommodate international students.
Facilities will be going into everyone’s offices during the winter break to clean out the heating and so furniture will be moved around in the offices for access purposes.

Reminder to make sure to completely power off and shut down printers and computers in order to conserve energy.

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 is the last day the university will be open for 2016. The University will reopen on Monday, January 2, 2017.

Business Process Redesign: Admissions

K. Huffman reported the following:

K. Huffman has been a part of a Business Process Review of the admissions process for students in the Faculty of Arts and Science. The project ran for approximately 10 weeks and comprised of reviewing the current admissions process and provides a set of recommendations in order to make the admission process easier for prospective students. The working groups consisted of registrars, admissions staff, a faculty member, an international student, a direct entry domestic student and staff from FAS. The Executive Steering Committee which included the Dean FAS gave the BPR Committee the desired end results.

The overall recommendations presented by the BPR Committee were:

1. Simplified Deadlines and Procedures – The students are currently being asked for the same information multiple times in multiple portals. The recommendation is to create a synthesized application where students would be able to indicate what they are interested in applying for (e.g. leadership awards, financial awards etc.). Benefits of this are it makes it easier for the students and it also makes the university look better.

2. Integrated Applicant Portal and Communication – The recommendation includes the student would have the opportunity to get into this portal and do some long term planning rather than toggle between different portals. Benefits of this are it will be much more seamless for students as well as Admissions.

3. Responsive Online Planning Tool – During the application process, students do a lot of research including what stream you are applying to, research for applying to college etc. This tool would help to navigate and give a sense of what the requirements are. The expectations are that this would be a tool that would stay with the student throughout their academic career. The idea is to have an enrollment cart, show similar programs.

4. New Admissions Categories – The BPR Committee recognized that the streams did not make a lot of sense and it did not relate to anything. The New Admission categories would streamline things and give the students an indication of what their program of study is going to be. Organize programs under new categories by degree pathways: Arts, Science and Commerce.

5. Aligned First Year Opportunities – Recommendation includes providing better information of what is available to a first year student and the multitude of opportunities for them including small classes, College Ones etc.
6. Streamlined College Community Selection Process – Recommendations include students have the opportunity to rank upto 3 colleges (rather than all 7) or indicate no preference. This is to also allow more transparency with the Residence Guarantee. Currently Trinity College, Vic and Innis admit students who have indicated them as first choice.

Report from the Registrar’s Office

K. Huffman reported the following:

♦ In terms of enrollment figures, for the November 1st count, total numbers for degree student is 4959, just shy of Woodsworth which is at 5403.
♦ The full course equivalent enrollment (FCE’s; students who are enrolled in 3 full courses and above), New College has the highest.
♦ In terms of international student enrollment at New College, we have 89 countries of citizenship (including Canada). By enrollment numbers: Canada (2642), China (1637), Korea (146), India, USA (58), Ecuador, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Russia, Iran, Bangladesh, Turkey, Nigeria, Japan, Philippines, Egypt and Jordan were the top countries.
♦ The largest number of students enrolled in Statistics, Human Biology, Mathematics, Computer Science, Economics, Cells and Systems (Biology), Commerce. A large number of students also enrolled in Philosophy. For Commerce, New College has the second highest enrollments following Woodsworth.
♦ New Admissions – For GTA 101 Students – 164 out of 400 students applying into Life Science Stream. For International and Out of Province 105 Students – most applying to Mathematical and Physical Sciences stream.

Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life

L. McCormack-Smith reported the following:

♦ The last big event of the year, Study Fest, was on December 6, 2016 and it was quite successful.
♦ Don Applications are due this week. The first round of student interviews will be on February 11, 2017 and it is going to be a carousel interview with 60 candidates. The second round will be approximately 35 candidates being interviewed following the first round.
♦ All three residence buildings will remain open. There were 105 requests for Wilson and Wetmore Hall, 40 of these full stays. There will be don and staff coverage for the entire break.
♦ Student Voice Project is on track for reading week. This year there will be no trip for Camp Kawartha due to a confusion in booking (Camp Kawartha booked for a week earlier than requested and no longer have availability for reading week). Camp Kawartha has been prebooked for next year (2018) and ORSL will be working with IFP to increase numbers.
♦ L. McCormack-Smith currently working with R. Vander Kraats and K. Spence to implement display space for the art from the Student Voice Project into the basement areas.

L. Manicom mentioned the Working for Mental Health Forum which is to take place on March 3, 2017 and collaborating with ORSL for this event.
Report from Advancement

A. Liddell reported the following:

♦ The University announced their goal for the Boundless campaign at the Varsity Dome: $2,058,559,590. They have also announced the expansion of the campaign to two years ending December 31, 2018, going up to 2.4 billion.
♦ President Meric Gertler mentioned at the campaign event that world-wide only 31 universities have had a campaign that has met this number and of the publicly funded institutions that number narrows down to 15.
♦ New College’s contribution is $7.3 million (not including the Doo gift). Following the announcement of the campaign expansion, New College’s new target is $8.5 – $8.8 million. With the Doo gift, we are currently at $8.3 million.
♦ The New College Christmas Card features a decorated Goliath Gnu this year.

Report from Student Groups

• NCSC
  N. Grant reported the following:
  ♦ The last event of the year was Formal (masquerade ball) and it went well.
  ♦ The social calendar and events for the upcoming year include a Raptor’s Game and a spa retreat.
  ♦ With respect to the St. George Student Alliance, most of the St. George campus colleges and faculties are on board.
  ♦ The union heads of all 7 colleges do not favour the Fall Reading Week proposed by ASSU and the Faculty of Arts and Science since it will affect to orientation week programming specifically as move-in dates are not being changed for residence students. In order to accommodate for the Fall Reading Week, classes will start on Thursday, following Labour Day. All 7 colleges are signing a joint statement asking for that to be reversed. New College does not have a strong opinion since it does not affect orientation planning as much.

Other Business

There was no other business

Adjournment

On a motion by L. McCormack-Smith, seconded by L. Manicom, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.
New College Strategic Directions - Academic Mission

New College’s academic mission is an essential element of our life and identity and encompasses our academic programs and teaching units that offer curricular and co-curricular academic support (Library and Writing Centre).

New College has a historic commitment to education for social justice extending back at least to the 1970s, when the Women Studies Program (1974) and the African Studies Program (1978) were founded. With social justice conceived dynamically to reflect shifting historical conditions, our academic programs exemplify socially responsive and engaged fields of scholarship. We also have an established practice of collaborating creatively with units from across the college, campus, and communities (e.g., Centre for Community Partnerships, Indigenous Studies, History, Human Biology, Latin American Studies, Office of Residence and Student Life, OISE, Sexual Diversity Studies, Social Work, Transitional Year Program, Women and Gender Studies, as well as many community partners, both local and international).

New College is recognized as a leading incubator of exemplary curriculum and pedagogy (e.g., Community Engaged Learning, Disability Studies, English Language Learning, International Foundation Program, and New One). Initiatives are taken not in pursuit of an abstract goal of innovation but rather to respond to the interests of our diverse student body and the questions and knowledge that matter to the communities that we also study. We work to integrate this situated knowledge into our own educational vision.

This approach to pedagogical development is expressed in the promotion of experiential and community engaged learning, in knowledge enhancing co-curricular programming, in student engagement, accessibility and inclusiveness. In this approach, knowledge is a process and not a transferable product.

In recognition of the growing diversity and different modes of learning of our student body, both international and domestic, our programming supports students in navigating new academic environments and expectations.

New College is itself a community, bringing together faculty, staff and students in a collaborative relationship that both generates mindful and integrated learning (e.g., in New One, Community Engaged Learning, Caribbean/African/Equity Studies Writing Group) and embeds core social justice values in its own space (e.g., Coffee Shed, Global Food Equity initiative). Our Library and Writing Centre not only provide programming for students college-wide to thrive and develop intellectually but also collaborate actively with our academic programs (e.g., teaching partnerships, curricular support, library collections, and course reader support).

Our international programming likewise aims to build ongoing relationships with place, institution and faculty in the sites we visit (e.g., CELA in Belize) as well as with UT academic partners, and to provide opportunities to students who have traditionally not had access to them.
In determining how we continue to express these values and approaches, we identify these core priorities:

1. Building program capacity and leadership by:
   - Increasing permanent faculty appointments
   - Deepening interdisciplinarity and cross-program or cross-departmental collaboration
   - Increasing visibility of academic programs
   - Developing active relations with alumni from academic programs

2. Developing pedagogy for and access to programming in the following core areas:
   - Undergraduate research
   - Community engaged learning
   - International experience opportunities
   - Academic support, including disciplinary literacy, writing and language development.

3. Building and expanding access to key resources by:
   - Enhancing space for academic programs and academic support
   - Increasing both the number and value of scholarships in our academic programs and across the college.
New College Strategic Directions: Communication Strategy

New College is one of the largest and most diverse colleges at the University of Toronto. We are an active college with numerous events and innovative academic initiatives occurring year round. New College is a leader in many ways – in student life programming, academic programs content and events and community engaged learning.

However, we often don’t tell our story well – our main communication vehicle, the New College website, contains a great deal of information but is poorly organized and text heavy. We have little information on the website to promote what New College is about to prospective students, and we don’t highlight our faculty and college members in a consistent and comprehensive way. We often hear from students and alumni after events have happened, that they would have loved to attend if only they’d known about it on time. It is essential to develop communication channels to promote our events and activities to the entire college community. We lack a consistent visual identity - that says “New College” when it comes to posters, flyers, and other promotional material.

When reviewing the current communications for prospective and current students, alumni, staff, faculty and wider community stakeholders, the following objectives were recommended:

- To develop and articulate a more consistent New College identity
- To provide better information about the educational, co-curricular, and engagement opportunities New College offers
- To deepen connection to the College through increased awareness of and participation in New College events and initiatives

We believe the College can meet these objectives through the implementation of the following strategies:

- Restructure and redesign the New College website to ensure it meets community needs and the College’s objectives
- Develop reliable, regular resources (i.e. Newsletters, social media channels, print resources) to inform the New College community about upcoming events, initiatives and opportunities
- Establish a Communications Officer position to coordinate communications on behalf of student services and academic programs
- Provide tools that empower faculty and staff to communicate with students in a way that is consistent with New College’s identity
- Improve coordination and consistency of College-wide communications
Core Priorities:

1. Restructure, redesign and overall renewal of New College Website:
   a. Create a contract position to take on responsibility for the role of redesigning and restructuring the website.
   b. Produce a range of videos promoting the college for prospective students
   c. Highlight academic programs and faculty
   d. Create protocols for website maintenance and updates
   e. Implement Staff and faculty intranet resources: style guide, templates, how-to tutorials

2. Cohesive Communications Messaging
   a. Establish tools and systems for promotion of college events and initiatives
      • Tools may include social media accounts, newsletters, digital and print material,
      • Systems may include scheduling and submission dates, identifying managers of communication tools, format for submission.
   b. Install Just-in-time TV monitors in student service spaces,

3. Consistent Visual Identity
   a. Have a professional work with the college to develop cohesive, compelling yet flexible New College-branded materials for all aspects of college life and academic programs
   b. Create style guides for posters, flyers and other promotional materials
   c. Install way-finding signage that reflects the visual identity
New College Strategic Directions: Partnership and Community Engagement

Established in 1962, New College is one of the youngest colleges within the University of Toronto. With just over 25,000 alumni world-wide, New College is beginning to embrace its history, define its legacy and build on its foundations for future growth.

While we emphasis our student support and academic programs, our connection to our students doesn’t stop after graduation. Our alumni are deeply involved in the life of college and hold a particularly special place at New College for the character they bring to our community and the example they set of what’s possible after graduation. There are few better learning opportunities than the chance to follow a person who is a few steps ahead of you and there are few actions more commendable then reaching out to help the people who are a few steps behind. In addition, engaging our alumni through lifelong learning is an important aspect of community building.

We work hard to maintain a deep connection between our students, alumni and friends, because we believe that success can only be achieved with a close network built upon a solid foundation. But this network doesn’t stop there - faculty, staff, senior doctoral fellows, program alumni, our IFP students and alumni, our community partners – they each add to the diversity and complexity that makes New College unique.

When reviewing the current partnership and community engagement avenues, the following objectives were recommended:

- To improve communications with the New College community
- To deepen our connection with the New College community through increased awareness of and participation in New College events and initiatives
- To communicate our history and our story and to make the connections between our history and our community partners.

In determining how to meet these objectives, we identify these core priorities:

1. Redesign and overall renewal of New College Website:
   a. Ensure the website is attractive, easy to navigate and accessible
   b. Include compelling and engaging stories
   c. Visually interesting – lots of photos, less text
   d. Easy access to information for events at the college
   e. Include stories from all community groups – faculty research, student research, alumni success stories, opportunities to engage with community partners, etc
f. Create intranet site for faculty and staff information – communication within these groups

2. Create better communication pathways and opportunities across the communities
   a. Lunch and Learn series – involving different areas of the college – get to know your colleagues
   b. Increased Life Long Learning opportunities through programs such as the Alumni Speaker Series.
   c. Increased learning opportunities for new alumni – buying your first home, combining resources when you marry, first career challenges etc
   d. Better engagement of commuter students and program alumni
   e. Enhanced commitment to new grads – that doesn’t involve fundraising similar to the Shaker program through U of T
   f. Create a mechanism to receive feedback – ie web form where comments can be received
   g. E-mentoring program for graduating students to assist with post-undergraduate transition, and to connect with new identity as alumni

3. Develop and promote our history and story
   a. Honour and value our history through engaging story telling
   b. Celebrate our diversity, our programs, our heritage – and our future
   c. Create compelling materials – hand in hand with development of visual identity guide
   d. Ensure our stories go beyond New College – engagement with other areas of the university

4. Increased recognition for leaders within our community
   a. Non-monetary merit awards for student leaders in graduating year to celebrate student involvement
   b. Recognition awards for staff and faculty based on contribution to the New College mission
   c. Increasing college awareness of community partnerships and college student societies, and how these link to the college mission and add to the co-curricular opportunities for New College students