

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 191 OF
THE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS BOARD

November 23, 2015

To the Governing Council,
University of Toronto

Your Board reports that it met on Monday, November 23, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, with the following members present:

Mr. Andrew Szende, Chair
Ms Catherine Riddell, Vice-Chair
Professor Sandy Welsh, Vice-Provost,
Students
Mr. Vikram S. Chadalawada
Ms Erin Cicinelli
Mr. Kawin Ethayarajh
Ms Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice-
President, Student Life
Ms Sue Graham-Nutter, (Chair, Campus
Affairs Committee, UTSC)
Professor Gretchen Kerr, Acting Dean,
Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical
Education (KPE)
Mr. Nykolaj Kuryluk
Mr. Paul Kutasi
Dr. Joseph Leydon (Chair, Campus
Affairs Committee, UTM)

Mr. Rhain P. Louis
Professor Jahn Mahrt-Smith
Mr. John F. Monahan, Warden, Hart House
Ms Sylvia Mwangi
Mr. Amir Torabi

Non-Voting Assessors:

Mr. Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs,
University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)
Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs,
University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC)
Ms Meredith Strong, Director, Office of the
Vice-Provost, Students and Student Policy
Advisor

Secretariat:

Mr. Patrick McNeill, Secretary

Regrets:

Ms. Susan Froom
Ms. Sandra Hudson
Ms. Jenna Leigh Jacobson
Mr. Ridwan Olow
Mr. Mark Henry Rowswell
Professor Elizabeth Smyth
Professor Nicholas Terpstra
Mr. Lawrence Zhang

In Attendance:

Ms Beth Ali, Acting Assistant Dean,
Co-curricular Physical Activity and Sport,
KPE

Ms Rita O'Brien, Chief Administrative
Officer, Hart House

Mr. Mike LeSage, Coordinator, Student
Policy Initiatives

ALL ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION.

1. Presentation: Student Services

Professor Welsh introduced representatives from the following units who presented a summary of the services and priorities of their units: Student Life Programs and Services, St. George campus and University-wide (Ms Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice-President, Student Life); Student Affairs and Services, University of Toronto Mississauga (Mr. Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs); Student Affairs and Services, University of Toronto Scarborough (Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs); Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Co-curricular and Physical Activity Programming (Ms Beth Ali, Acting Assistant Dean, Co-curricular Physical Activity and Sport); and Hart House (Mr. John Monahan, Warden).

The Chair thanked Professor Welsh and the representatives from the various student life portfolios for their presentations.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly moved, seconded, and carried

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted.

2. Report of the Previous Meetings: October 8, 2015 (No. 190)

Report number 190 (October 8, 2015) was approved.

3. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

There was no business arising from the report of the previous meeting.

4. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 4:30 p.m.

The Chair informed members that the next meeting was scheduled for February 2, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

5. Report of the Senior Assessor

Campus Climate:

In response to world events, Professor Welsh reported that President Meric Gertler had posted a *Statement on Diversity and Inclusion* on the main UofT and President's websites. She read part of the President's statement:

“Scapegoating or targeting individuals or groups based on their religion, ethnic or cultural heritage, country of origin, skin colour, gender, age, or any other identity is intolerable. Such actions are reprehensible and antithetical to the fundamental values of our academic community. Instead, our institution reaffirms its commitment to be a safe and welcoming place for the widest breadth of communities – and their perspectives, ideas, and debates.

The principles of free expression and free inquiry are cornerstones of the academy. No university embracing those principles can retreat from them. By their very nature, diversity, inclusion, respect, and civility are not in tension with academic freedoms. On the contrary, they ground such freedoms.

In closing, I am acutely aware that in the face of intolerance and discrimination, no statement from the administration, however forceful, is a substitute for the public and private commitment, kinship, and professionalism demonstrated so abundantly by students, faculty, and staff across our three campuses.”

Professor Welsh said she was heartened by the display of kinship and support among faculty, students and staff, as well as the broader community, over the previous week.

Advisory Committee to the President and Provost on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence

Professor Welsh stated that she and Ms Andrea Carter, Director, High Risk Matters & AODA had attended a two day Summit on Sexual Violence and Harassment held by the Premier's Office and the Ontario Women's Directorate. She stated that the conference had affirmed the importance of a provincial plan to address sexual violence in workplaces, educational institutions, courts, and communities. Professor Welsh added that University would continue to work with the Ministry and the Government on an action plan.

Professor Welsh reported that final revisions of the *Report of the Advisory Committee to the President and Provost on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence* were in progress – the Committee would meet one final time. The report would be provided to the President and Provost before the holiday break. They would review the Committee's recommendations and provide direction.

iSchool Student Societies Fee

Professor Welsh reported that on October 13, 2015 her office was alerted to an administrative error that had resulted in a number of graduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Information being mistakenly charged a \$50 sessional “Technology Upgrade Fund” fee (\$25 Part Time students) as part of their student society incidental fees. The Technology Upgrade Fund had been previously approved by the University Affairs Board at the request of students, but required a referendum to continue after the 2014-15 academic year. Such a referendum had not taken place. Professor Welsh stated that the

fee had been reversed for all affected students and the Master of Information Student Council and the Museum Studies Student Association.

OUF and Fall Campus Days

Professor Welsh reported that the Ontario Universities Fair (OUF) had been held in September. UofT's booth was very well attended – prospective students had received information pertaining to their program of interest and were notified of the Fall Campus Days at St. George, UTM and UTSC.

6. Other Business

2016 Elections for Governing Council

The Chair reminded the Board that the 2016 election period for seats on the Governing Council and its bodies would begin in early January 2016 with a one-week nomination period. He requested members to raise awareness within their respective constituency of the importance of University governance and encourage participation during the nomination and election period. He noted that information about applications for co-opted (appointed) members of the Board would be provided next term. Questions about the elections should be directed to the Chief Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer in the Office of the Governing Council.

The Committee Moved *In Camera*.

7. Appointments: Service Ancillaries Review Group (SARG), 2015-16

On motion duly moved, seconded and carried

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT the following be appointed to the Service Ancillaries Review Group for 2015-16:

Ms Susan Froom (student)
Ms Sylvia Mwangi (student)
Mr. Vikram Sainadh (administrative staff)

8. Appointment: Striking Committee – University Affairs Board, 2015-16

On motion duly moved, seconded and carried

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT the following be appointed to the University Affairs Board Striking Committee for 2015-16:

Mr. Andrew Szende (Chair, *ex officio*)
Mr. Mark Rowswell (Lieutenant Governor in Council appointee)
Mr. Nick Kuryluk (alumni)
Professor Liz Smyth (teaching staff)
Mr. Rhain Louis (administrative staff)

Mr. Lawrence Zhang (student)

The Committee returned to open session

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

November 24, 2015