ST JOHN’S COLLEGE
ASSEMBLY
Minutes

For the meeting of January 19, 2016 @ 2:30 pm in Room 206 St John’s College


1. Approval of the Agenda
MOTION: That the agenda be approved as distributed with the following amendments: Strike item 4c - the St. Andrews A.C. Woodhaven Bursary.
B. Hallman / C. Morrison
CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on October 20, 2015.
MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of October 20, 2015, be approved as distributed.
B. Cantelo / S. Sinclair
CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes of the October 20, 2015 meeting
MOTION: That Assembly approve the following slate for the Warden’s Review J. Markstrom, B. Ferguson, B. Cantelo, June James (Council Representative), Susan Gotheil, (U of M Admin representative) Eun-Ah Lee (senior stick, student representative) Committee
B. Cantelo / D. Brydon
CARRIED

4. New Business
a) Fellows’ Recognition Award Committee - MOTION: That B. Ferguson, B. Cantelo, L. Alexandrin, I. Froese constitute the Fellows’ Recognition Award Committee.
B. Cantelo / B. Hallman
CARRIED
b) Honorary degree nominations - The Warden called on Assembly to strongly consider nominations for the 2016 Convocation as it is the 150th Anniversary of the College. Please especially consider nominations for Honorary Fellows as that nomination particularly falls under the purview of Assembly.
c) The Archbishop Walter and Marilyn Jones Bursary - This is a Theology Bursary which is currently not being disbursed by the College. It has been arranged that the money will be given to the Bishop who will then disburse the money to a worthy candidate.
MOTION from the Scholarship Committee: That the change to the terms of reference for the award be approved.
CARRIED

d) The CASSAP Prize - This is another Theology prize. A donor has agreed to increase the amount of the award and broadened the eligibility.
MOTION from the Scholarship Committee: That the changes to the terms of reference for the CASSAP Prize be approved.
CARRIED

5. Other Business
None

6. Reports
a) Reports from College Officers

Warden

St John’s College
Warden’s Report to Assembly
January 19, 2016

In late November Jackie and I made a trip to Ottawa, Kingston and Toronto (Nov 19-24) to visit with College Alumni and Donors. It was most interesting on this trip that fewer people responded to our group events and more were interested in meeting us one-on-one. This made for a very busy trip. We presented a (very) draft version of the Strategic Plan to our Alumni and asked for feedback. While generally people were pleased and interested to see the plan, we did get some helpful comments, which will be included in the final versions. We also put people on notice about the events we are planning for the 150th anniversary.

Since the last Assembly we also had College Convocation on November 1 where we honoured Bishop Mark MacDonald and Ms. Shirlee Ann Smith. Bishop Mark gave the Convocation address. Dr. Smith was very moved to have her years of work as Keeper of the HBC Archives recognized. We were also delighted to acknowledge the contribution of 3 generations of the Poulter family to St John’s.

1) Represented the College at two University Convocations (Oct. 21, 22)
2) Represented the College at the Bishop’s Annual Dinner (Oct 22)
3) Attended the Evening of Excellence with Sherry (Oct 27)
4) Attended two lectures at St Margaret’s Church (Oct 29, Nov 12)
5) Represented the College at the Opening Ceremonies of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (Nov 3)
6) With Jackie and Ivan I attended a meeting of rental housing stakeholders for Fort Richmond at the Legislature with Councillor Janice Lukes and MLA Kerry Irwin-Ross (Nov 5)
7) Attended a workshop on the TRC Calls to Action at the College (Nov 8)
8) Attended the Naming Ceremony for Gaa Wii J’il Dayaang (Allies Group) (Nov12)
9) Attended the Senior Executive Retreat (Dec 3)
10) Chaired a Ph.D. Defence (Dec 8)
11) Attended the Signing of the Indigenous Education Blueprint (Dec 18)

In addition to the College and University Committees that I sit on ex officio, I have also been the Acting Chair of the University of Manitoba Press Board and I sit on the “A2 Resolution: Theology of Reconciliation” working group for the Diocese.
Dean of Studies

Dean of Studies. Report to Assembly. Winter term 2016

Upcoming Events for 2016

New Fellows at the College. This term we welcome two new Fellows, Ryan Duplassie and Michael Minor to St. John’s College. We look forward to having Ryan and Michael at the College and learning more about their research projects.

Ryan Duplassie.

Research Fellow, Ryan Duplassie is a PhD candidate in Native Studies at the University of Manitoba. His research focuses on the meaning of water to the Anishinaabe of Grassy Narrows First Nation, and the implications that this understanding has for the significance and interpretation of Treaty 3. Ryan was the project coordinator for the Clean Environment Commission Hearings November 2014 – April, 2015 where he compiled testimonies, maps, photographs, and artwork on behalf of Black River First Nation to present at the Clean Environment Commission re: Manitoba Hydro’s Lake Winnipeg Regulation. He has also developed two integrated courses -- NATV 2000/4300 (Anishinaabe Traditional Environmental Knowledge in Grassy Narrows) for a travel study program in Grassy Narrows, and has taught as a Sessional Instructor in Native Studies since 2013 at both the University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg. Mr. Duplassie has collaborated with Dr. Warren Cariou and Thomson Highway on Aboriginal writing and writers and completed community development projects. He has also served as President, Treasurer, and Representative of the Native Studies Graduate Students’ Association (NSGSA) to the greater University of Manitoba Graduate Students’ Association, presented several conference papers and received numerous academic awards including a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship.

Michael Minor.

Research Fellow, Michael Minor is a PhD Candidate studying under Warren Cariou in the department of English, Film, and Theatre. Michael has completed has candidacy examinations and will be defending his dissertation, Decolonizing Through Poetry in the Cree and Ojibway Contexts within the next year. His research explores the possibility of decolonization through the poetry of five Canadian Cree, Ojibway, and Métis poets: Louise Halfe, Duncan Mercredi, Gregory Scofield, Marie Annharte Baker, and Marvin Francis. In addition to his writing and research, Mr. Minor is also an instructor at the U of Manitoba, teaching courses on Thematic Approaches to Literature and Indigenous Literature. Michael has a long list of awards including A SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship, the C.D. Howe Memorial Fellowship In Creative Writing and Oral Culture and an award by the Canadian Consortium for Performance and Politics in the Americas. He has organized three conferences and delivered thirteen conference papers.

Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Opening of Term Reception. Senior Common Room 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 25, 2016. 32nd Marjorie Ward Lecture with Tanya Tagaq. Inuit artist and Songwriter, Tanya Tagaq will speak on “Arctic Origins: Perspective through Art” in the Robert B. Schultz Theatre at 4:30 p.m. on January 25th. A reception for the public will take place in the Galleria at 5:30 and a formal dinner for Ms. Tagaq and invited guests will be held in the Cross
Common Room immediately afterwards. Many people including Diana DeFoort, Jackie Markstrom, Jill Stafford, Amy Craddock, and Caleigh Morrison have been working behind the scenes for weeks to complete all the necessary tasks and we certainly appreciate their efforts. We will look forward to another excellent dinner from Ian Park and his Food Services staff, so thank you, Ian, in advance. We hope to see as many Fellows as possible at the Lecture.

Soup and Bread Lecture Series. Our series will continue in the winter term with Jade Weimer coordinating events. Watch for details.

Congratulations to:

Amy Scott, Research Fellow, for receiving a tenure track appointment in the Department of Anthropology at the University of New Brunswick. Amy is currently teaching at the University of Manitoba and will start her new position in July.

Amy completed and defended her doctoral dissertation this past fall in the Department of Anthropology here at the University of Manitoba. Her thesis is entitled 'Putting stress to the test: a critical evaluation of the biological response and physical manifestation of stress in the human skeleton'.

We will miss Amy and her lively presentations on topics such as vampire graves, but we also celebrate her good news.

Jade Weimer, Research Fellow on her successful dissertation defense at the University of Toronto (Religion) in early December, 2015.

Jade’s dissertation title is "Musical Assemblies: How Early Christian music functioned as a Rhetorical Topos, a Mechanism of Recruitment, and a Fundamental Marker of an Emerging Christian Identity."

Jade uses cognitive science and anthropological theories of music to argue that early Christian music functioned in a number of previously unidentified ways. It was a key ritual practice that shaped early Christian identities and helped define boundary markers between early conceptions of orthodoxy and heresy. Discourse on the subject of music also functioned as a rhetorical device and song was used to as a way to recruit new members.

It sounds like a fascinating topic and we will look forward to hearing more. Well done, Jade!

Retirements

Two of our Senior Fellows, David Arnason (English) and James Dean (Economics) will be retiring after long and distinguished careers. We are planning to have retirement parties for David and for Jim and will be announcing the dates soon.

Planning for 150th Anniversary

Plans are well underway for a series of events to mark the 150th anniversary of St. John's College. Jill Stafford is coordinating a number of special events such as lectures, dinners to be held throughout the academic 2016-2017 year. Details to follow.

Brenda Cantelo
Dean of Studies
Chaplain

Chaplain Report to Council, January 2016

- Bible & Breakfast continues this semester with Roy Jeal (Booth UC) on January 30, Janet Ross (CCS) on Feb 20, and Vincent Solomon (MCC) on Mar 19
- Conversations continue with the United, Presbyterian, and Lutheran churches about developing a joint protestant chaplaincy. Funds are a serious possibility from both the Presbyterians & UCC. We hope to have a much better sense of where this is going by next month
- About 45 people were at our Advent Lessons & Carols service in December; the choir was very good
- We held a Christmas Eve eve service in the chapel on December 23 with a mixed group of Lutherans, Anglicans, and United Church folks; about 35 were in attendance
- December 26, an excellent turnout of volunteers worked together to serve Christmas dinner to the students left in residence over the break (an unprecedented 30%). This was a great way for staff, fellows, friends, and students to interact and learn from one another’s cultures and we hope to do it again.
- A new dinner & discussion group has started this semester, exploring a new hot topic each week (racism, globalization, sexuality, etc). We begin by reading several passages from the bible on the topic, and then move on to discussion.
- Fundraising continues for two Syrian refugee students to live in our residence for 2016-2018, having raised $13,000 toward our $48,000 goal so far. Volunteers are needed for a social being planned for later in the semester
- I held an afternoon of leadership development with the student council in mid-January
- A proposal is underway to host a social justice day camp, not unlike the national Anglican “Justice Camp” for young teens over the summer at SJC

Bursar

Bursars’ Report to Assembly January 19th, 2016

Physical Plant
I met with Rod Berscheid, the new Director of Operations & Maintenance, to discuss with him the unique nature of St John’s and how we can best work with them to get the best service possible for both the academic areas of the college, as well as the residence. It was an extremely positive and productive meeting. We discussed the new initiatives and procedures that physical plant is rolling out, and some of the organizational changes that have taken place since the retirement of Brian Rivers. We will be meeting again in the future hopefully to review the 1970’s agreement the college has with the university – specifically the duties and obligations that physical plant has as part of our lease agreement.
Regarding caretaking, there have been some changes. Our overnight caretaker is back from some time off due to injury, and is dedicating all of her time to cleaning classrooms. I’m hopeful that we will see some improvement in that area. Also, our regular daytime caretaker is receiving some assistance in the morning, and is currently staying in the College for his whole shift. There is also now a new caretaking manager who was hired to replace the previous person who was let go a few months ago. So, as all these changes filter out and settle, I will assess what impact it is having on St John’s College specifically.

Financial
There are no new significant updates or unexpected budget items. Our residence remains full, although we did have some students leave after the 1st term. Thankfully we had a waiting list for 2nd term so those rooms were filled. The Daily Bread Café is strong, and catering is busy as well. The Finance & Admin Committee will be meeting shortly to establish budget parameter
recommendations to Council who will then approve the guidelines for next year’s budget. We will also soon begin discussions with IEP and other international groups to start booking the residence for the summer. As you are aware, last year our summer conference numbers were lower than we would have liked. We will be looking at other options this year to ensure that doesn’t happen again.

Staff
In February, Ian Park our food services manager will be away for an extended period of time while he recovers from knee replacement. He and I will meet extensively before that date to ensure that duties are reassigned, and certain parts of his role are taken over by me. Guidelines on who to contact in what situation will be widely emailed before his leave to make sure everyone knows who is responsible for what, and to ensure continuity of service.

Dean of Residence

Residence Projects
There are no major projects happening in the residence right now.

Regular Semester
We are currently at capacity, which is great! Fees are due on January 13th, so hopefully that goes smoothly. I would like to post applications for 2016-2017 on the website sometime in February.

Residence Activity
A number of serious incidents occurred during the fall semester, but they have almost all been resolved. There were three fire alarms due to smoke in the Buttery from the period of late November to early January, so the students participated in a fire safety presentation and have been informed that the fire department will shut down the kitchen if there is one more alarm.

Res Council hosted their first event of the year on January 10th. They went skating at the Forks in frigid temperatures. They are planning a tour of the Legislature for the end of January and have a number of other activities planned for the coming months.

Development Officer

Development Officer Report to Assembly
12th January, 2016

Fundraising
- Gifts received since April as at today = $127,035. This is up over this time last year.
- The Fall Campaign is now trickling in with over $26,000 raised and an overall response rate of close to 4.6%. Although the response rate is similar the amount is $4,000 higher than this time last year.
- We received a grant from the Anglican Foundation for the Intergroup Dialogue programme.
- Working with Ian Park to fund recycled chairs for the Daily Bread.

Alumni/Stewardship
- Continuing to call/visit with donors on a regular basis.
- A trip is planned for Vancouver on the 17th-20th February.
- Several individuals advised they have made a bequest to the College.
- An email Christmas card slideshow was sent out to Fellows, Alumni, and friends. Positive feedback was received. This was put together by Jill Stafford and Luther our work study
student with most of the photos taken by Ivan Froese, Stuart Maddocks (student council), and Allison Chubb.

Special Events
• Lunch and Lively Conversation will be held on the 16th February.
• Curry Cook-Off event is in the planning stage.
• Bach’s Birthday – A Tribute to Retired Fellows will be held towards the end of March and will feature a concert in the Chapel followed by a reception in the Cross Common Room.
• 150th Anniversary Celebrations: Jill is working hard on coordinating several events including a reunion weekend. A calendar will be forthcoming.

Marketing/Communications
• In Lumine is being put together; anticipated delivery in February
• Suggestions for stories/articles are appreciated.
• Helping advertise the MWL – Tanya Tagaq “Arctic Origins: Perspective through Art”

Staffing
• Applying for a summer student through the Canada Summer Jobs programme.
• Have a work study person – Luther is coming in 10 hrs a week until beginning of March.
• Currently have one volunteer coming in on a semi-regular basis.

Misc
• Continue to attend UofM External Relations and Donor Relations Department meetings.
• Working on revising the Terms of Reference for two bursaries.
• Developing the Terms of Reference for three new scholarships/bursaries.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jackie Markstrom
12th January, 2016

Registrar

Events: Convocation was held on Sunday, November 1, 2015. It was a wonderful event. Thank you all who participated, and especially the staff and volunteers who helped make the event such a success on the day.

Upcoming:
Recruitment: February 17 & 18 are the Info Days in University Centre; March 7 - 9, Caileigh and I will be attending the Brandon Career Symposium

Sherry Peters
Registrar

b) Report from Senior Stick

Dr. Trott has kindly come and spoke with the council with regards to the goals to try to help students of the college to be able to achieve “educational enlightenment.” In order to do so, the council have
brainstormed and gave a couple of ideas to Dr. Trott. One of them and the most efficient way that the council have proposed is to have weekly “tutoring” sessions offered for free to come and ask any questions the students might have in the courses they are currently enrolled in.

The way we would implement this is by trying to find various faculty members (preferably students in these faculties), including the members of the student council, to sign up for a couple of hours they are available and do this once a week. That way, students can drop by at a classroom that we will book once we know the availability of everyone.

To try to get things going, we want to start off with just to offer the tutoring sessions just in the college. The hard part will be trying to get people from various faculties and how to tell students that we are trying to provide free tutoring hours.

If you have any suggestions, please tell Sherry or Dr. Trott and I will speak to them about your ideas and input on how to start the tutoring sessions!

Thank you,
Eunah Lee
Senior Stick, SJCSA

c) Reports from College Committees

7. Adjournment
MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.
C. Trott / C. Morrison
CARRIED