

University Affairs Board, Vice-Provost Students' Report # 1

Hart House – Accessibility: The elevator was launched on September 23rd. The Students for Barrier-Free Access Centre at Hart House was launched on September 27th. With a group of staff and students, we will be developing an accessibility plan for the entire house which will propose solutions not only for physical and architectural barriers but also for barriers related to attitudes, policies and procedures, information and communication, information technology, student life and human resources.

Student Recruitment: Technology innovations are assisting U of T in providing a high standard of responsiveness to prospective students. www.myfuture.utoronto.ca portal provides students with personalized program information about undergraduate, graduate, professional, continuing education and/or ESL programs. By signing on to the system, prospective students can access personalized information about all aspects of life at U of T, including programs of study, housing, admissions requirements, life on campus, and fees calculated in any international currency. Because the database stores the prospective student's information by school, city, country, and program of interest, recruitment staff at all levels of the organization can communicate directly to the students that have indicated their program of interest.

AskUs is a second-generation search engine that was launched by UTSC in September 2003, by Student Recruitment, Nursing and Dentistry in March 2004, and by Arts and Science, St. George, Music and Physical Education and Health in September 2004. To date, 45,652 people have used AskUs and received responses to 114,479 individual inquiries.

Applicant Research - 2004: For the second year, U of T has conducted an online survey of all admitted students to determine their level of satisfaction with our recruitment/admission process. This information identifies the level of importance of recruitment activities and processes to applicants and rates their perception of our service. Issues identified as very important and low satisfaction with our service become priority action items.

Student Services has enjoyed a robust beginning to the year. The First Year Initiative Program - FYI, launched last year has registered close to 1,100 students in the first two weeks of September. As part of FYI, the Career Centre offered a workshop for parents of Arts and Science students called Supporting Your Daughter/Son's Career Development. Over 40 parents attended. September saw the launch of a new program - the Graduate Initiative Program, GSI, offered in partnership with GSU. Over 1,000 graduate students have already registered with the program which offers a wide range of workshops and seminars targeted to the needs of graduate students. September 14th saw thousands of students taking part in Student Services Fest.