

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 178 OF
THE UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS BOARD

November 19, 2013

To the Governing Council,
University of Toronto.

Your Board reports that it met on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, with the following members present:

Ms B. Elizabeth Vosburgh, In the Chair
Professor Jill Matus, Vice-Provost,
Students & First-Entry Divisions
Ms Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice-
President, Student Life
Ms Alexis Archbold
Mr. Eric Carvalho
Mr. Yuan Chung
Mr. Rastko Cvekic
Mr. Aidan Fishman
Ms Aislin Flynn
Professor Ira Jacobs
Mr. Asad (A.J) Jamal
Professor Bruce Kidd
Mr. Sammy Lau
Professor Joseph Leydon
Dr. Gary P. Mooney
Ms Rita O'Brien
Professor Elizabeth M. Smyth
Professor Salvatore Spadafora

Mr. Chirag Variawa
Ms Roxanne Wright

Non-Voting Assessors:

Mr. David Newman, Acting Director,
Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and
First Entry Divisions
Dr. Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs,
University of Toronto Mississauga
(UTM)

Secretariat:

Mr. David Walders, Acting Secretary

Regrets:

Ms Rida Ali
Mr. Marc Arnold
Ms Sue Graham-Nutter
Ms Eleni Patsokas
Mr. Desmond Pouyat
Professor Janice Stein
Mr. Andrew Szende

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In Attendance:

Ms Sarah Burley, Acting Manager, Student Policy Initiatives & High Risk at University of Toronto
Ms Arlene Clement, Director, Housing Services, University of Toronto
Ms Anita Comella, Assistant Dean, Co-curricular Physical Activity & Sport
Ms Susan Froom, APUS
Mr. Mike Lesage, Coordinator, Student Policy Initiatives in the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and First-Entry Divisions
Ms Meredith Strong, Special Assistant to the Vice-President, University Relations

ALL ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION

The meeting began In Camera

1. Appointment: Service Ancillaries Review Group (SARG), 2013-14

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

IT WAS RESOLVED,

THAT the following individuals be appointed to the Service Ancillaries Review Group for 2013-14:

Ms Rita O'Brien (administrative staff)
Mr. Aidan Fishman (student)
Mr. Eric Clive Carvalho (student)

2. Appointment: Striking Committee – University Affairs Board, 2013-14 (for approval)

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

IT WAS RESOLVED,

THAT the following individuals be appointed to the Striking Committee of the University Affairs Boars for 2013-14:

Ms Elizabeth Vosburgh (Chair, *ex officio*)
Mr. Gary Mooney (Lieutenant Governor in Council appointee)
Mr. Andrew Szende (alumni)
Professor Elizabeth Smyth (teaching staff)
Mr. Marc Arnold (administrative staff)
Mr. Yuan Chung (student)

The meeting moved into Open Session

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The Chair welcomed four new members of the Board, who were added pursuant to amendments to the Board's Terms of Reference, which were presented at the previous meeting and approved by the Governing Council on October 30th:

- Professor Janice Stein, a teaching staff representative
- Mr. Asad (A.J) Jamal, a student representative
- Ms Sue Graham-Nutter, the Chair of the Campus Affairs Committee at UTSC
- Professor Joseph Leydon, the Chair of the Campus Affairs Committee at UTM

3. Update from Campus Affairs Committee (CAC) Chairs from UTSC and UTM

The UTSC CAC Chair was unable to attend the meeting, and therefore did not provide an update.

Professor Leydon, UTM CAC highlighted developments on the new centralized student services centre at UTM, which would streamline the delivery of student services and would create additional space for a student commons.

The Chair thanked Professor Leydon for his update.

4. The Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education: Academic Plan

Dean Ira Jacobs introduced the Faculty's Academic Plan by noting that it was the product of extensive planning and consultation with representatives from all estates, and would serve as a touchstone for decision making and resource allocation for the Faculty. He noted that the contribution of many people, notably Ms Anita Comella, Assistant Dean, Co-curricular Physical Activity & Sport, was critical in bringing the Plan to fruition.

Dean Jacobs provided an overview of the Academic Plan, which highlighted the following:

- An important and unique feature of the Faculty, and one that differentiated it from other kinesiology and physical education programs in Canada, was the integration of curricular and co-curricular endeavours. This was the first academic plan for the Faculty to incorporate and articulate the strategic objectives for both the curricular and co-curricular programs.
- One of the strategic goals outlined in the plan was improvement of participation rates in co-curricular physical activity and sports programs. Since the University Affairs Board had oversight responsibility for KPE policy generally and was responsible for approving the annual KPE operating plan, the Board would likely play key roles in efforts to realize this goal.
- The Plan was a source of pride for the Faculty and would be implemented following provostial approval.

The Chair thanked Dean Jacobs for his report.

5. Academic Presentation: Residences - Professor Jill Matus, Vice-Provost Students & First-Entry Division

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Professor Matus noted that members of the Board had requested a greater number of informational presentations be offered during the governance cycle relating to the Board's areas of responsibility. This presentation on residences was a response to that request.

Professor Matus introduced Ms Arlene Clement, Director of Student Housing, to give the presentation.

Ms Clement's presentation addressed the following topics regarding residences:¹

- Percentage of first year undergraduate students in residence, total residence spaces and residence fees;
- Variation in residence styles, including family housing;
- Orientation and continuing residence life programming, including community development at family housing;
- Applying for residence through the MyRes Portal and the cost and time savings that the implementation of MyRes had produced;
- First year guarantee of residence, first year demand and first year/upper year distribution;
- Tri-campus demographic breakdown of residents as well as demographics for each campus;
- Summer residence.

There were several questions from members on the following topics: residence space for upper year students; student demographics and student experience at the Chestnut Residence; and, accommodations for students with disabilities.

- Ms Lucy Fromowitz noted that the implementation of the MyRes portal would, for the first time, produce centralized statistics related to the number of upper year students that desired residence accommodation versus the number that were actually granted a space in residence. Professor Matus added that decisions with respect to the first year/upper year ratio were made by the Colleges themselves but that the Office of the Vice Provost, Students and First-Year Entry Divisions monitored these decisions and their implications for the whole system of residence provision.
- Both Professor Matus and Ms Fromowitz explained that the Chestnut Residence took tremendous pride in providing an excellent resident experience for students at the University. Since more residence space within the colleges was allocated to students in the Faculty of Arts and Science, residents at Chestnut were more likely to be from other faculties. Overall, students reported that they were generally very happy living in the Chestnut Residence.
- Ms Fromowitz noted that students with disabilities were encouraged to self-identify as such when accepting offers of both admission and of residence from the University. She explained that there were various provisions in place to ensure these students could be accommodated in residences if so desired.

The Chair thanked Ms Clement for her presentation and thanked members for their questions.

¹ Please find link to the presentation given Ms Arlene Clement, Director, Housing Services: <http://uoft.me/Residences>

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CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly moved, seconded, and carried

YOUR BOARD APPROVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted.

6. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 177, October 1, 2013

The report of the previous meeting 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: Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

9. Report of the Senior Assessor

The Report of the Senior Assessor addressed two issues: the Student Societies Summit and the Provostial Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health.

i. Student Societies Summit

- The Undergraduate Student Societies Summit held its fourth meeting during the week of November 11th. While the discussion had frequently involved highlighting specific issues or events that took place amongst specific student societies, the faculty Summit members had been encouraging a principled approach to understanding the core issues.
- Common values that were identified by participants included effective representation, advocacy, accountability, inclusive community building, and democratic process. Participants had been asked to consider what they would be able to tolerate in a layered student society structure where there was an umbrella or large-scale student society along with smaller, local student societies. Representatives were also asked to envision both the positive and negative factors with the current system and a system where the governance structure was fractionated.
- Although strong opinions were expressed during these meetings, the participants had been functioning collegially to work through these issues. The Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and First Entry Divisions continued to receive written submissions from the participants and other groups or individuals across the University community. These had helped frame and inform much of the conversation.
- Another meeting was scheduled for December 11 and it was expected that the Summit would continue to meet next term.

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- Like universities across the country, the University of Toronto had seen an increase in students with mental health needs in health and counselling services, accessibility offices, and classrooms. While a great many programs and services were offered across the University, there would be a tangible benefit from an institutional framework and an articulated strategic direction in this area of need.
- The Provostial Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health had been struck to align the development of new and existing programs and services, and to recommend a Tri-Campus Student Mental Health Framework & Strategy. In developing an institutional strategy, the Committee would begin by articulating the principles upon which the University's commitment to support students with mental health needs were based, as well as the principles underlying support for the University staff and faculty in their interactions with students.
- Campuses and divisions had their own community needs, and recognition of this would continue. However, the broad range of issues under review and recommendations for change would continue to strengthen the ability of the University as an institution to best support students with mental health needs.
- A final report on the Student Mental Health Framework & Strategy would be presented to the Provost for review and would include recommendations around a university-wide coordinated approach to supporting students with mental health needs and promoting practices to support mental health.

A member inquired as to the deadline for an end to the meetings of the Student Societies Summit. Professor Matus replied that, while there was no firm end date in place, there was a desire on the part of the faculty experts leading the Summit to facilitate discussion of the complex issues in an expeditious fashion, with the goal of reaching a resolution on the issues.

Several members inquired as to the processes that would be followed by the Provostial Advisory Committee. Professor Matus replied that the Committee included graduate and undergraduate students, and that additionally the work of the Committee would be highly consultative and working groups would be established that included students. The precise format and procedure for the meetings was still under consideration.

The Chair thanked Professor Matus for her report.

10. Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

November 22, 2013

Acting Secretary

Chair