AGENDA:

1. Presentation on the Indigenous Teaching & Learning Working Group – H. Bohaker, Associate Professor, Dept. of History
   Report:  http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/main/about/reports/itl-2018

2. Minutes of the Meeting of February 9, 2018 (attached)

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Report from Standing Committees
   i) Academic Affairs – J. Larkin
   ii) NEWSS – L. McCormack-Smith

5. Report of the Principal – B. McElhinny

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


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

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

10. Report from the Advancement Office – A. Liddell

11. Election of Members to the Striking Committee – K. Huffman

12. Other Business

13. Adjournment
NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Friday, February 9, 2018
10:10 a.m., Wilson Hall, room 2053, New College


Regrets: A. Liddell, P. Lin (HBSU), B. Russell, A. Sadrzadeh, H. Shiu, D. Skybina (BPSU)

Agenda

On a motion by L. McCormack-Smith, seconded by J. Larkin, the agenda was approved.
CARRIED

Minutes of the Meeting of December 15, 2017

The minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2017 were accepted as recorded.

Business Arising from the Minutes

O. Almasi asked if there has been any progress on the search for a Communications Officer. B. McElhinny said that Central Advancement has launched a new communications strategy for the University, complete with a set of templates available for use. Instead of developing an independent communications strategy, we will build on the templates provided. We also have communications support from Petra for both advancement and the website.

O. Almasi asked if the name of the new Residence Life Coordinator could now be released. L. McCormack-Smith announced that the new staff member’s name is Savannah Sloat. She joins us from the Chestnut Residence. B. McElhinny commented that Savannah did her Masters on indigenous spaces, so she fits well with the College.

Report from Standing Committees

- Building Committee
  R. Vander Kraats reported the following:
  ♦ The Committee has been very busy since September working on the 45 Willcocks renovations. R. Vander Kraats thanked the Committee members for their hard work and feels they identified the needs of the College well.
  ♦ The project has three major components: (1) renovation of the William Doo Auditorium; (2) improvements to student space; and (3) deferred construction. At
the time of construction, the building was “value engineered” as a way to curb costs. As a result, $2 million worth of finishes and features were eliminated. In order for the first two components to be successful, this deferred construction needs to be addressed. Some of the finishes being installed include acoustic paneling, better lighting (LED), and furniture with power outlets.

♦ Renovations to the William Doo Auditorium are the major focus. The main entrance will be on the main floor, but a lift will be installed so that people can choose which entrance they want to use (upper or lower). There will be a removable partition and two separate audiovisual systems, allowing for two concurrent events. High quality soundproofing will be installed. The retractable seats will be replaced with fixed seating – “steps” for student hangout space. When no event is taking place, the wall will be retracted and the steps made available for overflow from the atrium. Most events will only need half of the space, so in effect, we are doubling the usable space. There will be collaborative teaching tables with audiovisual capabilities, including a wireless microphone at every table. A portable stage with a ramp will also be installed.

A. McGuire commented that there are problems with the hangout steps at Ryerson University, as the steps are very difficult for people with visual and mobility disabilities to navigate. L. McCormack-Smith explained that the steps will be consistent and railings will lead along the stairs. The Ryerson steps are not straight/consistent, nor do they have clear paths.

♦ Enhancements to the lower level of the atrium include the creation of a “lower lounge” with microwaves, etc.; music rooms will be soundproofed; the gym will be turned into a bodyworks studio (yoga, dance, etc.); the multi-purpose room will be redefined; smudging facilities will be available; and a universal bathroom will be installed and the current bathrooms expanded and updated. The old lodge in the residence lobby will be removed.

♦ The 45 Willcocks project is currently in the detailed design phase. May 22, 2018 is the projected start date, and the expected date of completion will be 16 weeks later.

• **NEWSS**

  L. McCormack-Smith reported the following:

  ♦ L. McCormack-Smith thanked ORSL’s work-study student, Pingki Mazumder, for analyzing the data collected from the college-wide student survey. The full report will be presented at the next meeting of NCC once NEWSS has ratified the results. Some preliminary data: 515 students responded and the demographics of the respondents fit with New College’s student population (e.g. 70% live off-campus; 30% on-campus; 9% had attended IFP; 78% were not “first in the family” to attend a post-secondary institution; etc.) There were campus benchmarking questions regarding access to resources and the New College community. Most students agreed with the statement that they understood the values of New College, and defined these values as diversity, inclusiveness, community, supportiveness and equality/equity/fairness. Most respondents agreed with statements that indicated that they feel comfortable and included in the New College community; they
strongly agreed that they have made a meaningful connection or friend through a New College activity, event or opportunity; they agreed that they knew what resources are available to them if they have questions or concerns regarding academics and/or personal issues and that they are comfortable accessing these resources; and indicated that they are aware of opportunities outside of the College and how to get involved with them.

- **Priority, Planning & Budget Committee**
  R. Vander Kraats reported the following:
  - **Operating Budget**
    New College is in a good position. The Faculty of Arts & Science (FAS) funds approximately 65% of the operating expenses, and the difference is made up by contributions from IFP and summer programs. IFP is having a record year. By April 30, we will have $7.5 million in reserves, which translates to a full one-year contingency should something negatively affect the revenue stream.
  - **Ancillary Budget**
    The ancillary budget is also healthy. There will be a $1 million surplus even with spending $2 million on building renewal. We receive a commission from St. George Food Services from the dining hall. This fiscal year, we will be able to reduce our accumulated deficit by $1.8 million. The deficit will be eliminated by fiscal year 2021. Once the deficit is eliminated, we can use the residence surplus for the teaching mission and/or building expansion.
  - **Residence Fees**
    The average residence rate increase next year will be about 3.5% for both residence and meal plans. This rate increase is among the lowest on St. George Campus. The Service Ancillary Review Group (SARG) has approved the rates.
  - **Building Renovation**
    The 45 Willcocks renovation budget is $4.3 million, but we don’t expect to spend that much, as the budgets include several large contingencies. Additionally, PP&B agreed to renovate the public bathrooms, making the final budget $4.67 million. Funding sources include $1 million from Mr. Doo; $500,000 from NCIF; $410,000 from residence (shared usage building, so residence will contribute a percentage of the funding); and the rest from NCIF reserves (infrastructure). There will still be $7.5 million left in the NCIF account after this is accounted for. PP&B also recommended that ACE no longer use the Doo for exams. K. Huffman suggested that the space could be used for additional programming during exams, such as a learning strategist.

**Report from the Principal**

B. McElhinny reported the following:

- **Indigenous Teaching and Learning**
  The report of the decanal working group on indigenous teaching and learning has been circulated. It contains calls for actions that suggest many transformations of multiple aspects of university life. One suggestion is the institution of an indigenous college, and College Principals have been asked to reflect on this. The 70-page document, which is
available here: [http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/main/about/reports/itl-2018/pdfs/itl-report-14-november.pdf](http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/main/about/reports/itl-2018/pdfs/itl-report-14-november.pdf) contains the list of the calls for action (pages 4-11). Co-chairs of the committee are willing to meet with groups to discuss the proposal. The decanal response to the report has yet to be released, but the Principal suggested that we plan on holding a special meeting of NCC with the committee co-chairs.

- **Equity Studies Appointment**
  Pending provostial approval, there will be a new position in Equity Studies, which will be shared with the Transitional Year Program (TYP). Equity Studies is larger than all but the four largest humanities program but has only 1.5 faculty positions. The program requires more resources.

- **African Studies**
  The African Studies Program has grown and is under-resourced. There is significant interest in building a graduate program.

- **Art Committee**
  The Art Committee will be revived, and may be re-named the “Arts and Culture Committee”. The College has a huge art collection, and there is interest in developing relationships with the artists, many of whom are local. NCSC is interested in placemaking and decolonizing space in the College. The Committee will meet soon.

- **Provincial Funding**
  The way that funding flows from the province to the universities is changing. 25% of the funding comes from a provincial block grant. However, as a result of the second Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA2), funding will flow not based on the number of students served, but on benchmarks. We plan to shrink undergraduate enrolment as a result. Student experience and engagement is critical in the new mandate - the quality of student experience will be evaluated by the province and used to allocate funds. The enrolment reduction will be in the Faculty of Arts & Science on the St. George Campus rather than other faculties or campuses.

- **Searches**
  The search committees for the directors of Caribbean Studies and Equity Studies have been approved. The posting for the Director of the Writing Centre closes March 1. As a related item, plans need to be made to celebrate Deborah Knott’s retirement.

- **Access Education**
  This program’s mandate is to build bridges to groups under-represented in the academy, primarily black and indigenous students. New College and Woodsworth College are being solicited for involvement in the program.

- **Grants**
  George Di, June Larkin, Aggrey Wasike and Bonnie McElhinny have been successful in accessing grants to make indigenous/international opportunities available to students.

- **Photographic Installation**
  In May, New College will host a photographic installation in the William Doo Auditorium. This will involve a series of event with participation from a range of partners. We are working with the Daniels Faculty of Architecture and Indigenous Studies.
M. Newton commented regarding student accommodation in the classroom, explaining that the ability to respond appropriately depends on course size. How can accommodation look different? What is the role of faculty? B. McElhinny commented that we should have a deeper conversation about this. One possibility is to hire more learning strategists with an understanding of accommodation. We need to move to a model that is more reactive to current research. J. Larkin suggested that the New Pedagogy group could dedicate an entire year to thinking through how we think about accommodation. K. Huffman proposed that this would be a good topic for the Academic Affairs Committee and suggested that we could bring the Director of Accessibility Services in to talk with the Committee.

Report from Student Councils

There were no representatives from NCSC, NCRC or the Course Unions in attendance.

Report from the Chief Administrative Officer

R. Vander Kraats reported the following:

- **Plaza Project**
  The College is taking legal action to speed things up with the general contractor. We do not want a cold weather installation. Construction will start May 1 and should be finished in time for convocation on June 20.

- **Building Expansion**
  We have meet with the central campus planning group and with FAS to talk about our plans, and received a very positive response, especially as we have “cash in hand” for the project. We are currently going through a data collection process to identify our needs, and it will show that we don’t currently have enough space.

Report of the Registrar

K. Huffman reported the following:

- **Convocation**
  New College’s June convocation is scheduled for June 20. There are 850 students on the graduation list. This large number is reflective of the cohort that started in 2014, where we had 300 more students than anticipated.

- **Workshops**
  The Registrar’s Office will be holding workshops over the next month – a program enrolment session for first year students (March 8) and a grad info session (March 29).

- **Enrolment**
  Summer course enrolment and program enrolment begin March 1. Approximately 30% of New College students enroll in summer courses.

- **New Leaders Scholarship**
  The reception honoring the recipients of the New Leaders Scholarships was last week. Caleigh Inman received the Gold Leader award, valued at $10,000. There were three recipients of the Leadership Scholarship (valued at $5,000 each) instead of two due to very strong nominees: Ilya Demchenko, Sharon Li and Orianna Mak.
Report from the Director, Office of Residence and Student Life

L. McCormack-Smith reported the following

- **Hiring**
  107 applications were received for Don and Residence Academic Programmer (RAP) positions. 21 residence dons, 3 commuter dons and 11 RAPs. 80 applicants were selected to attend the interview carousel. 52 candidates have been put through to the second round of interviews (the number is high because many of the candidates have not yet heard whether or not they have been accepted to their graduate program). 13 dons have requested to return.

- **Orientation**
  Orientation Chair hiring starts next week, with Orientation Executive hiring following shortly afterwards. Orientation Leader hiring will be done in April. The structure of Orientation 2018 will be the same as 2017, with three days of orientation events and two transition days (Thursday and Friday) coinciding with the first two days of class.

- **Residence Reapplications**
  Residence reapplications will go up in early March. Spaces will no longer be allocated on a first come, first served basis; rather, they will be offered based on community involvement.

- **Incoming Students**
  Incoming New College students are being prioritized over all other groups. While we have a commitment to interdisciplinarity, we will not offer spaces to profacs until all New College students have been housed. We will know how many spaces, if any, will be available for profacs by June 4. 200 spaces are reserved for IFP.

- **Student Voice Project**
  This will run over Reading Week. 40 students have registered. Additionally, there will be 5 faculty/staff advisors and peer mentors involved.

Report from Advancement

On behalf of A. Liddell, P. Dreiser reported the following:

- The College has received a significant gift ($50,000) from G. Carter, which will result in 2 new scholarships being created (one for a Rotman Commerce student and one for an Environmental Studies student).
- The Mentorship Program has launched again this year, with a very high number of mentees. The vast majority of students want to be mentored in medicine and investment.
- There have been 2 Dinners@NEW held so far this year and they were extremely successful.

Other Business

K. Lunianga mentioned that there is a potential CUPE 3902 Unit 1 strike set for February 26. A tentative agreement has been reached, but it has not yet been ratified.
L. Manicom mentioned the Working for Mental Health Forum, a joint initiative between Human Biology, Community Engaged Learning, Buddhism, Psychology & Mental Health and Student Services, will be held March 9. This is the 4th year the forum is being held, and we may not receive any further funding from FAS ($5,000/year) for this initiative. R. Vander Kraats indicated that if this is an on-going initiative and is valuable to the College community, we need to have a discussion to put it into the base budget so we no longer have to scramble for OTO funding. This applies to the Working for Change initiative as well.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. on a motion by A. McGuire, seconded by L. Manicom. CARRIED