

## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

### COLLEGE OF ELECTORS

Minutes of the College of Electors meeting held on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, at which the following were present:

Dr. Françoise Ko (In the Chair)	Mr. Michael Meth (Information Studies)
Mr. Doug Allen (Architecture, Landscape, and Design)	Mr. Paul Morrison (Law)
Dr. Lita-Rose Betcherman (SGS)	Mr. Peter Murchison (Social Work)
Mr. Michael Branch (Engineering)	Ms Florence Newman (Victoria)
Ms Ruhee Chaudhry (Community Health)	Dr. Betty Power (OISE)*
Ms Ann Clarke (Scarborough)	Ms Linda Prytula, Pharmacy
Professor Mary Condon (SGS)	Mr. Devin S. Ragwen (Scarborough)
Mr. Chris Driscoll (St. Michael's)	Ms Patricia Robb (PE&H)
Dr. Inez Elliston (OISE)*	Ms Maureen Simpson (Trinity)
Ms Erica Henderson (UC)	Dr. Mahadeo Sukhai (SGS)
Ms Victoria Hurlihey (UC)	Ms Ann Sullivan (St. Michael's)
Mr. Garry Kwan (Mississauga)	Ms Nancy Sutherland (Victoria)
Dr. Claire Mallette (Nursing)	Mr. Colin Swift (New)
	Ms Maria Topalovich (Music)
	Mr. Jason Wong (UC)
	Mr. William Wrigley (Woodsworth)

#### Regrets:

Ms Noreen Calderbank (Engineering)	Mr. Lennox Phillips (Mississauga)
Dr. Vic Chiasson (Innis)	Ms Barbara Salmon (Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy)
Dr. Don H. Cowan (Medicine)	Mr. Gordon Shantz (Mississauga)
Ms Celeste Francis (Woodsworth)	Ms Liz Terry (OISE)
Mr. Pierre François (OISE)	Ms Padma Tata (Engineering)
Professor Shashi Kant (Forestry)	Mr. Rajesh Uttamchandani (SGS)
Ms Pamela McPherson (Victoria)	Dr. Ben Venditti (Dentistry)

Secretary: Ms Mae-Yu Tan

\*participated via telephone conference

The College met *in camera* to consider items 4 and 6.

#### 1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members of the College, noting that two members were participating in the meeting by teleconference. She also welcomed the following new members of College:

- Dr. Lita-Rose Betcherman, School of Graduate Studies [History]
- Dr. Mahadeo Sukhai, School of Graduate Studies [Medical BioPhysics], and a former graduate student governor
- Ms Ann Sullivan, St. Michael's College
- Ms Padma Tata, Engineering

## **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – December 10, 2007**

The minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2007 were approved.

## **3. Business Arising**

There was no business arising from the previous meeting.

## **4. Discussion of Procedures for Interviews for Alumni Governors including the Set Questions**

### **Procedures**

The Chair outlined the suggested interview process. Candidates invited to attend an interview would be met by a former alumni governor, who would wait with them until the College was ready to meet them. The interviews would be fifteen minutes in length, set at twenty-minute intervals. Each candidate would be asked to make an opening statement for up to three minutes, and then the Chair would ask the candidates each of the set questions except for the final question. The set questions would not be provided to the candidates ahead of time, but as they were being read, a written copy would be given simultaneously to the candidates. Once the second to last question had been answered, members of the College would be invited to ask questions. Following the questions from the College, the Chair would ask the final set question. The College indicated agreement with the proposed interview process.

## **5. Overview of Required Skills identified by the Chair of the Governing Council**

The Chair reviewed the required skills of alumni governors that had been identified by the Chair of Governing Council at the December 2007 meeting:

- willingness to make a long-term commitment to the University
- understanding of the University and its context and major initiatives
- knowledge and understanding of post-secondary education system
- expertise in financial oversight, strategic communications, growth industries, or entrepreneurship
- possession of strong affiliations within the community
- ability to serve as skilled ambassador, representing the University and its mission
- potential for leadership

## **6. Review of Nominations Received**

The College reviewed the nomination forms that had been received.

## **7. Constitution of the College of Electors: Revisions**

The Chair informed members that the 2009 Chancellor Search would be initiated in the Fall 2008 and the proposed changes to the College's Constitution would help to refine the search process. She noted that while the Chancellor Search Committee in 2006 had felt that the search had been more structured and transparent than previous searches, two areas had been identified for further consideration.

First, it was recommended that the Search Committee be given authority to generate names of nominees in order to add to the pool of nominations received. That duty would be consistent with the responsibilities of a search committee. Second, it was recommended that the Search Committee determine the willingness of the recommended candidate to stand as Chancellor prior to submitting its Report to the College of Electors rather than prior to submission of the nomination form. This more

**7. Constitution of the College of Electors: Revisions (cont'd)**

respectful approach would minimize potentially difficult situations resulting from the nominee not being elected.

The Chair explained that if the proposed revisions were approved by the College, they would then be forwarded to the University Affairs Board for approval.

On motion duly moved and seconded

THE COLLEGE OF ELECTORS RECOMMENDS

THAT the revised Constitution of the College of Electors, a copy of which is attached hereto as [Appendix A](#), be approved, replacing the Constitution amended on February 10, 2005.

**8. Nominations for Executive Committee 2008-2009**

The Chair stated that at the College's first meeting in the fall, Mr. Mike Branch and Ms Maureen Simpson had volunteered to sit on the 2007-08 Nominating Committee. The Committee was now seeking nominations to the 2008-2009 Executive Committee.

Invited by the Chair to speak, Ms Simpson commented on the nominations process. She explained that members could be nominated by others or by themselves. Members were encouraged to consider applying to serve on the Executive Committee and to submit the nomination form to the Secretary by the April 3, 2008 deadline. Ms Simpson stated that both she and Mr. Branch had served for two years as members of the Executive Committee, and they had found it to be a most interesting and enjoyable experience. In their second year, they had been involved in the 2006 Chancellor Search. That process had provided them with deeper insight into the operation of the University, and they more fully appreciated the breadth of excellent candidates who were considered for the Chancellor position. While Executive Committee members were required to attend more meetings during a year in which there was a Chancellor Search than in a year with only alumni governor elections, the opportunity to serve the University in that capacity was certainly worthwhile. In the past, Chancellor Search Committee meetings had been typically held twice per month, with each meeting lasting a few hours. Given the confidential nature of the discussions, it was preferable for members to attend in person rather than to participate by teleconference. Interested members of the College who would not be able to make such a commitment in the coming year should still consider applying to become involved with the Executive Committee in 2009-2010. Mr. Branch expressed agreement with Ms Simpson's comments, adding that the Executive Committee served an important role in the College.

A member noted that four members were needed to serve on the Executive Committee. What selection process would be used if there were a greater number of members who were interested in serving than the number of seats available? The Chair explained that the College would elect members of the Executive Committee at its first meeting in Fall, 2008. She encouraged interested members to speak with the current members of the Executive Committee in order to learn about their experiences this year.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The Chair informed members that the next meeting of the College was scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2008, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall. The first interview would be scheduled for 5:45 p.m. The Chair reminded members that the College's Constitution required members to be present for all interviews in their entirety in order to vote.

**10. Other Business**

The Chair stated that the 2008 Call for Applications for alumni co-opted (non-Governing Council) members of the Academic Board and the University Affairs Board would be issued electronically in a few weeks to the University community. She asked members to support the process by encouraging excellent alumni to submit an application form.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chair

March 17, 2008