

Minutes of the 1,231st meeting of the Hart House Board of Stewards, held on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 5:30 pm in the South Dining Room.

Present: Ms Vanessa Laufer (Chair)
Dr. Louise Cowin (Warden)
Ms Sophia Alifirova (Literary and Library Committee Secretary)
Zeljko Bavcevic (RAC Secretary)
Ms Anita Comella (Presidential Appointee)
Mr. Kenneth Davy (Governing Council Appointee)
Mr. Matt Dreger (Alumni Committee)
Ms Lucy Fromowitz (President [*ex officio*] or Designate)
Mr. Justin Goldenthal (APUS Appointee)
Mr. Keith Ho (House Committee Secretary)
Ms Clara Luke (Farm Committee Secretary)
Ms Maria Pilar Galvez (UTSU Appointee)
Mr. Victor Platt (Debates Committee)
Mr. Matthew Poot (Music Committee)
Naufil Rasheed (Finance Committee Secretary)
Mr. Nikita Reznik (GSU Appointee)
Ms Kelly Robertson-Reinhart (Social Justice Committee Secretary)
Dr. Helen Slade (Presidential Appointee)
Ms Emily Smit-Dicks (Art Committee Secretary)
Ms Phoebe Uguy (Theatre Committee Secretary)

Ms Amanda Greener (Assistant to the Warden; Recording Secretary)

Guests: Mr. Louis Charpentier (Secretary of Governing Council)
Mr. Michael De Angelis (Director of Program Administration)
Mr. Chris Lea (Facilities Manager)
Mr. Michel Mersereau (Marketing/Communications/IT Manager)
Ms. Jenifer Newcombe (Assistant Director, Program Administration)
Ms Rita O'Brien (Director, Operations and Finance)
Ms Caroline Pereira (Senior Development Officer)
Mr. Allan Shatzky (Coordinator, Special Projects)
Ms Lynette Spence (Coordinator, Equity and Diversity Initiatives)
Mr. Paul Templin (Director, Events and Catering)

Regrets: Mr. Munib Sajjad (UTM Representative)

1. Approval of Agenda

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD APPROVED the agenda.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2010

The minutes of the 1,230th meeting held on May 6, 2010, were approved.

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. New Business

a) Guest: Louis Charpentier, Secretary of Governing Council

Louis Charpentier provided context to the work that the Board of Stewards does in relation to the University, re: the University of Toronto Act, which draws distinction between the roles of administration and governance. Board members have a responsibility to contribute at the level that their experience allows them to, with focus on governance. Within the Hart House context, this means that the Warden, who has the expertise to initiate new business regarding the administration of the House, will bring business to the table and that it is the stewards' job to consider what has been brought forth. Collective decisions made by the Board must ensure the best interests of the organization, despite individual interests. Debate is an important tool and it is the responsibility of stewards to work towards consensus. Once a proposal is approved and in place, from a governance stance it is the duty of stewards to go forth in good faith with all decisions made.

b) Vision Statement—Motion

The warden gave background for the need to develop a new vision statement, and outlined the chronology of the vision statement in development over the past three academic years.

On motion duly made and seconded THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the adoption of the following statement as an addendum to the vision statement:

As the vibrant home for the education of the mind, body and spirit envisioned by its founders, Hart House encourages and supports activities that provide spaces for awakening the capacity for self-knowledge and self-expression.

The warden thanked and congratulated the vision writing team, and noted that such strong endorsement proved that their efforts were very successful.

c) Committee Reports

Appended reports from representatives of the following groups were submitted for the information of Board members:

- Art Committee;
- Debates Committee;
- Finance Committee;
- Social Justice Committee;
- Theatre Committee.

5. Warden's Update

a) Fall Events

The warden reported that there was tremendous engagement in living out the vision in the activities at this year's Wide Open House. Congratulations to the Programme Team and Day Milman in particular.

Likewise, Barbara Fischer, Rebecca Gimmi and volunteers were congratulated on a very successful Nuit Blanche. 25,000 people came in through the doors.

The warden reported on a very successful sold-out Hancock Lecture. She congratulated Day Milman, who led the student planning team, many of whom were former students of Dr. Peterson.

b) Student Engagement in the Arts Awards

The warden reported that Hart House students had great representation, taking away seven out of 13 of the awards, Music Committee Secretary, Matt Poot, among them.

c) Warden's Roundtable

The warden will be initiating a series of roundtables as an opportunity to engage directly with student Board members to discuss the pulse of students at U of T. The first roundtable will be set for November.

6. Other Business and Announcement

There was no other business or announcements.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on November 11th: 5 – 5:30 PM (Social, North Dining Room), 5:30 – 7 PM (Meeting, South Dining Room).

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

November 1, 2010