



New College Council

Meeting of Friday, March 4, 2022, 12:10pm-2:00pm

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Meeting of January 31, 2022 [\(attached\)](#)
2. Business Arising from the Minutes
3. Report from Student Councils
 - i) NCSC
 - ii) NCRC
 - iii) Course Unions
4. Report from Standing Committees
 - i) Academic Affairs – T. Goldstein
 - a. Preliminary discussions about issues of safety, police presence, hateful symbolism and harassment on campus that have arisen as a result of Trucker Protests over the past weekends.
 - b. Winter course planning and course delivery in progress (various deadlines have to be met in March 2022).
 - c. Welcome to our Artists-in-Residence - d’bi.young.anitafrika and Emily Johnson.
 - d. Upcoming events:
 - New Pedagogies Discussion Group: Engaging with Communities We Work With (March 25, 2022: 11:00-12:30)
 - Working for Change Conference: Feb 25, 2022 (10:00-3:30) (Sam)
 - New Research at Noon with Senior Doctoral Fellows
 - BPMH: Making the Invisible Visible (March 11, 2022; April 1, 2022: 12:00 pm-1:30 pm). (Elli Weisbaum)
 - NEW One: Who Cares? Sustaining Relations of health beyond the time of crisis (March-April 2022) (Alexandra Guerson) (Roberta Buigini)
 - CEL Retreat: April 22, 2022 (10-3:30) (Sam)
 - Senior Doctoral Fellow Presentations (April and May 2022)
 - ii) NEWSS – L. McCormack-Smith
5. Report of the Principal – B. McElhinny
6. Report of the Vice Principal – T. Goldstein
7. Report of the Chief Administrative Officer – R. Vander Kraats

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 – M. Petri
11. Report from the Communications Office – N. Cahill
12. Other Business
13. Adjournment



New College Council

Meeting of Monday, January 31, 2022, 12:10pm–2:00pm

Present: J. Newman (Chair), N. Dragicevic (Secretary), R. Vander Kraats, A. Guerson, E. Weisbaum, L. McCormack Smith, N. Cahill, K. Huffman, M. Petri, L. Kwiatkowski, B. Russell, L. Newbery, T. Goldstein, B. McElhinny, H. Si, M. Neuman, N. Crawley, N. Rodriguez, M. Cassar, L. Middleton, J. Kim, B. Registe,

Regrets: N. Jain (NCRC Director of Communications), C. Desai, M. Neumann, H. Si.

Minutes of the Meeting of December 15, 2021

Approved.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Report from Student Councils

- i) NCSC
- ii) NCRC
- iii) Course Unions

Report from Standing Committees

Academic Affairs – T. Goldstein

- The Faculty of Arts and Science reminds us that if we decide that any of our future courses will be offered online as well as in person moving forward (outside of this particular COVID moment) it needs to go through governance
- Fall and winter timetable work is starting shortly.
- The [Arts & Science Internship Program](#) (ASIP) was launched in the fall of 2021. Second year students from 20 academic programs participated. An internship stream is created within a program and students can combine 12 to 20 months of paid work experience with professional development training. If anyone would like to explore this at New College, T. Goldstein is available to discuss, and the expression of interest must be submitted by February 28th. The Arts and Science Internship Program do research to see if they would be able to find good placements for our students in the program that showed interest. If we start now and are selected as one of the programs to go forward, it will launch in the fall of 2023.

- The next New Pedagogies Discussion is March 25 and will build on discussions of trauma-based pedagogy and linking that to the community engaged learning work done in our programs.
- New Research at Noon works with our Senior Doctoral Fellow, there were two events in the fall and three are upcoming for the winter term.
- Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health has sessions planned for February, March and April under a series topic called “Making the Invisible, Visible.” E. Weisbaum shared that the first session is this Friday, a series featuring BIPOC speakers exploring how we care for ourselves, our collective human family, and the planet. As of Friday, there were over 270 participants. Speakers are looking at a range of topics such as systems of oppression, racialized trauma, gender identity and ecological justice.
- New One will be putting on an event called “Who cares? Sustaining relations of health beyond the time of crisis.” Spearheading the project is Roberta Buiani, New One instructor. A. Guerson shared that it would be a collaboration between students from Robert Buiani’s class as well as a class from York University. Some event will be public, and some are events for the students in the classes. There will be roundtables, an art exhibit at the D. G. Ivey Library, and international speakers, with most of the events happening in February, March, and April.
- The Senior Doctoral Fellow presentations will take place Wednesdays in April and May, there will be ten presentations in total. N. Dragicevic will be sending out information about those shortly.
- The Community Engaged Learning (CEL) Program conference, Working for Change, takes place February 25th from 9 to 4pm. It will involve New College students connecting with community organizations.
- There will be a CEL Retreat happening on April 25th, for continuing faculty to look at where we are now and map the work that needs to be done for the future of community engaged learning at New College.

Report of the Principal – B. McElhinny

- New College is doing three sessions with Nancy Rowe, who has asked us to reflect on the land acknowledgement and noted that until one knows the treaty history, they might not be able to thoughtfully offer a land acknowledgement. In the next session she will talk about the UN Declaration of Rights for Indigenous people. In the last session she will turn to land acknowledgments and ask each of the participants to think about something to do with the college to move forward these ongoing discussions and think about what it means to honor the treaties.
- New College held a film screening recently of the film called Blood and Water by Maria Black, a Mohawk woman from Six Nations who was reflecting on the impact of having a grandmother in residential school. B. McElhinny thanked J. Newman for the work he did in supporting that webinar, which attracted about 90 people. There were several people participating from around Canada and from First Nations.
- The Wet’suwet’en land defenders who were arrested in the fall, are in court February 14 and New College is organizing an event a week beforehand with five women who are land and water defenders, to share their stories. This is done with Critical Studies in Equity and Solidarity.

- Most Ontario universities are adopting a phased approach in February, which are all different. The university continues to stay in conversation with public health experts both in the province but also within the university. On February 7th, in person courses in the Faculty of Arts and Science may start. There is continuing support for accommodations for family care and health and wellbeing, where those are warranted.
- We have a new coffee shop opening soon, R. Vander Kraats will share more on that.
- The details of ongoing treaty workshops will be discussed in subsequent reports.
- The academic workers in the International Foundation Program and the International Summer Academy unionized CUPE local unit 6. We engaged in collective bargaining throughout the last six months and on January 10th the Union ratified on the proposed collective agreement. The next step is ratification by the university business board, and then implementing the new collective agreement.
- February 22nd and 23rd, the Faculty of Arts and Science is hosting the Annual Conference on Mental Health. This year it includes sessions on pandemic fatigue, mental health support specifically for faculty, staff, and students who identify as Black and Indigenous people of color, imposter syndrome and Indigenous approaches to suicide prevention.
- The work on the college review process has been slowed down and may be completed over the summer.
- B. McElhinny shared that she is in the fifth year of her five-year term as Principal and has recently agreed with the Provost and Dean to extend by one year. Some advantages for the college are that we don't have to do a self-study this year. B. McElhinny will be on leave next year and a search for an acting Principal will begin.

Report of the Vice Principal – T. Goldstein

- L. Newbery introduced new faculty member and Writing Centre instructor, Logan Middleton. Logan has been working widely in a range of classes and doing a lot of teaching in the Writing Center. Logan shared information about his background and history.
- New College will be hosting two artists for the Artist in Residence program. One of the artists in attendance at the meeting is d'bi.young anitafrika, an African Jamaican dub poet, theatre interventionists and decolonizing researcher. The second artist is Emily Johnson, who is a choreographer, a director, a land and water protector, an activist for justice, sovereignty, and wellbeing, as well as an award-winning choreographer. There will be two events closer to April and the New College community will be invited. The artists this year are funded by the Varsity Fund, which has been created by donations from alumni. M. Petri noted this was a great opportunity to engage our alumni.

Report of the Chief Administrative Officer – R. Vander Kraats

- Construction update: progress is being made on all projects across the three buildings. There is a delay due to a worldwide shortage of semiconductor chips that are used in all the high efficiency lighting, therefore the ceiling work cannot be completed at this time. The current estimate for the lighting is March.
- All classrooms that we promised for the winter semester will be back in service on February 7th. Temporary lighting will be used wherever necessary.

- Wilson lounge will remain under construction, but there will be access to the classrooms and 2007D from 30 Willcocks.
- At 45 Willcocks, the atrium will no longer be a construction zone. The Second Cup will be opening February 7th, with a grand opening sometime in the third or fourth week of February.
- The Student Council offices and the meeting rooms will be ready for occupancy on February 7th. NCSC needs to do their student assessment forms before taking occupancy and in the meantime, any remaining work that the contractors need to do will be done after hours so as not to impact NCSC or Second Cup at all during the day.
- Residence Ancillary: the last Council meeting went into the details of next year's plan for the residence ancillary in respect to budgets, deficits, and rates. The Service Ancillary Review Group has accepted the plan for next year. The plan will now go to the University Affairs Board. R. Vander Kraats noted that this year there is a base rate increase of 2.8%.
- We are expecting to clear our deficit in the residence in the next fiscal year. A budget was approved for us to restart our major maintenance program. New College has a practice of renovating an entire floor at the residence every year, and this will restart next year in Wetmore Hall.
- The governance of some of our service ancillaries that serve our students has changed this year. New College is considered a service ancillary, we report our budget, and our rate increases to Service Ancillary Review Group. The Chestnut Residence, UofT Food Services (the new residence at Spadina/Sussex) have transformed to business ancillaries, which means they report their finances directly to the Business Board. The Service Ancillary Review Group will not see their finances anymore, this is a substantial change. They will continue to report to the Service Ancillary Review Group in terms of their price increases or rate proposals.
- The beehives have been moved from 45 Willcocks to a sheltered location in the south side of Wilson Hall. The colonies are doing very well, and we've been able to create a fourth hive. We had a harvest with around 10 gallons worth of honey, available to the College. There will be a New College bee event in the dining hall.
- UofT Food Services and New College engaged a consultant to review our food services offerings at the College. The consultant's report took longer than we hoped for, but we have received it and the leadership team at New College has reviewed it. The report talks about several themes, that both food services and New College can focus in on to improve our food services. Food Services has asked us not to make the report public, we plan on scheduling information sessions for both students, the management, and the New College community. There were 3,000-4,000 transactions from non-meal plan holders as the cafeteria has opened with declining balance to the community.

Report from the Registrar's Office – K. Huffman

- Going into the fall term, we had switched back to the traditional late withdrawal date of the last day of classes. The Registrar's Office managed about 425 requests from students by that date. In December, that date got pushed back until the return in January, and the Registrar's Office facilitated about another 165 requests, coming in at almost 600 requests in total.
- The Registrar's Office will be relaunching the in-person services as of February 7th. For the week of February 7th and the week of February 14th, in person services and remote services

will be available. The office will be closed for in-person services during reading week, but remote services will continue.

- On February 28th, the office will expand services and have a few more people available in person.
- This year there are 6,300 students at New College, and the demands on the Registrar's Office continue to increase. There are challenges in meeting the demand for advising appointments. The advising group has shifted to virtual drop-in sessions. They are fifteen minutes long and are meant to be just in time advising opportunities. These are happening twice a week, on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday morning. These sessions are highly attended and that capacity that can be managed is about forty students per session, so these will continue throughout the term.
- The financial aid programs are continuing through the winter term. Whether students are New College students or are registered at other Colleges, financial aid in the form of bursaries and grants are available to all students registered with the Faculty of Arts and Science. Students can submit a grant application and then meet with an advisor at their respective College. The Advisor will review the application with the student, and each College has a committee that reviews and provides financial aid. The date for this will likely go to at least March 1st.

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

- The dining hall reopened today for in person dining at 50% capacity, open to University of Toronto community members only. You must have a green screen to enter. QR codes and ID are not accepted, which means no external guests are permitted to eat in the dining hall.
- The Office of Residence and Student Life will be opening in person on February 7th. The office will be open for the week of February 7th and February 14th, will close for reading week, and will reopen February 28th.
- There is planning around Safe Talk for staff on February 22nd, there may be some changes to the date and updates will follow. There will be Safe Talk sessions available over the next few months. In December there were ten new trainers welcomed to the St. George Campus, and L. McCormack-Smith is helping people finish their probationary period and move into registered training status.
- The February date for Assist training was cancelled due to COVID capacity changes and restrictions but there are plans for a training session in May.
- Orientation Coordinator hiring has happened, and announcements are coming shortly.
- Don hiring is coming up next. The Dons unionized under the USW collective agreement, so the hiring timelines have been altered to reflect those needs. Hiring is anticipated to be completed end of April.
- We are looking forward to moving ahead with some in person and virtual programming as we head through the next part of the terms. No determination has been made yet about what orientation is going to look like.

Report from the Advancement Office – M. Petri

- Before the holiday break, the university had the campaign launch. It was well received, over 18,000 views of the video occurred. The two ambitious goals that the university has include a call for alumni engagement, but additionally seeking to raise \$4 billion for the university's highest priorities.
- B. Registe has been working hard to continue to thoughtfully plan ways to keep our alumni engaged. This evening there is a speaker series with Dr. Gershon. The topic will be interviewing skills.
- On Wednesday there is a virtual Dinner at New, it is the studying abroad edition
- B. Registe's work with the mentorship program this year had her interviewing 80 applicants to ensure to match them accordingly with their mentors.
- Alumni reunion is coming up, planning is in the beginning stages.
- The Advancement Office is working with the Artist in Residence Program to ensure the program is well received while also engaging alumni.

Report from the Communications Office – N. Cahill

- The Communications Office met with Northern last week, they presented the second round of a design concept that they had made changes to based on the feedback given to them on the original design. N. Cahill noted that they captured the elements asked for, so Northern has been given the go ahead to start building the website and building the pieces for the organizational identity based on this design. We are hoping to have a staging site live by mid to late February. Then we will start uploading the content. Content editors have been asked to have content finished by today. There will be training sessions for people on how to use the website and other pieces such as Facebook and LinkedIn. This will be available for use by the college by the end of April.
- Work is being done on web profiles for the Artist in Residence Program.
- The next installment of the Representing New series will go live this week, which is New College alumni working at University of Toronto.
- An article is being prepared for the various construction projects happening at New College, this will be out in the next couple of weeks.
- The Communications Office is working with R. Vander Kraats and food services to get clear messaging out from the New College perspective.
- The first newsletter of the year went out a couple of weeks ago, and there will be another one in about two weeks. A call for submissions will go out next week.

M. Petri congratulated B. Registe for receiving the 2021 Excellence Through Innovation Award.

B. Registe thanked everyone and shared that this was a group award for the annual Black History Month Luncheon. B. Registe is one of the founders of this event and received this recognition along with the rest of the organizing team.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

On a motion by B. Russell, seconded by A. Guerson, the meeting was adjourned. CARRIED.