

Innis College Council  
Community Affairs Board  
Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 4 pm  
Innis College, Room 310, East Wing

**Minutes**

**Present:** Ennis Blentic (assessor), Charlie Keil, Lucas Granger, Joyce Hahn (assessor), Daniel Li, Merle McMurray, Ashlee Redmond, Ben Weststrate (ICC secretary), Victoria Wilson (designate of Dianthi Fernando), Caroline Wrobel

**Regrets:** Elspeth Arbow, Rita Chen, Dianthi Fernando, Brandon Liu, Tony Pi, Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Bart Testa, Joanne Uyede

### 1. SPEAKER'S REMARKS

Board moderator Caroline Wrobel chaired the meeting.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2018

A motion to approve [the minutes of the previous meeting](#) was moved (Wrobel), seconded (Redmond), and carried.

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None reported

### 4. ADVANCEMENT OFFICE REPORT

#### A. Communications

Weststrate, communications officer, reported the following:

- Third issue of *Innis Alumni & Friends Magazine* was distributed during the first week of January to 7,500 alumni and friends. Two editorial committee meetings have taken place for the fourth issue, slated for September 2019 distribution. The guiding theme for that issue will be “change”—i.e., telling stories about transformational changes in the College’s history, and Innis as an incubator for change.
- *Innis Alumni eNewsletter* series was re-launched on March 26. We are aiming for a semi-annual or seasonal distribution frequency. Contents included an alumni interview, listing of upcoming events, and acknowledgement of Innis community member accomplishments (e.g. news media headlines).
- So far, 40 alumni have completed the alumni feedback survey that was developed by alumna Rita Chen.
- Annual Donor Reports (ADRs) were mailed to two groups of college supporters: 18 individuals or organizations with endowed funds that support named scholarships and fellowships (e.g., Later Life Learning, Linda Schuyler); and 87 annual donors to the College.

## **B. Events Programming**

Blentic reported a robust and well-attended alumni events program at Innis College in 2018/19, which now has global reach. This includes:

- Six Canadian Film Forum screenings
- Four regional receptions hosted by alumni ambassadors (New York, London, Los Angeles, San Francisco). We are hoping to expand to Hong Kong in the coming year, where the largest concentration of Innis alumni outside of North America reside.
- Upcoming reunion programming includes the Class of 1969 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event on May 31 and the annual “Reunion in the Green” on June 1. With each iteration of the reunion, we will highlight a new theme that takes advantage of alumni expertise. Last year was food and beverage. This year will be entertainment (e.g., comedy, music).
- In 2018/19 we launched a series of smaller-scale “Principal’s Alumni Dinners,” where alumni and students, with complementary careers/academic interests, were brought together over a casual dinner at the College. We aim to host four to six of these next year.

## **5. ALUMNI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

Blentic reported that the fifth cycle of mentorship formally ended on March 26 with a program closing reception. There were 27 alumni-student pairings this year, and we are looking to expand the roster next year by at least 25%.

## **6. LATER LIFE LEARNING (LLL) REPORT**

McMurray, LLL president, reported the following:

- The Winter 2019 session was successful; all three lecture series filled.
- LLL made significant contributions to the Innis College Refugee Student Fund, Admission Scholarship for Indigenous Peoples Fund, and LLL Scholarship Fund. Members collectively gave \$40,536 over two “Week of Giving” campaigns in 2018/19. The LLL Board of Directors also approved a \$26,500 donation to the Refugee Student and Indigenous Peoples Funds.
- Principal Keil expressed his gratitude on behalf of the College for this continued generosity.

McMurray inquired about the potential impact of the College’s renewal/expansion project upon LLL operations.

Principal Keil indicated that the College’s east wing will remain operational throughout construction. The west wing, including the Innis Café, will out of operation during construction. Demolition of the Victorian House is proposed for August 2020.

## **7. HAROLD INNIS FOUNDATION (HIF) REPORT**

On behalf HIF president Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Weststrate reported the following:

- The next HIF board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16. As such, there is no formal report for the Community Affairs Board.
- HIF partnered with Innis College on the highly successful, inaugural Innis Alumni Lecture on March 28, featuring alumnus and past HIF member Phil Howard.

- The 2019 Harold Innis Lecture will be on Thursday, November 14 with poet-essayist-activist Dionne Brand.
- As of February 12, 2019, HIF is in its 50<sup>th</sup> year.

## 8. OTHER BUSINESS

### A. Art Committee Proposal

Redmond summarized previous discussion of the potential Art Committee, which the Board deferred to the Executive Committee at its last meeting. The Executive Committee recommended situating the Art Committee under the Community Affairs Board—alongside the Advancement Office—given the auction-donation aspect of the proposal.

Redmond presented the following description of the Art Committee’s membership and functions, modelled upon the ICC by-laws for comparable committees:

*[Proposed amendment to By-Laws of Innis College Council, p. 9]*

The Community Affairs Board shall:

...

e. establish the Art Committee, which shall have the following composition and powers and responsibilities:

The Art Committee shall consist of at least 10 members, including:

- i. ex officio: four members defined in By-Law II.D.3, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Dean of Students, or their designates;
- ii. the Alumni and Events Coordinator;
- iii. at least three other members of the ICSS.<sup>1</sup>

The Art Committee shall:

- i. Coordinate the acquisition of artwork, including the establishment of submission criteria and promotion, in collaboration with the Office of Student Life;
- ii. Select artwork for exhibition, based upon a review of space availability and adherence to ICC rules of quorum;
- iii. Establish a contractual agreement with each selected artist, stipulating the Art Committee’s sole ownership of any reproduction of the artwork for a Committee exhibition. Ownership includes printing, framing, installation, and all profits generated by the sale of the artwork;
- iv. Designate a charitable target for all profits generated by artwork sale;
- v. When an exhibition has ended, coordinate artwork sale and ensure that all generated funds are donated to the designated charity, in collaboration with the Office of Advancement;

f. approve the reports of the Art Committee;

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<sup>1</sup> ICC Constitution, 2-G: "Students" means undergraduate members of the ICSS and graduate students enrolled in the Cinema Studies Institute. ... First entry professional faculty students registered at the University of Toronto and living in the Innis Residence, in addition to non-degree students enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Science through Innis College, are also considered to be members of the ICSS.

A motion to constitute the Art Committee, as per these terms, under the Community Affairs Board was moved (Redmond), seconded (Wrobel), and carried.

### **B. Renewal and Expansion Project**

A student consultation on the latest round of renovation designs will likely take place on April 26.

### **C. Honorary degree**

Innis College is proud to announce that Governing Council has voted to recognize alumnus Dr. Alan Bernstein (BSc '68 Innis, PhD '72) with an honorary degree (Hon. LLD). This nomination was put forth by Principal Keil. Dr. Bernstein is a global leader in medical research and education. He will receive his degree at Innis's convocation ceremony on June 11.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Granger), seconded (McMurray), and carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.