

New College Council

Meeting of Thursday, November 4, 2021, 12:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA:

- 1. Minutes of the Meeting of October 4, 2021 (attached)
- 2. Business Arising from the Minutes
- 3. Report from Student Councils
 - i) NCSC
 - ii) NCRC
 - iii) Course Unions
- 4. Report of the Striking Committee K. Huffman
- 5. Report of the Principal B. McElhinny
- 6. Report of the Vice Principal T. Goldstein
 - i) The Program Directors meeting report:
 - a. Successes and issues with teaching and learning in this fall semester still impacted by Covid.
 - b. Strategies for increasing enrolment in courses with low enrolment.
 - ii) Use of Social Media to Promote our Programs.
 - iii) Events from the VP Office this fall:
 - a. Going to Grad School Workshop: October 26, 2021
 - b. New Research at Noon: October 1, 2021; November 5, 2021.
 - November 5, 2021: Research from Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health Anthony Scott and Daniel Ramjattan.
- 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

NEW COLLEGE COUNCIL 300 Huron Street, Toronto, ON M5S 3J6 Canada www.newcollege.utoronto.ca

- 12. Other Business
- 13. Adjournment



New College Council

Meeting of Monday, October 4, 2021, 12:10 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Present: J. Newman (Chair), N. Dragicevic (Secretary), R. Vander Kraats, A. Guerson, E. Weisbaum, H. Si, J. Kanza, L. McCormick Smith, N. Cahill, K. Huffman, M. Petri, M. Cassar, J. Stronghill, L. Kwiatkowski, B. Russell, N. Rodriguez, N. Crawley, L. Newbery, T. Goldstein, C. Desai, M. Lo, B. Registe, B. McElhinny.

Minutes of the Meeting of April 19, 2021 The minutes were approved.

<u>Business Arising from the Minutes</u> There was no business arising from the minutes.

<u>Report of the Striking Committee</u> K. Huffman reported the following:

- Elected membership: There are six members of teaching staff who were elected, three members are returning for a second term, and two new members Elli Weisbaum (BPMH) and Alistair Dias (HMB) have been nominated and accepted.
- Don rep S. Zaman, L. Kwiatkowski (USWA) and M. Cassar (CUPE) have been nominated and accepted their positions.
- There will be nominations for the various committees Academic Affairs, NewSS, the Library Committee, and the Planning, Priority, and Budget committee.
- A call will be sent out to all college council membership for nominations for the chair to be put forward.

Report from Student Councils

- NCSC no report.
- NCRC no report.
- Course Unions J. Kanza (Interim president for African Studies Course Union) reported that ASCU was in the process of holding their executive elections and will hopefully have their report at the next meeting.

Report from Standing Committees

- NewSS
 L. McCormack-Smith reported the following:
 - A focus for NewSS this year is going to be thinking about how to collaboratively bring together programming and to communicate with students.

- There will be more to share from NewSS in the next couple of months.
- *Academic Affairs* T. Goldstein reported the following:

Awards:

- The winner of the June Larkin Pedagogy Award was Alexandra Guerson. The deadline this year is November 26, 2021.
- The winner of the Kathleen O'Connell Award was Ramabai Espinet. The deadline this year is April 30, 2022.
- The David Clandfield Scholarship in Scholarly Activism Award (CSES) will be promoted in all Critical Studies in Equity and Solidarity courses. The deadline is May 13, 2022. There will be an application workshop for students by T. Goldstein (fall and winter).
- Program course changes went through Academic Affairs this morning and will be presented at the Faculty of Arts and Science Curriculum Changes meeting on October 15, 2021.

Report of the Principal – B. McElhinny

- The newest version of the land acknowledgement notes the relationship with the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit and Huron-Wendat, and that language has been updated. Our understanding of what it means to engage in and work through a land acknowledgement is evolving as we get a deeper understanding of the history.
- Truth and Reconciliation day was last week and one of the most critical messages that came from the university-wide event was to continue to build relations, to build thoughtful and ongoing conversations beyond the one day.
- An indigenous youth group, Nikibii Dawadinna Giigwag, have brought projects to New College. R. Vander Kraats has been intensively engaged in thinking these through and in recent weeks, they've asked New College to plant a white pine of peace in the New College quad, which will take place in October. The group is asking us to think through what it means to take care of that tree. Two other projects the group has offered, which we will support, are planting a pawpaw tree in the spring and a grove of birch trees the following fall.
- We are continuing to support online and in person teaching. We need to continue to think about how to support a range of student needs and instructor's needs.
- An important set of conversations for us is to continue to think about responding to the taskforce report and challenging anti-black racism, and what it means to go beyond the calls for action. There are a series of ongoing actions that we need to think through, and how to make sure that people know that this is a priority, and that there are resources available to support conversations.
- The New College self-study had an original deadline of September 30, 2021, but we have been given a one-month extension. This is a critical way to tell the story of the college to the Dean.
- New College is engaged in ongoing bargaining. The Dons in the four constituent colleges have been certified as a union. The IFP instructors were certified last year and we are engaged in open collective bargaining with them. This year IFP will be undergoing its University of Toronto quality assurance review.
- The censure has been paused and a formal vote will take place in November. Several members of the New College community were active in ensuring that the critical issues that are at the center of these discussions remain central to ongoing University discussions.

Report of the Vice Principal – T. Goldstein

- T. Goldstein welcomed New Program Directors: A. McGuire, S. Doyle-Wood for Critical Studies in Equity and Solidarity, Frances Garrett for Buddhism, Psychology and Mental Health, and Melody Neumann for Human Biology.
- The fall courses are up and running with thanks to thank N. Crawley, N. Dragicevic, K. Huffman, D. Banh, J. Stronghill, and the library team J. Newman, A. Kwak and M. Redden.
- New Research at Noon has started, which is a chance for Senior Doctoral Fellows to introduce themselves to the college and talk about their doctoral journey. Recordings of the events are added to the New College site.
- Closed captioning project some faculty are doing online teaching and have been using automated closed captioning, which does not always work well. T. Goldstein and A. Kwak found funding to put together a team of work-study students to work on editing some of these automated closed captioning videos so that the students have better support.
- We are getting ready to hire two artists for the artist-in-residence project, beginning January 2022.
- Course instructors and Program Directors who wish to conduct research on an aspect of their course or program with their students, need to have a description of their proposed research reviewed by a Research Review committee comprised of the Principal, the Vice Principal and two Program Directors who are not involved in the research. The New College Research Review must be completed before instructors apply to the University of Toronto Research Ethics Board for ethics approval. Descriptions of research projects should be sent to Vice Principal **T. Goldstein:** tara.goldstein@utoronto.ca

Report of the Chief Administrative Officer – R. Vander Kraats

- Facilities: Classroom ventilation has been measured. Our classrooms meet or exceed the standard of six exchanges per hour. Many of our classrooms are almost double that standard, especially the 54 series classrooms. There are some concerns about office space not having been measured. The university has not been doing that, but our building ventilation systems have all been checked carefully to make sure that they're running up to spec and all the filters have been upgraded to the MERV 13 standard.
- We have been working with the environmental health and safety group. The university has a general assessment tool which asks us to outline all the things that we are doing and through review make sure that our signage, cleaning protocols and space usage all meet the university guidelines and provincial regulations as well. R. Vander Kraats acknowledged the hard work over the past year and a half of our caretaking, facilities, and operations staff.
- We have eight sites under construction: a brand-new student lounge at 45 Willcocks, the lounge in the atrium is being renovated, and we are doing an architectural lighting upgrade along the staircase. The project is expected to be completed by the third week of February 2022 and will be open to students. The Second Cup will be opening in January of 2022.
- The Wilson lounge is being renovated, made possible by the generosity of our New College students, and a grant from the university (each contributing a quarter of a million dollars). R. Vander Kraats thanked the New College Student Council for arranging the referendum where there was a capital levy for the next five years which will help pay for this.
- Nine offices are being created, largely for one-on-one contact with students, with two meeting rooms.
- The fire alarm system is being replaced.

- The exterior brickwork on the east elevation of Wetmore Hall by the Registrar's office will be finished in the next couple of weeks.
- The dining hall is open again with in person dining. The UCheck screen is required for entry. A significant change is the move from having one entry fee and an all you care to eat model of dining, to individually priced items.
- The university has decided to use multi factor authentication to access our computing systems. Users will be required to verify their identity with a secondary means, either a cell phone or other device. This will be mandatory by the end of October 2021. R. Vander Kraats thanked the New College IT team – D. Banh and J. Stronghill for their great work and support during the pandemic.
- Enrollment is very strong in the International Foundations Program. It was online for the first month and is now in person (twelve sections in person and five online). The IFP helps support many college activities like the New College Initiatives Fund (NCIF), which has supported activities over the past six or seven years. We will be able to balance the budget again and continue supporting all these activities despite the pandemic. R. Vander Kraats thanked H. Si, B Russell and the entire IFP team.
- Summer Programs has been renamed to the International Summer Academy. In person activities have not been possible for the last couple of years and although our losses were very large last summer, our reserves have allowed us to carry on as normal.
- Summer residence operations have experienced a similar situation. With only New College students this year, we have had very large losses due to low occupancy. The university has extended a line of credit, which allows our operations to remain unaffected. There is good news with respect to occupancy in the winter, which L. McCormack-Smith will share in her report. This news means that we will be able to pay down our line of credit two or three years from now.

Report from the Registrar's Office – K. Huffman

- Staff have returned to the office, in particular the frontline student service assistants and front desk are open for in-person inquiries.
- Registrar's office operations are continuing with hybrid services, advising appointments are being offered virtually.
- A Quercus page had been created last year for COVID updates and this page continued to be useful for students.
- Enrolment Report (<u>attached</u>): New College has almost 1000 more students than five years ago. The overall enrollment for the Faculty of Arts and Science has gone up about 1500, and the bulk of that growth is at New College.
- In terms of students demographics, New College continues to have the largest population of international students. The number of domestic students increased slightly.
- K. Huffman noted that New College does not have the resources to adequately support students. Advising appointments are booked up a week in advance. The report at the end of last year noted that the Registrar's Office had over 6000 one-on-one appointments. We are at a point where we need to consider whether or not to expand to provide services students are requesting or to limit our service offering.
- The staff to student ratio is about one staff member for every 450 students. Other colleges have about one staff member for every 300 students. In terms of advising, there are five dedicated advisors and four staff doing part-time advising. This is about one advisor for every 900 students.
- B. McElhinny noted that this staffing ratio is an inequity amongst the colleges and that K. Huffman put together a comprehensive account of this to be included in the self-study.

<u>Report from the Office of Residence and Student Life</u> – L. McCormack-Smith (<u>report attached</u>)

- In person orientation took place with 370 people joining the virtual opening ceremonies. There were over 600 people registered for orientation in total, reaching close to 100% cap for each of the in-person programming days, with four days in total. Through in person orientation, 400 students were seen.
- There was a second-year orientation event welcoming all of the people who did their orientation last year, which was completely virtual, so that they had an opportunity to register for something in person as well.
- There were 49 separate events over two weeks, supported by the Office of Residence and Student Life, the Registrar's office, the learning strategist, the library, and the Writing Center.
- There were 65 attendees at the Let's Talk kickoff from September 28-30 in the William Doo Auditorium.
- Senior Peer Leader (SPL) community hours and events happen three times a week. On September 30th, some SPL events were centered around the idea of reflection on truth and reconciliation and helping students reflect on that.
- Let's Talk days are taking place October 27th and November 24th.
- The total capacity for residence is 880. Last year there were 254 students in residence, including student staff. This year capacity is 832 resident spaces available and there are currently 801 people in occupancy, not including 20 student staff. One of the key changes has been vaccination requirements in residence. Students who have not met the requirement are being actively followed up on. All students were required to have their first dose of a vaccine in the first fourteen days of September, which is a flexible date depending on when students arrived. There is one student who is in quarantine and will be arriving next week. The remaining students arrived over the weekend.
- Of the 801 students, 664 are first year students, and 56 are people who were first year students last year but did not have an opportunity to come to residence for a variety of reasons. These students paid deposits and so were invited to apply to residence. Offers were sent to all those students and 56 of them are living in residence this year. There are 81 return students.
- There are four quarantine beds which have already been used. As soon as a student displays symptoms that align with COVID-19, they are put into quarantine pending test results. All cases have come back negative. Last year there were 0% positive results for students in the quarantine program. L. McCormack-Smith expressed thanks to the Dons and limited staff team in handling these situations with tact and care.
- Key things happening in programming Study hubs, digital passives which support students (drawing on campus resources and external research to help engage students in asynchronous learning), and intentional one-on-one conversations with students and Dons which are a check in to see how students are doing, and what kind of support and resources they might need as they continue forward. There are several clubs a movie and TV club, a fitness and nutrition club, a photography club, a coffee and tea club, and a women's club. There is also an 'explore Toronto' initiative to support students, and Dons are providing support through office hours, making themselves available to their communities to answer questions.
- On Sunday, September 26, 2021 the New College Residence Council (NCRC) elections took place. Julia Ye has been elected as the Building President of Wilson Hall, Sabrina McLennon has been elected as the Building President of Wetmore Hall and Lola Ogundalu has been elected as the Building President for 45 Willcocks Residence. Three administrative positions were voted on last year, so there is a Director of Administration, Director of Finance, and a Director of Communication. All were participating in training over the weekend to prepare

for their year of upcoming duties. In all cases about 40% of people showed up to vote.

- COVID testing is still happening through Women's College or Sick Kids depending on which kind of test it is, and it is still free (covered by OHIP). People have been predominantly tested at Women's College. Last year they had a delay of two to three days to get results back but now results are coming back in under 24 hours. The preference is for students to go to Women's College for testing.
- Consent and sexual harassment workshops took place again for all orientation students. There were conversations with all the Dons around consent, sexual harassment, and understanding how to support somebody who is making a disclosure of sexual violence.

<u>Report from the Advancement Office</u> – M. Petri

- The fall campaign is underway, university wide. The campaign will address some of the biggest challenges facing Toronto and Canada as we rebuild from the pandemic. The campaign is offering an opportunity to shape a more inclusive and sustainable recovery and will reflect the university's brand and promise of inclusive excellence. Further details will be provided at the next NCC meeting.
- M. Petri thanked B. Registe who has continued to stay engaged with alumni through outreach emails and calls.
- With the censure on pause, events are proceeding including virtual Dinner at New, the virtual Speaker Series which explores different topics to enhance and support engagement, and a project with the Communications office to profile New College alumni who are currently working at the university. Their profiles will highlight the work of alumni from a wide spectrum of roles across the institution.

Report from the Communications Office - N. Cahill

- The office had a busy summer with work on the organizational identity and website project. In the spring the vendor, Northern, put together a creative brief focused on various tones of green to highlight and bring energy and modernism to the New College visual identity. Feedback was received that with the various green tones, we were moving away from the gold. There was concern, particularly from students, to make sure that we didn't move away from something that people felt connected to. The vendor did additional testing over the summer. A survey was sent out to the entire community, with about 300 respondents. Respondents were shown the palette that they were moving forward with and the foundational elements they were building and asked for feedback. The same thing was done in two focus groups, one with students and the other with alumni. People were excited about the freshness that the vendor had brought to their creative brief and there was a real desire to not move away from the gold which people indicated feeling very connected to, and that the gold was a legacy piece of New College's organizational and visual identity. As a result, the colour palette has been revised and is in the process of being finalized.
- Work on the website has continued. The vendor built a navigation system which was sent out and people were asked to do a tree test, a series of questions that asked people to find information throughout that navigation system. Findings indicated that the system did not work and that we look at our communications through the website from an internal perspective. We need to consider how students find information on the website as students are the primary users. A series of recommendations were made by the vendor as to how to move forward with the structure and the navigation, so we will launch and then review in six months.
- Wireframes are being built, which are the structures of the web pages. We want to create

pages that offer alignment throughout the units, but also meet all the individual needs. Once the creative is finalized and the wireframes are finalized, people will be able to see what their portion of the website is going to look like, and then content work will follow.

- Over the summer, the Communications Office met with someone from each unit to talk about website content and they will be following up in the next couple of weeks to see if support is needed.
- The initial internal website launch was set for fall 2021 with a public launch set for early 2022. It is now more realistic to launch internally in January of 2022 with a public launch in the spring of 2022.

<u>Other Business</u> No other business was reported.

<u>Adjournment</u>

On a motion by B. Russell, seconded by T. Goldstein, the meeting was adjourned. CARRIED.

	А	В	С	D	E	F
1	New College Enrolment Data					
2						
h	Year-to-Year Enrolment	2021	2020	2019	2010	2017
-		2021	2020		2018	2017
4	Year 1 Year 2	1814 1531	1764 1588	1731 1615	1703 1417	1643 1301
5	Year 2 Year 3	1331	1588	1615	1417	1301
0	Year 4	1386	1426	1227	1153	1221
7 8	Other/Unknown	37	34		29	40
		6381	6253	31 5974	5674	5449
	Total New College Enrolment Total Arts & Science Enrolment	30246	29578	28772	28535	28647
-	Percentage of Faculty Total	22%	29578	28/72	28535	19%
12		22%	21%	21%	20%	19%
12						
	Enrolment Demographics	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Male	45%	44%	44%	44%	44%
	Female	43% 52%	53%	54%	55%	44% 56%
	Another/undeclared	3%	2%	2%	1%	5070
18		578	270	270	170	
	English first language	37%	36%	38%	41%	41%
	Other as first language	63%	64%	62%	59%	59%
21		0370	0470	0270	3370	5570
	Canadian Citizen	44%	43%	44%	45%	46%
	Permanent Resident	10%	10%	10%	11%	10%
	Study Permit	43%	43%	43%	44%	44%
25	other	3%	4%	3%		
26						
	First Year Enrolment	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	New Admits	1337	1324	1353	1055	1270
29	IFP Admits	226	196	238	201	290
	Total New College Enrolment	1563	1520	1591	1256	1560

New College Council Updates:

Student Life:

Orientation Numbers:

- 370 at opening ceremonies
- reached close to 100 per cap for all in person programming (100 each all 4 days)
- 49 separate events over 2 weeks
- 65 attendees at Let's Talk kick off, Sept 28-30th

Upcoming Commuter Programming:

- Upcoming Let's Talk Days:
 - October 27th 11am-1pm
 - November 24th 11am-1pm

SPL Community Hours/Events

- 3x per week
- generally Mondays 12-2pm, Tuesdays 3-5pm, Thursdays 3-5pm but some flexibility based on field trip events

Residence Administration Updates:

- 832 (of 880) residence spaces available for this year
- 801 current occupancy
- 664 FY, 56 1.5ers, 81 Ret/UY
- 4 isolation rooms

Residence Life:

UPCOMING PROGRAMS - RAP:

Managing Midterm Madness

About: Do you want to learn how to prepare for your first ever midterm at UofT? Come check out our event on Friday, October 15, 2021, at 4 PM, where you will have a chance to learn more about midterm preparations with a Learning Strategist from Academic Success.

- Program Type: ASAP (Academic Sustainability & Active Programs)
- Who: RAPs
- What: This program is expected to be more comprehensive, drawing on academic campus resources and partners, and RAPs' strengths to actively engage students through academic programs. In October RAP are bringing in Learning Strategist, Elizabeth Shaha with Academic Succession, for a session on how to Manage Midterm Madness
- When: October 15th, 2021, 4 PM 5 PM

- Where: MS Teams
- Why / Learning outcomes:
 - Effectively manage their time during exam season
 - Learn and apply helpful study tips to hopefully complement their productivity
 - Manage stress and actively/mentally prepare for your exams/midterms

Study Hubs

- **Program Type:** Study Hub
- Who: RAPs
- What: Giving RAPs the opportunity to host their own Study Hub in collaboration with the Academic Success Centre and allow RAPs to be visibly present at New College.
- When:
 - October 13th, 2021, 4 PM 6 PM
 - October 28th, 2021, 4 PM 6 PM
- Where: Virtual Programs

Digital Passives

- Program Type: Digital Passive
- Who: RAPs
- What: RAPs wil create one digital passive a month to be distributed on residence social media. Consisting of five or six cards created on Canva, RAPs gather, curate, and disseminate information on a topic relevant to the student experience. These programs are expected to be comprehensive, drawing on campus resources and external research to actively engage students in asynchronous learning.
- When:
 - In October, five (5) Digital Passives to go out every week.
- Topics:
 - D.G. Ivey Library (view example)
 - Registrar's Office (view example)
 - Academic Success
 - Career Exploration & Education

UPCOMING PROGRAMS - DON:

Intentional Conversations

- Program Type: One-on-one
- Who: Dons
- What: one-on-one meetings serve as a check-in between students and their Don. These conversations provide space to ask questions, reflect, and seek help. Dons will also use

this time to offer meaningful and targeted resources and support to assist residents in transitioning and developing as a university student.

- When/Frequency: bi-monthly
- Where: In-person/Virtual

<u>Clubs</u>

- Program Type: Clubs
- Who: Dons
- What: each Don in this pod is responsible for running one of the following five clubs: Movies & TV, Photography, Fitness & Nutrition, Coffee & Tea, Women's. Clubs are open to all New College residents and must have one event a month.
- Upcoming Clubs:
 - Movie & TV Club: Ratatouille Movie Night October 2, 2021
 - Fitness & Nutrition: YoGotta Try Yoga! October 5, 2021
 - ***Note: All other clubs ran in September. We will have 5 more clubs coming in October

Exploring Toronto

About: This passive will be looking at places both on and off campus for individuals who are not from around Toronto or for students who want to find new places around Toronto. Each tile will explore a different theme: Food, Drinks/coffee, Green spaces, Activities (such as snakes and lattes, bowling, theatre, AGO, ROM), Everyday items (such as drugstore, supermarket, walk in clinic)

- Program Type: Digital Passive
- Who: Dons
- What: Dons will create one digital passive a month to be distributed on residence social media. Consisting of five or six cards created on Canva, Dons gather, curate, and disseminate information on a topic relevant to the student experience. These programs are expected to be comprehensive, drawing on campus resources and external research to actively engage students in asynchronous learning.
- When:
 - September / mid-October
- <u>Link</u>

Office Hours

About: Dons will discuss tips about transitioning into Residence and University life. Dons will touch on topics including involvement/leadership on and off residence, budgeting meals plans, TCards and communication with the office.

• **Program Type:** Office Hours

- Who: Dons
- What: Dons in this pod will make themselves available by engaging with students seeking information around personal, emotional, mental, physical, and financial well-being. Dons are expected to develop 5 questions in accordance with the month's theme. These questions can be used to engage with students during scheduled office hours.
- When:
 - o TBD October
- Where: Virtual Programs

NCRC Elections & Training

On Sunday, September 26, 2021 – Giselle Dalili, NCRC's Chief Returning Officer, ran elections for Building Presidents. House Council members were also elected for each house in residence. **Results:**

WILSON HALL

With 69% of a total of 84 votes cast, the new Building President of Wilson Hall for the 2021-2022 Academic year is **JULIA YE.**

WETMORE HALL

With 57% of a total of 28 votes cast, the new Building President of Wetmore Hall for the 2021-2022 Academic year is **SABRINA MCLENNON.**

45 WILLCOCKS

With 82% of a total of 38 votes cast, the new Building President for 45 Willcocks Residence for the 2021-2022 Academic year is **LOLA OGUNDALU.**

Incoming NCRC 2021-2022 Executive Team:

- Julia Ye Wilson Building President
- Sabrina McCLennon Wetmore Building President
- Lola Ogundalu 45 Willcocks Building President
- Gyeong Hoon Baeg Director of Administration
- Aimee Reyes Director of Finance
- Nandini Jain Director of Communication

NCRC Training:

- NCRC **Executives** training will take place on Saturday, October 2, 2021, from 11 AM to 4:30 PM this is a central training with Student Life. Here is the training outline:
 - Intro/Welcome and Icebreakers
 - o Passing the Audit
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Virtual Event Planning

- NCRC **House Council training** will take place on Sunday, October 3, 2021, from 1 PM to 4:30 PM. Here is the training outline:
 - Welcome and Ice Breakers
 - Introduction to the NCRC
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - o Committee Time
 - $\circ \quad \text{House Councils} \\$
 - Program Design Process
 - o Orientation to General Assembly Procedures