

## **Council on Student Services**

### **Minutes of Meeting – February 22, 2016**

The Council on Student Services (COSS) met February 22, 2016, at 5:30 pm in Suite 313 of Koffler Student Services Centre, with the following present:

**Voting members:** Ben Coleman, Beth Ali, David Newman, Jasmine Denike, John Monahan, Lucy Fromowitz, Maina Rambali, Mala Kashyap, Mark Overton, Meredith Strong, Nickie Van Lier, Ryan Gomes, Sarah Qidwai, Vere-Marie Khan

**Absent Voting members:** Desmond Pouyat, Ebi Agbeyegby, Nicole Dionisio

**Non-voting Members:** Adam Kuhn (Secretary)

**Non-Voting Attendees:** Danielle Sandhu, Francesca Dobbin, Jim Webster, Michael Buttley, Rita O'Brien, Serena Persaud, Susan Froom, Suzanne MacIntyre

**Chair:** Eric Schwenger

**Recording Secretary:** Andrea Dell'Anno

#### **1. Meeting Called to Order**

Chair Schwenger called the meeting to order at 5:43 pm.

#### **2. Confirmation of Quorum**

Chair Schwenger declared confirmation of quorum.

#### **3. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Schwenger requested any amendments to the agenda.

Ryan Gomes expressed concerns about voting by way of secret ballot. Chair Schwenger responded that a COSS member expressed interest in voting on the budgets via secret ballot and in reviewing Bourinots rules, there is policy around roll call vote but not around voting by way of secret ballot. Chair Schwenger added that an email from the COSS Chair and Secretary was circulated to the Council, requesting feedback regarding voting by secret ballot, to which no feedback was received. Chair Schwenger informed Gomes that if he is opposed, a discussion on how the vote will be cast could be held at the present time.

Susan Froom, a member of the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS) board and the University Affairs Board (UAB), requested to be granted speaking rights by a member of COSS.

Motion made by Nickie Van Lier.

Froom advised the Council that as a member of the APUS board, the APUS delegates to this body have been instructed by the board to vote in a particular manner. Therefore, it is important for APUS members to be aware of how APUS delegates vote at COSS, which may be prevented through a secret ballot if one were to take place.

Chair Schwenger explained that the process contemplated would distinguish the ballot as student union representative or Presidentially appointed representative. This would meet the need to report votes by student/ administrator grouping to Governing Council. Members could also choose to identify their votes.

Van Lier agreed with Froom's concerns, as the Graduate Students' Union (GSU) requires a mechanism that allows the GSU to be accountable to its members. Van Lier added that there is a process that determines how GSU representative are to vote at COSS. She reminded the Council that this is a public meeting and she is uncertain of the rationale for voting via secret ballot, particularly as it has never been used in the past. Chair Schwenger responded that a COSS member had expressed interest in exploring a secret ballot, resulting with an email being circulated to the Council requesting feedback. He added that feedback was not received.

AVP Student Life, Lucy Fromowitz advised that when the question around voting via secret ballot arose, it was discussed in advance with Governing Council and although unusual, it is not disallowed. She suggested that given that there are objections at the table, Chair Schwenger should seek a motion on this and if there is no such motion, the Council will proceed in its normal manner.

Chair Schwenger requested whether there was interest in moving a motion to proceed with a secret ballot. There was none.

Chair Schwenger requested any additional motions to be added to the agenda, receiving none.

On a motion made by David Newman, Senior Director, Student Experience, seconded by Acting Assistant Dean, Faculty of Physical Education & Health (KPE), Beth Ali, it was resolved:

**THAT the February 22, 2016 COSS Meeting agenda be approved as presented.**

Motion carried with one abstention (Gomes).

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Schwenger requested any business arising from the minutes. Kuhn advised that there was one set of revisions that included an update with regards to the spelling of Hart House (HH) Warden, John Monahan's name, in addition to revising the following sentence on Page 4, third paragraph, fifth line down to read:

Monahan explained that HH was intent on expanding their Deferred and Major Maintenance Reserve.

Page 4, third paragraph, last sentence of that paragraph to read:

For the 16/17 budget year, HH is projecting a reserve fund of 6.8 million dollars of which approximately 1.3 million dollars has already been committed to a number of capital projects.

Chair Schwenger requested any further business arising from the minutes, receiving none.

On a motion made by Meredith Strong, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Students, seconded by Maina Rambali, and carried unanimously by all voting members of the Council, it was resolved:

**THAT the minutes from the COSS Meeting #3 (2015-16) of January 25, 2016 be approved as amended.**

#### 5. Approval of Student Life (SL) Operating Plan

Chair Schwenger advised the Council that COSS will be proceeding with a vote in the regular manner, and indicated, he welcomes a motion for a roll call vote if this is what the student unions had requested in the past.

On a motion made by Fromowitz and seconded by Newman, it was resolved:

**THAT the 2016-17 operating plans and budget for Student Life Programs and Services, as presented in the documentation from Lucy Fromowitz, Assistant Vice President, Student Life, be approved; and**

**THAT the sessional fee for a full-time student on the St. George campus be increased to \$148.38 (\$29.68 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$3.09 (\$0.62 for a part-time student) or 2.13%.**

Chair Schwenger requested discussion.

Gomes outlined his understanding is that if students approve the fee increase, the temporary increase that is currently UTI will become permanent, which would result in

an even higher fee increase in following years. Gomes stated that he is very uncomfortable with this idea and that, regardless of the decision of this body, that these increases can be brought forward to UAB and are generally approved. Gomes explained he is having difficulty understanding the purpose of this body if increases are always going to be approved regardless. Fromowitz responded to Gomes, explaining that if the SL Operating Plan is approved, what becomes permanent is the full increase sought so that in three years there is no-drop off of the greater of those portions. She added that we will continue see drop-offs in the next two years due to non-approved budgets of last two years. Fromowitz advised that approving the budget here does not increase the fee further. Fromowitz explained that UTI takes into consideration the current staffing levels, salary increases at the University, collective agreements, and occupancy costs. Without the drop-offs, UTI tends to stabilize, as this was modelled. She stated that in out years, it can mean that the only necessary increase in SL budgets is CPI and requests for new staffing. However, Fromowitz cautioned that various factors can impact this. For example, if enrollment decreases, there is an implication due to the multiplying factor changing.

Gomes further inquired if a UTI increase becomes permanent, will future UTI increases continue to be equal or will they decrease. Fromowitz responded that when SL modelled this scenario out five years, they modelled a decrease.

Gomes thanked Fromowitz for clarifying and added that his central issue is that it seems that regardless of the decision of this body, whether the budget is approved or not approved, the University is able to still approve an increase. Gomes inquired as the purpose of this body if the increases will always be the approved regardless of what COSS advises. Fromowitz responded that the powers and duties of COSS extended beyond budget consideration. She added COSS is an advisory board to UAB, and UAB therefore considers the advice of COSS in their deliberation. Further, if budgets are not approved by COSS, Student Life can present a budget which only considers CPI and UTI, with the greater being the temporary and the lesser being permanent.

Chair Schwenger requested any further discussion, receiving none.

Chair Schwenger advised the Council that the student/administrative vote split will be recorded. However, individual votes will not be noted unless requested.

On a motion made by Ben Coleman, seconded by Gomes, and passed by the Council, it was resolved:

**THAT COSS will proceed with a roll call vote.**

Administration:

**In favour:** Newman, Monahan, Fromowitz, Strong, Overton, Ali

**Opposed:** none  
**Abstained:** none

Students:

**In favour:** none

**Opposed:** Rambali, Kashyap, Qidwai, Van Lier, Coleman, Gomes, Khan, Denike

**Abstained:** none

Vote fails to pass 8 to 6.

## **6. Approval of Hart House (HH) Operating Plan**

On a motion made by Hart House Warden, John Monahan and seconded by Ali, it was resolved:

**THAT the 2016-17 operating plans and budget for Hart House, as presented in the documentation from John Monahan, Warden, be approved; and**

**THAT the sessional fee for a full-time student on the St. George campus be increased to \$84.27 (\$16.87 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year permanent increase of \$1.63 (\$0.33 for a part-time student) or 1.97%; and**

**THAT the sessional fee for a full-time student at UTM or UTSC be increased to \$2.59 (\$0.52 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$0.05 (\$0.01 for a part-time student) or 1.97%.**

Chair Schwenger requested discussion, receiving none.

On a motion made by Coleman, seconded by Gomes, and passed by the Council, it was resolved:

**THAT COSS will proceed with a roll call vote.**

Administration:

**In favour:** Newman, Monahan, Fromowitz, Strong, Overton, Ali

**Opposed:** none

**Abstained:** none

Students:

**In favour:** none

**Opposed:** Rambali, Kashyap, Qidwai, Van Lier, Coleman, Gomes, Khan, Denike

**Abstained:** none

Vote fails to pass 8 to 6.

### **7. Approval of Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education (KPE): Co-Curricular Programs, Services and Facilities Operating Plan**

On a motion made by Ali and seconded by Monahan, it was resolved:

**THAT the 2016-17 operating plans and budget for the Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education: Co-Curricular Programs, Services and Facilities, as presented in the documentation from Beth Ali (Acting Assistant Dean, Co-Curricular Physical Activity and Sport) be approved; and**

**THAT the sessional fee for a full-time student on the St. George campus be increased to \$183.52 (\$36.70 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$11.27 (\$2.25 for a part-time student) or 6.54%; and**

**THAT the sessional fee for a full-time student at UTM or UTSC be increased to \$21.29 (\$4.26 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$1.31 (\$0.26 for a part-time student) or 6.54%.**

Chair Schwenger requested discussion, receiving none.

On a motion made by Coleman, seconded by Gomes, and passed by the Council, it was resolved:

**THAT COSS will proceed with a roll call vote.**

Administration:

**In favour:** Newman, Monahan, Fromowitz, Strong, Overton, Ali

**Opposed:** none

**Abstained:** none

Students:

**In favour:** none

**Opposed:** Rambali, Kashyap, Qidwai, Van Lier, Coleman, Gomes, Khan, Denike

**Abstained:** none

Vote fails to pass 8 to 6.

**Note: Quorum lost at 6:05 pm.**

## **8. 2016/2017 Chair Nomination**

Chair Schwenger announced that the GSU has presented a chair nominee for the 2016-17 COSS cycle, however, the vote will be deferred to the next meeting. As such, Chair Schwenger informed the Council that other business can be entertained as discussion items, but it is not possible to move other business items during this meeting.

## **9. Other Business**

Chair Schwenger requested other business arising.

Mark Overton requested if the Council could be made aware of GSU's nominee. Chair Schwenger welcomed the GSU to present their chair nominee.

Sarah Qidwai advised the Council that GSU is putting forth Ms. Sandra Hudson as the 2016-17 COSS Chair. She advised the Council that Hudson is a very experienced student and would be a great person for this role. She added that Hudson has a strong understanding of University Governance, is a current student governor and has held student office for a number of years. Qidwai added that Hudson has also been an active member of the community, is currently completing her Master's at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) and would be a phenomenal representative of the GSU on COSS.

Kuhn distributed Hudson's CV for review for the next meeting.

Fromowitz advised the Council that the Secretariat will continue to attempt to schedule the next meeting with Chair Schwenger until the end of April in order to achieve quorum.

Chair Schwenger requested other business, receiving none.

Chair Schwenger added that himself and Kuhn intended on hosting a discussion with COSS members as to how the members felt COSS proceeded this year. In lieu of this discussion, Chair Schwenger and Kuhn hope to circulate a survey to members for feedback regarding this COSS cycle. He added that if any member has any points they would like to share now, they may do so, however, no further motions can be put forth.

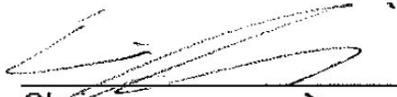
Kuhn thanked Chair Schwenger on behalf of COSS, for his time and effort chairing this year.

This meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

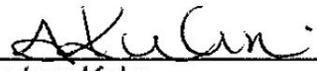
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These minutes were approved at the subsequent COSS meeting of

31/10/2016 and are now the record.



Chair



Secretary Kuhn