Innis College Council

313th Meeting

Monday 1 October 2018 at 10 am

Innis Residence Events Room

Minutes

Present: Ennis Blentic (assessor), Donald Boere (assessor), Sarah Burley Hollows, Winston Chan (designate of Nancy Zhao), Rita Chen, Jannie Chien, Corinn Columpar, Sharon English, Dianthi Fernando, Lucas Granger, Joyce Hahn (assessor), Kate Johnson, Charlie Keil, Brandon Liu, Steve Masse (assessor), Merle McMurray, Janielle Palmer, Tony Pi, Daniela Pirraglia, Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Ashlee Redmond, Samuel Reimer, David Roberts, Tyler Schilz, Joanne Uyede, Katharina Vrolijk (co-designate of Daniel Li), Paxton Wong (co-designate of Daniel Li), Ben Weststrate (secretary), Caroline Wrobel

Regrets: James Cahill, Sarah Chocano, Ethan Kim, Varun Malik, Roger Riendeau, Bart Testa

1. SPEAKER'S REMARKS

Secretary Ben Weststrate welcomed all members to the 2018/19 cycle of governance at Innis College. He noted that nine vacant student representative positions shall be filled at an upcoming, second student by-election.

2. INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL'S APPOINTEES

Principal Charlie Keil introduced his principal’s appointees:

• Joanne Uyede: Innis alumna, former Innis representative on the College of Electors (Governing Council), and Harold Innis Foundation member
• Ceta Ramkhalawansingh: long-time friend of Innis College, who was instrumental in founding the Women & Gender Studies Program U of T; worked at City Hall for three decades, focussing on diversity and human rights; Harold Innis Foundation president
• Tyler Schilz: Innis alumnus, and current residence life coordinator and former residence don at the Innis College Residence
• Jannie Chien: recent Innis alumna and acting frontline advisor in the Innis Registrar’s Office
• Tony Pi: program coordinator of Innis One Program, program assistant of the Urban Studies and Writing & Rhetoric Programs, and graduate program assistant for the Cinema Studies Institute
• TBD

A motion to welcome the principal’s appointees was moved (Keil), seconded (English), and carried.

3. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

4. ELECTION OF SPEAKERS

Weststrate summarized the roles of the two council speakers and invited nominations. Pirraglia nominated Ashlee Redmond for student speaker, and Wrobel nominated Lucas Granger for the position. After some discussion, Council voted to elect Redmond as student speaker.
Keil nominated Joanne Uyede for non-student speaker. There were no other nominations. A motion to acclaim Uyede as speaker representing other members was moved (Keil), seconded (Redmond), and carried. Uyede agreed to chair the meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 9 APRIL 2018

(Minutes available online: http://alumni.innis.utoronto.ca/icc)

A motion to approve the previous minutes was moved (Pirraglia), seconded (Redmond), and carried.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Uyede inquired about past student ICC member Elspeth Arbow’s wellness, following her successful double-lung transplant in the spring. Redmond reported that Elspeth is doing incredibly well, has taken up longboarding, and has plans to travel to Vienna.

7. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

A. Staffing changes and updates:

Principal Keil noted numerous changes to the College staff in various major portfolios.

Administrative staff:

- Denise Ing and Daniela Pirraglia both returned from parental leave
- Chief administrative officer Joyce Hahn began on July 16, coming from UTSC and taking over from Cameron Clairmont, who accepted a position at the School of Continuing Studies.
- Dean of students Steve Masse began on Aug 15, coming from Woodsworth College and taking over from Tim Worgan, who has retired.
- Residence life coordinator Tyler Schilz began on Sept 4, coming from FASE and taking over from Sonja Smiljanic, who accepted a position at the Daniel’s Faculty.
- Alumni and event coordinator Lara Roccatani began on Sept 24, covering for Marta Switzer, while on leave.

Teaching staff:

Cinema Studies Institute

- New and returning sessionals: Jason Anderson, Anjo-Mari Gouws (PhD), Rachel Harris (visiting scholar at Centre for Jewish Studies), Janos Kenyeres (visiting scholar at Munk), Daniel Laurin (PhD), Mike Meneghetti, Adam Nayman, Carrie Reese (PhD), Matt Thompson (PhD)

Innis One Program

- Universal Studios Canada Screenwriter-in-Residence: Pat Mills

Urban Studies Program

- David Roberts is acting program director, while Shauna Brail is on leave.
- Aditi Mehta is the new assistant professor, teaching stream (i.e., two-year CLTA), who comes to Innis College from MIT.

New and returning sessionals: Patrick Adler, Emily Paradis (Social Work), Tim Ross (PhD at Geography & Planning)
• Returning adjunct: **Paul Hess** (Geography & Planning)  
  *Writing & Rhetoric Program*

• **Roger Riendeau** enters his final year before retirement.  
  *Writing Centre*

• **Mandy Pipher** is a new Writing Centre instructor and Toronto-based freelance author.

**B. Capital facility improvements**

Keil reported the installation of ceiling fans in the east atrium of 2 Sussex Ave. to address warping-effects of condensation build-up, and to enhance indoor air circulation and quality. Hahn added that fan settings can be controlled, should users request adjustment.

**C. Capital renovation project updates**

Keil summarized recent developments in the College’s revitalization and expansion project. He and Hahn will bring the concept design to the University’s Capital Projects and Space Allocation Committee (CaPS) on Friday, October 5 for approval.

Keil forecasted the next phase of the project, which involves a second process of vetting architectural contenders. He clarified that it is never a given that the architecture firm contracted for concept design will be retained for the next design phase. A committee of University representatives makes that decision, within which Innis College has one vote. Following this stage, the (potentially new) architectural firm will work with College stakeholders to refine the concept design into the ultimate plan.

Keil noted that we are also entering the fundraising phase of the project. A concerted effort will be made to enlist the help of students to give voice to the foreseeable benefits of the renovation (e.g., developing campaign communications, engaging with prospective donors). Student involvement in the campaign phase is critical as it befits the primary objective of the renovation—to enhance student space at the College. A number of different students, representing different constituencies will be approached.

Keil added that there is hope for a student levy (i.e., a nominal fee bundled into annual incidental fees), which will support the project. He has engaged with the ICSS executive to consider possibilities. Much effort is required in the intervening months prior to a student referendum to ensure that students are able to make an informed decision.

**D. Other priorities for 2018/19**

Keil reported additional priorities of the upcoming year:

• The College will look to implement priorities of Arts & Science, namely those emerging from the University’s Truth and Reconciliation Steering Committee Report.

• Keil currently sits on the “College Community Working Group,” which evaluates procedural, college-level issues, including the “first-year foundations” courses. He anticipates broad changes to undergraduate, first-year education and will bring these issues to Council for feedback throughout the year.

**E. Terry Harris**

Keil acknowledged the passing of Terry Harris, wife of Innis’s first principal, Robin S. Harris, and an invested supporter of Innis College, for which we are very grateful.
F. Chief Investigating Officer
Keil noted the appointment of Steve Masse as chief investigating officer (re Code of Student Conduct) for 2018/19.

G. Chief Hearing Officer
A motion to reappoint Roger Riendeau as chief hearing office for 2018/19 was moved (Keil), seconded (Boere), and carried.

8. INTRODUCTION OF BOARDS
As none of the Boards had yet to meet, there we no reports to deliver. Instead, former members of the Boards were invited to describe their functions to Council.

English and Pi introduced the Academic Affairs Board; Johnson—the College Affairs Board; Weststrate—the Community Affairs Board; and Redmond—the Student Affairs Board.

Pertaining to the College Affairs Board, Keil acknowledged an unexpected disruption to the College’s student printer. Johnson confirmed that the new TCard Plus system (i.e., online, top-up feature) is now operating smoothly and the IT Helpdesk and Innis College Library staff can support.

9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Weststrate described the composition and functions of the Committee. Keil added that Council members are welcome to recommend topical issues for general council discussion to the Executive Committee.

10. OTHER BUSINESS
A. Upcoming special events
Keil previewed upcoming College events:
- Oct 3: Writing & Rhetoric co-hosted panel discussion, entitled “Sexism & Violence in Cyberspace,” addressing sexual and misogynistic violence in digital spaces
- Oct 23: Fifth annual alumni mentorship program launch (Student-mentee application deadline is Oct 5)
- Nov 8: Harold Innis Lecture with author and historian Charlotte Gray, entitled “Telling Stories in the Age of Historical Amnesia”
- Nov 27: Alumni dinner series restarts with Mark McDowell (BA ’88 Innis), Canada’s first ambassador to Myanmar, and current head of the Myanmar Office, Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
- Nov 22: Innis student awards ceremony
- Nov 27: Writing & Rhetoric co-hosted event with cultural/communications studies scholar Lawrence Grossberg, entitled “I’ve seen the future, baby/it is murder:” Intellectuals and the “American” nightmare”

B. InnisLife Newsletter
Burley Hollows invited College staff and faculty, who would like to receive the bi-weekly student life newsletter, to let Weststrate or her know. Subscribing to this digital publication is a great way to become
informed on current and upcoming opportunities and activities in the student community.

C. University of Toronto Communications (UTC)

Keil recently met with the head of UTC, who is seeking to expand coverage of U of T students in their various communications (e.g., website, U of T Magazine). If any Council member learns of an interesting student-centred story, please let Weststrate or him know.

D. ICSS Special By-Election

Responding to Granger’s inquiry, ICSS president Brandon Liu clarified the timing of the second by-election, which will fill the vacant Council seats. Nomination forms will be released on Oct 8 and collected on Oct 15. Campaigning will run for ten days, after which voting will take place on Oct 25-26. Results will be announced on Oct 28.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Uyede), seconded (Schilz), and carried. The meeting ended at 11:20 am.