

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 208 OF
THE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS BOARD

October 1, 2018

To the Governing Council,
University of Toronto

Your Board reports that it met on Monday, October 1, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the Galbraith Building, Room 202:

Andrew Szende, Chair
Catherine Riddell, Vice-Chair
Sandy Welsh, Vice-Provost, Students
Isabelle Babici
Harvey Botting
Eric Bryce
Ira Jacobs
Joseph Leydon
Litos (Hanze) Li
John F. Monahan
Sandhya Mylabathula
David Newman
Harry Orbach-Miller
Stephanie Rose
Mark Henry Rowswell
Aisha Ryan
Steven Thorpe

Regrets:

Ruqayyah Alibhai
Adam Fox
Susan Froom
Avrum Gotlieb
Farhana Islam

Non-Voting Assessors:

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

Secretary:

David Walders

ITEMS 10 and 11 ARE REPORTED FOR APPROVAL AND ALL OTHER ITEMS FOR
INFORMATION

1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the first meeting of the University Affairs Board for the 2018-19 governance year, and invited them to introduce themselves.

2. Orientation to the Board

The Chair provided an overview of the composition, role and responsibility of the Board and its members.

Professor Welsh then offered a presentation which included an overview of her portfolio and priorities for 2018-19, and also apprised members of various initiatives being undertaken by her office. Mr. Pouyat and Mr Overton provided an overview of initiatives being undertaken at the University of Toronto Scarborough and the University of Toronto Mississauga respectively.

In reply to a member's question regarding the format of the Graduate Student Experience in Universities survey, Mr. Newman noted that, for surveys sent to graduate students in professional programs, questions that were research-specific were omitted. He also indicated that the survey results would be available shortly.

In reply to a member's question regarding the role of the Board in visual arts, music dance and drama on campus, Professor Welsh explained that the Board had general responsibility for student spaces on campus, including Hart House, which was the location of a variety of arts initiatives. Mr. Monahan then offered various examples of programming in the arts which took place at Hart House.

3. Report of the Senior Assessor

Professor Welsh began by commenting on the Provincial Government's guidance about free-speech policies in post-secondary institutions. She noted that U of T, in 1992, passed the University's *Statement of Institutional Purpose* and its *Statement on Freedom of Speech*. These two policies serve as the cornerstones upon which the University had built its commitment to free expression. It was likely that discussions related to free-speech would be ongoing.

Turning to the development of the *Companion Guide for University-Mandated Leave of Absence*, Professor Welsh noted that the *Guide* would provide additional information for students regarding the *University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy* and would incorporate a number of the questions received during consultations. The *Guide*, which would be released shortly, would be online and would be updated as necessary to address process details.

Finally, Professor Welsh apprised members of a forthcoming Indigenous art installation at Hart House, which would be designed to visually enhance the space and further encourage inclusivity on campus.

Members asked questions regarding the University's free-speech policies, the *Companion Guide for University-Mandated Leave of Absence* as well as the Board's role with respect to regulating smoking on campus.

Professor Welsh noted that, at present, she was not aware of any planned changes to University policies concerning free-speech. Turning to the *Companion Guide*, Professor Welsh noted that the intended audience for the *Guide* would be students who could be considered under the *Policy* as well as individuals attempting to assist such students. The *Guide* would be responsive to many questions and concerns that were raised during the consultation process. Finally, turning to smoking on campus, Professor Welsh noted that the primary locus for any regulation regarding smoking would be by the Office of the Vice President- Human Resources and Equity. However, given the Board's responsibility for policies concerning student and campus life, it was likely that consideration of any such regulation would also take place at the Board.

4. Calendar of Business: 2018-19

Professor Welsh provided a brief overview of the Calendar of Business.

5. Summer Executive Authority: Annual Report on UAB Approvals

The Chair advised the Board that there had been no business conducted under Summer Executive Authority that was within the purview of the Board.

6. Report of the Previous Meeting – Report 207, May 24, 2018

Report Number 207, from the meeting held on May 24, 2018, was approved

7. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

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

8. Date of Next Meeting: November 19, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting was scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

9. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

The Board moved *in camera*.

10. Appointment: Chair, Council on Student Services, 2018-19

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

It was Resolved

THAT Mr. Cameron Davies be appointed chair of the Council on Student Services, effective immediately until April 30, 2019.

11. Appointment: University Affairs Board Striking Committee, 2018-19

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

It was Resolved

THAT the following be appointed to the University Affairs Board Striking Committee for 2017-18:

- Mr. Mark Rowswell (Lieutenant Governor in Council appointee)
- Mr. Harvey Botting (alumni)
- Professor Avrum Gotlieb (teaching staff)
- Ms Catherine Riddell (administrative staff)
- Ms Farhana Islam (student)

The meeting moved back into open session.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

October 1, 2018