

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
**REPORT NUMBER 111 OF**  
**THE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS BOARD**

**November 19, 2002**

To the Governing Council,  
University of Toronto.

Your Board reports that it met on Tuesday, November 19, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, with the following members present:

Dr. John P. Nestor (In the Chair)  
Ms Durrè Hanif, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Thomas Simpson, Chair of the  
Governing Council  
Dr. Sheldon Levy, Interim Vice-Provost,  
Students and Vice-President,  
Government and International Relations  
Ms. Catherine Riggall, Assistant Vice-  
President, Facilities and Services  
Mr. John Badowski  
Dr. Robert M. Bennett  
Dr. Shari Graham Fell  
Ms. Margaret Hancock  
Professor Bruce Kidd  
Ms. Karen Lewis  
Professor Michael Marrus  
Mr. Sean Mullin  
Mr. Colm Murphy  
Ms. Parissa Safai  
Ms. Cheryl Shook  
Ms. Maggy Stepanian  
Dr. John Wedge

Ms. Geeta Yadav

**Non-voting Members:**

Ms. Susan Addario, Director of Student Affairs  
Mr. Louis R. Charpentier, Secretary of the  
Governing Council  
Professor Ian Orchard, Vice-President  
and Principal, University of Toronto  
at Mississauga  
Ms. Marilyn Van Norman, Director of  
Student Services  
Professor Ron Venter, Vice-Provost,  
Space and Facilities Planning

**Office of the Governing Council:**

Mrs. Beverley Stefureak, Secretary  
Ms. Cristina Oke, Chief Returning  
Officer

**Regrets:**

Mr. Jason Hunter  
Ms Françoise Ko  
Mr. Janakan Satkunasingham

**In Attendance:**

Mr. David Melville, member of Governing Council  
Mr. Jim Delaney, Assistant Director, Student Affairs  
Mr. Davis Elisha, Executive Assistant, Department of Student Services  
Professor David Farrar, Chair, Department of Chemistry and Vice-Provost, Students  
Designate  
Mr. Mohammad Hashim, University Affairs Commissioner, Students' Administrative  
Council  
Mr. Paul Holmes, Judicial Affairs Officer

ALL ITEMS ARE REPORTED TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION.

Prior to the meeting, the Department of Student Services made an informational presentation on services offered by that division.

### **1. Report of the Previous Meetings**

Report Number 109 of September 24, 2002 and Report Number 110 of November 5, 2002 were approved.

### **2. Business Arising from the Reports of the Previous Meetings**

There was no business arising from the previous meetings.

### **3. Election Guidelines – 2003**

At the request of the Chair and with the agreement of members, this item was considered immediately following the presentation by the Department of Student Services. The Chair invited Professor Michael Marrus, Chair of the Elections Committee, to introduce the item.

Professor Marrus briefly summarized the process by which the Elections Committee had reviewed the *Guidelines* this year and said that the memorandum from the Chief Returning Officer, distributed with the agenda, admirably summarized the revisions that were proposed. He informed the Board that the Committee had discussed at length the issues brought forward. The student member of the Committee remained unhappy that some proposals had not resulted in change. However, some of these were beyond the scope of the Elections Committee and would need to be discussed at another level of governance.

It was duly moved and seconded,

THAT the *Election Guidelines 2003* be approved.

At the invitation of the Chair, Mr. Mohammad Hashim spoke to his memorandum which had been circulated to members of the Board at the beginning of the meeting. Generally, Mr. Hashim was happy about the changes proposed to the *Guidelines*. However, he hoped that additional revisions might be considered that would reduce the maximum allowable demerit points, that would ensure there could be no automatic disqualification of a candidate, that a provision could be made to allow for paper ballots as well as web-based ballots and that the regulations could be relaxed to allow for campaigning during the election period.

A member, speaking on behalf of a graduate member who was absent and to a letter from the President of the Graduate Students' Union which had been circulated at the beginning of the meeting, hoped that students would have the option to cast paper ballots in the future. She also queried how the Elections Committee figured into the co-opting process for students. Another member concurred with the thought that the option to vote by paper ballot, if one were to judge by the turnout for the CFS referendum, could result in higher voter turnout.

A member spoke to SAC's concern with the maximum demerit points before disqualification. He believed that ten was optimistically low and that there was a

### 3. *Election Guidelines – 2003* (cont'd)

potential danger that as many as ten demerits could accrue through no fault of the candidate. He agreed that 40 was too permissive and that this could effectively be addressed by a compromise.

It was duly moved and seconded,

THAT the number of demerit points that a candidate could accrue (Appendix C, 14.k.iii – page 35 of the *Guidelines*) be increased from 10 to 25.

The motion to amend was carried.

Professor Marrus continued a review of the Committee's discussions. He noted that the GSU was opposed to web-based elections on principle and that the student representative on the Committee had presented a strong argument for that view. However, the majority of the Committee, including himself, after very careful consideration believed that web elections were the most fair, provided the broadest access to voters and allowed students in all circumstances the opportunity to vote. He could see advantages to a mixed system and that would be forwarded to next year's Committee for consideration. This, however, would result in higher costs for elections.

Professor Marrus responded to points raised by Mr. Hashim, noting that punitive disqualification could be appealed by a candidate and that it was standard electoral practice to disallow campaigning during voting, monitoring of which, in any event, would be extremely difficult.

A member asked that the Board consider amending 14.k on page 35 to involve the Elections Committee prior to disqualification. Asked about the practical difference between the proposed revision and the current wording, the member explained that the proposed wording would require the Elections Committee to meet before a candidate could be disqualified. Current wording allowed disqualification and then an appeal to the Elections Committee. The Chair indicated that this would be a substantive amendment and, as such, would in fact be a motion to refer the item back to the Committee for further consideration. The Chief Returning Officer assured members of the Board that automatic disqualification would not occur unless there had been an extensive investigation. This was a serious step which a CRO would not take lightly and would only occur where the offence warranting disqualification had been proven.

In response to a further question, Ms. Oke indicated that queries about the process of co-opting students to the Academic Board should be discussed at that Board in the context of amending the Board's terms of reference. For the past ten years, as a result of a recommendation by the Elections Committee, co-opted students had been appointed to the Academic Board on the recommendation of its Striking Committee. Mr. Charpentier further advised that the place to begin these discussions was with the Chair of the Academic Board.

The vote was taken on the main motion as amended.  
The amended motion carried.

#### **4. Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees: Individual Requests from Student Societies for Increases – Physical Education and Health Undergraduate Association (PEHUA)**

The Chair informed the Board that requests from student societies for fee increases usually came in a group later in the year. However, this one had been approved by a student referendum and was in place for consideration now. The role of the Board was to ensure that process and policies had been followed. Dr. Levy's memorandum of November 1 provided that assurance.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT beginning in the fall 2003 session, the Physical Education and Health Undergraduate Association fee be increased by \$7.50 per session, from \$10.00 to \$17.50 per session (for a total increase of \$15.00, from \$20.00 to \$35.00, each fall/winter academic period) for all full-time Faculty of Physical Education and Health students.

#### **5. Policy on Student Housing, Review Committee – Terms of Reference and Membership**

At the invitation of the Chair, Dr. Levy referred members to his memorandum of November 8. The review of the Policy on Student Housing had arisen as a result of questions in several bodies of governance about student housing and related matters. The Committee would be chaired by the Vice-Provost, Students and would report directly to the Provost. He expected that the membership would include members of the University Affairs Board, a number of students and representatives of all the other constituencies.

Dr. Levy indicated that, while he was unable to give a commitment on when the report of the Committee could be expected, its work would be concurrent to the academic planning exercise currently underway. Thus, it could be anticipated that results would be known sometime in the late winter.

A member raised the issue of off-campus housing relative to availability and affordability. Following a short discussion, Dr. Levy indicated that this might be a different but equally valid study and he would take the views expressed under advisement.

#### **6. Annual Report on Decisions of Hearing Officers, Code of Student Conduct**

Dr. Levy referred members to his memorandum of October 23, noting that this report, which had normally been prepared by the Director of Student Affairs, had been drafted by Mr. Paul Holmes, Judicial Affairs Officer with the Office of Governing Council.

#### **7. Report on 2002 Governing Council Elections**

This was a report for information and there were no questions. Noting that there had been some acclamations to seats on Governing Council, a member commented on the responsibility of each member of committees, boards and the Governing Council to reach

**7. Report on 2002 Governing Council Elections (cont'd)**

out in an effort to educate members of the University community about the importance of becoming involved. Participation in an electoral process to determine membership led to a strong, committed and effective Council.

**8. Recognized Campus Groups: Report #1**

The Chair noted that this was the first of two reports that the Board received annually on recognized campus groups. There were no questions.

**9. Reports of the Assessors**

Dr. Levy's senior assessor's report had been distributed with the agenda. He had no additional items to report and there were no reports from the other assessors.

**10. Reports of the Elections Committee**

Report Number 30 of October 2, 2002 and Report Number 31 of October 28, 2002 were received for information.

**11. Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 21, 2003**

The Chair reminded members that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2003 at 5:00pm.

**12. Other Business**

The Chair remarked that this was the last meeting for which Dr. Sheldon Levy would be present in his role as Interim Vice-Provost, Students. He thanked Dr. Levy for capably stepping in as senior assessor for the first half of the year and for all the support he has given the Board.

THE MEETING MOVED *IN CAMERA*.

**13. Council on Student Services: Appointment of 2002-03 Chair**

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT Ms. Murphy Browne be appointed Chair of the Council on Student Services, effective immediately and until June 30, 2003.

THE MEETING MOVED INTO OPEN SESSION.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

---

Secretary  
November 28, 2002

---

Chair