

Minutes of the 1,207<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

- Present: Ms Lisa Punnett (Chair)  
Dr. Louise Cowin (Warden)  
Ms Corrine Aberdeen (Lit and Lib Committee)  
Mr. Sameer Al-Abdul-Wahid (Presidential Appointee)  
Ms Aileen Burns (Art Committee)  
Mr. Davis Elisha (President's Designate)  
Mr. Courtney Gibson (Alumni Committee Chair)  
Mr. Joseph Mulongo (GSU Appointee)  
Mr. Nam Pham (Social Justice Committee)  
Ms Jacqueline Raaflaub (RAC Senior Member)  
Ms Duri Song (House Committee)  
Ms Lindsey Van de Keere (Farm Committee)  
Mr. Mitchell Wong (Music Committee)
- Ms Cristina Oke (Recording Secretary)
- Guests: Mr. Ken Brocklehurst (Director of Finance & Info Technology)  
Mr. Sandy Henderson (Director, Athletics & Membership)  
Ms Laney Marshall (Director of Programme)  
Mr. Geoff Oakham (House Committee)  
Ms Arlene Stein (Catering)  
Mr. Paul Templin (Managing Director, Hart House Theatre)
- Regrets: Mr. A J Pandher (Finance Committee)  
Mr. David Pereira (Presidential Appointee)  
Ms Elizabeth Vosburgh (GC Appointee)
- Absent: Ms Murphy Browne (APUS Appointee)  
Ms Michal Hay (UTSU Appointee)  
Mr. Richard Lizius (Debates Committee)  
Mr. Wasah Malik (UTM Rep)  
Mr. Shawn Mitchell (Theatre Committee)  
Mr. Payam Zarin (RAC)  
UTSC Rep

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the 1,206<sup>th</sup> meeting held on September 20, 2007 were approved.

**3. Business Arising:**

There was no business arising.

**4. Reports:****a) Committee Activities and Significant Issues****ALUMNI**

Preparations for the swing band evening on Friday, November 17, 2007 were being finalized. A series of wine tastings had been planned for November.

**ART**

The JMB Gallery staff and the Hart House Art Committee were recovering from the wild success of *Nuit Blanche*. The traffic congestion issues that had been raised after the 2006 *Nuit Blanche* had forced a reconsideration of how to organize the various projects of Night School around the House. Barbara Fischer had decided to spread the projects throughout the main floor of the House. Some artists had expressed concerns that their work would be missed because it was so spread out. However, there had been so many visitors to the House that there had been line-ups and the doors to the House had had to be removed in order to help with traffic flow. All of the artists involved had had huge attendance numbers.

The art projects of Night School had been visited at a rate of about 1000 visitors per hour at peak times. Over 80 volunteers had helped to direct people in the right direction and answer projects about the artworks. Mayor Miller had been amongst the first visitors to Night School. He had danced with a teacher at Darren O'Donnell's *Slow Dance with a Teacher* and had had a drink at Dean Baldwin's *MiniBar*. Night School had created a buzz within the art community and had been well received by the press. It had been the cover story of the *Varsity*.

The Art Committee had held its October meeting and all of the Subcommittees had started their work. The Education Subcommittee was planning to do four events including a workshop to be held in conjunction with the November Exhibition. They also were planning to engage with the Eco/Eco theme in their January programming. The Education Subcommittee was looking for another Hart House Committee to collaborate with them on a project during the winter term. Any Committee that was interested in working with them should email Niya at [niya.bajaj@utoronto.ca](mailto:niya.bajaj@utoronto.ca).

**4. Reports: (cont'd)****a) Committee Activities and Significant Issues (cont'd)****DEBATES**

No Report.

**FARM**

The first Farm Event, Cider 'n' Song, had been held on October 14th. There had been a great turn out this year.

All voting positions for 07-08 had been filled at the last Farm Committee meeting.

The sustainability subcommittee was currently working on establishing literature to go out with guest groups, as well as signage to be posted around the farm with suggestions of how to make stays at the farm more ecologically sustainable. This included raising awareness of the use of a 3-bin compost system at the farm, and the frequently tested drinkable tap water.

The next Committee meeting would be held on November 8th, at 8am.

**FINANCE**

No Report

**HOUSE**

The Committee had met on October 18. A semi-formal dance was being planned for January 22, 2008, with an Eco/Eco theme. Tickets would be \$10 per person. Nine of the twelve 5-buck lunches had been confirmed.

**LITERARY & LIBRARY**

The Committees and Sub-Committees had been meeting and new members were being sought. The second Writual evening was scheduled for October 24, 2007. A joint meeting with the English Student' Union was scheduled for October 30, and a night of the Gothic was scheduled for October 31. A workshop on bookbinding and repair was being held. New members were being sought for the Algonquin Square Table.

**MUSIC**

- The first Stages event was being held on Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> in the Arbor Room. Stages was hosting 'Spiral Beach', an indie pop-trance rock quartet from Toronto.
- The CIUT liaisons had had their first radio broadcast on Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup>. They had interviewed Spiral Beach on the radio show "Beyond the Classroom"

**4. Reports: (cont'd)****a) Committee Activities and Significant Issues (cont'd)****MUSIC (cont'd)**

- Jazz at Oscar's continued to host live shows every Friday in the Arbor Room at 9pm. On October 20, they would host "JMC Project", a jazz/hip-hop collaboration from Vancouver.
- The last Midday Mosaics concert had had an excellent attendance of over 50 people. The next midday concert would feature solo pianist Valantin Blomer. The concert would take place on October 31<sup>st</sup> at noon in the Music Room.
- The next issue of 'Demo', Hart House's music magazine was in the works. The sophomore issue would be released in November.
- In terms of new initiatives, the very first Hart House 'Poetry Slam' would take place in the Arbor Room on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Also, the Premier "music panel" was in the works and was scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>. This panel would deal with the issue of 'music and the environment'. It would discuss how musicians and record labels alike could reduce their ecological footprints in the areas of touring, packaging, and distribution.

**RECREATIONAL ATHLETICS**

No Report.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The Social Justice Committee would be having its first Community Kitchen's Cooking Class on Tuesday, October 23rd from 5-8pm. Tickets were \$5 each and were available at the porters' desk. The theme this month was "Canadian Eh?" Participants would learn Executive Chef Marco Tucci's secrets to cooking an environmentally-sustainable meal. They got to eat the meal too!

The Hart House Sustainability Planning Group was currently seeking new members to assist in the development and implementation of a long-term sustainability plan for the House and its Farm. All interested staff and members of the Board were welcome.

Priority areas that had been identified included:

- a) water and energy efficiency (possibly the installation of solar panels, a ground-source heat pump, wind turbines, and heat recovery systems);
- b) food procurement;
- c) waste reduction strategies and recycling.

**4. Reports: (cont'd)****a) Committee Activities and Significant Issues (cont'd)****SOCIAL JUSTICE (cont'd)**

Further information was available from Chris Lea, the Facilities Manager ([christopherthomaslea@gmail.com](mailto:christopherthomaslea@gmail.com)).

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday October 23rd at 5pm. The location will be posted at the porters' desk.

**THEATRE**

*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* had closed Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. The successful musical production had drawn almost 2500 people to the Theatre.

*Julius Caesar*, the next Season production, was in rehearsal and would play Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> through Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Get your tickets now at [www.uoftix.ca/](http://www.uoftix.ca/)

Casting was complete for the third Season production, *Criminals in Love*. This fast-paced dark aggressive George F. Walker comedy would run from Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Theatre had a new and improved website that looked sharper and was much easier to navigate. Check it out at [www.harhousetheatre.ca](http://www.harhousetheatre.ca)

**COMMITTEE on BUDGETS**

No report

**ADVANCEMENT**

No report.

**b) WARDEN'S UPDATE:****(i) Congratulations**

Dr. Cowin congratulated Jeff Richardson and Emily Doukogiannis who had organized the conference *Toolkit: Building Your Student* that had been held at the end of September. Dr. Cowin also congratulated Barbara Fisher and her team at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery for the work they had done in organizing the exhibit for Nuit Blanche.

**4. Reports: (cont'd)****b) WARDEN'S UPDATE: (cont'd)****(ii) Hancock Lecture**

Dr. Cowin indicated that the Hancock Lecture would be held in the latter part of March 2008. The Planning Committee was looking for student members, and Dr. Cowin encouraged those students present to consider becoming involved with the Committee, and to distribute information about the Planning Committee to members of their groups. Dr. Cowin explained that the Committee was considering the possibility of choosing a student to deliver the lecture. Principals and Deans would be asked to identify students with the appropriate skills for consideration.

**(iii) Climate Change: Global Problem, Local Action**

A Climate Change conference was being held at Hart House on Saturday, November 3, 2007. There would be two panels. The first would include representatives from the City of Toronto and professors of the University who were involved in the study of urban issues. The second panel would include University staff, including the Director of Ancillary Services, and others responsible for the footprint of the University.

**c) Other Board Members' Reports:****University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU)**

No report.

**Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS)**

No report.

**Graduate Students' Union (GSU)**

No report.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL**

Governing Council would meet for the first time this year on October 30th, but had been working on the "Towards 2030" planning document in the meantime. Five Task Forces had been established to report on:

1. Long-Term Enrolment Strategy
2. Institutional Organization
3. University Resources
4. University Governance
5. University relations and Context

Each task force would have representatives from the faculty, staff, student, and alumni constituencies.

**4. Reports: (cont'd)****c) Other Board Members' Reports: (cont'd)****PRESIDENT'S DESIGNATE**

In addition to the regular programs and services, Student Services would be offering the following events:

- Diwali Celebration, October 19<sup>th</sup>: A celebration of the Hindu Festival of Lights. The event would begin at 6:30 pm and the cost of \$15.00 included dinner.
- Niagara Region Day Trip, October 21<sup>st</sup>: Tour of Niagara-on-the-Lake and a visit to a winery and wine tasting.
- Tour of Student Services – October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Hallowe'en Party, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Multi-cultural spook fest, which would take place at the International Student Centre.
- Nooks and Crannies Tour – October 30<sup>th</sup>. Fun tour of some amazing sports on campus that may not be known.
- Volunteer Fair, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Individuals looking to gain valuable experience or to give back to the community were invited to attend the annual Volunteer Fair to get one of the many available positions.

**U of T at SCARBOROUGH**

No report.

**UofT at MISSISSAUGA**

No report.

**5. Audited Financial Statements**

At the request of Mr. Brocklehurst, the Audited Financial Statements were withdrawn from the Agenda in order to resolve with the University an issue concerning the reporting of endowment income.

**6. Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee's response to Recommendation 12<sup>1</sup>, Hart House Review 2007**

It was moved and seconded

*THAT the Board of Stewards accept the report of the advisory committee and charge the Warden or her designate to present their report to Governing Council at their meeting of October 30, 2007.*<sup>2</sup>

- It was suggested that the acceptance of the *Report* be approved separately from the charge to the Warden to present the *Report* to the Governing Council.
  - Members of the Committee indicated that the intent of the motion was to provide an opportunity for members of the Board to review the Report and its recommendations and to suggest changes.
- It was suggested that two questions were being raised:
  - i) Should the Revolver and Rifle Clubs carry out their operations on the University of Toronto campus?
  - ii) Was Recommendation 12 appropriate?
- Some members of the Board interpreted Recommendation 12 of the Hart House Review 2007 as an infringement on the programming authority of Hart House, and contrary to the intent of the *Statement on the Bearing of Firearms* to grant the Chief Administrative Officer the authority to respond to safety concerns related to firearms on campus, rather than imposing a burden of determining the educational merit of programming related to firearms.

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<sup>1</sup> Previous reviews have addressed the matter of the revolver and rifle clubs, and the use of space in Hart House as a shooting range. Although those reviews did not explicitly recommend the abolition of the clubs, they spoke to the inappropriateness of guns in an urban environment, and suggested that no particular activity should enjoy permanently dedicated space in the House. We too feel that, while firearms and other weapons can serve some purposes, they are also a painful reminder and a symbol (and, regardless of the safeguards, a potential agent) of more sinister uses. The Committee is aware that this issue has been and continues to be divisive, and that the clubs provide a recreational activity valued by their members. Nonetheless, we believe that the abolition of the clubs, and the reallocation of the space for other purposes more consistent with the University's current values and mission, will serve the greater good. Consistent with the University's *Statement on the Bearing of Firearms*, we recommend that the Chief Administrative Officer permanently withdraw permission for firearms to be kept or used at Hart House or at any of its facilities.

<sup>2</sup> The *Report* concluded with the following two recommendations:

1. That Governing Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to restore the Clubs' prior exemption under the existing *Statement on the Bearing of Firearms*; and,
2. That Governing Council undertake a review of the *Statement* with a view to clarifying the original intent that this policy should only apply to direct issues of safety, and not of the shaping of educational goals.

**6. Report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee's response to Recommendation 12, Hart House Review 2007 (cont'd)**

- Other members of the Board interpreted Recommendation 12 as a decision to remove firearms from the campus, rather than a decision to limit the safe use of firearms,
- It was noted that the Review of Hart House, including the recommendations, had been circulated to the Board of Stewards for information. An invitation to meet to discuss the Hart House Review was not taken up by a majority of Board members at that time (May, 2007).

On motion duly made and seconded, the request for a Standing Vote was approved. The Chair called for a vote on the motion.

**In Favour**

Mr. Sameer Al-Abdul-Wahid  
Mr. Courtney Gibson  
Mr. Mitchell Wong

**Opposed**

Dr. Louise Cowin  
Ms. Corrine Aberdeen  
Ms Aileen Burns  
Ms. Jacqueline Raaflaub  
Ms. Duri Song  
Ms. Lindsey Van de Keere

**Abstentions**

Mr. Davis Elisha  
Mr. Joseph Mulongo

The motion was defeated.

**7. Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in the South Dining Room.

**8. Other Business & Announcements:**

**(a) Committee Dinner**

The Committee Dinner had been rescheduled to January 22, 2008.

**(b) Contact Information**

Members were asked to review their contact information to ensure that it was correct.

**9 Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Chair

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Recording Secretary

October 31, 2007