ST JOHN’S COLLEGE
ASSEMBLY
MINUTES (Amended)

For the meeting of September 17, 2013 @ 2:30 pm in Room 206 St John’s College


1. Approval of the Agenda

3. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on May 14, 2013
MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting on May 14, 2013 be approved as distributed.
J. Blanchard / B. Hallman
CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the May 14, 2013 meeting
None

5. New Business
a) Elect or appoint new Chair of Assembly for 2013 – 2014 academic year
MOTION from Assembly Executive: That Bryan Peeler be elected chair of Assembly for the 2013 – 2014 Academic year.
CARRIED

b) Fellowship Nominations
MOTION: That Assembly move into closed session.
C.Trott/B. Cantelo
CARRIED

MOTION: That Assembly move out of closed session.
C. Trott/L. Roberts
CARRIED

In closed session it was agreed that Elizabeth (Lisa) Alexandrin and Paul Dyck be approved as Visiting fellows, and that Amy Scott and Krista Walters be approved as Research Fellows.
CARRIED
c) Membership on Committees - MOTION from Executive: That the standing committees of Assembly be approved. CARRIED

d) Jack and Eva Rogers Scholarship, St John's College Residence Association Awards, and Walter and Marilyn Jones Scholarship. MOTION from the Scholarship Committee: That the revised terms of reference be approved. CARRIED

e) Honorary Degrees
   MOTION: That Assembly move into closed session.
   C. Trott/I. Froese
   CARRIED

   In Closed session an amended motion was made: That Aritha van Herk be awarded an Honorary Fellowship instead of Honorary Doctorate of Canon Law.
   B. Ferguson/L. Roberts
   In favour: 6
   Opposed: 10
   Amendment defeated.

   MOTION: That Assembly move out of closed session
   C. Trott/J. Bouchard
   CARRIED

   In closed session it was agreed that Aritha Van Herk recommend to Council that they confer the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Canon Law (Honoris Causa).
   In favour: 18
   Opposed: 6


g) Fellow Recognition Committee. The Dean of Studies asked for volunteers to participate on a committee for the Fellow Recognition Committee: Susan Close, Stephanie Leong, and Susie Fischer Stoessz volunteered.

6. Other Business
   None

7. Reports
   a) Reports from College Officers

   Warden

   Warden’s Report to Assembly
   September 17, 2013

   This report looks back over the summer, a time many assume is quiet around the College, but I can assure you is as busy as any other time as we engage a number of projects. I was able to take three weeks holiday at the end of July to go to Toronto to see the grandchildren there.
My summer was booked by Wedding celebrations. I had the pleasure of attending the marriages of Harley Shepherd to Heather Bartley (where I was also MC!) and Agnes Pawlowska to John Mainville. In August I attended the 50th wedding anniversary of Mel Wiebe and Lola Cuddy. For me, it is a remarkable testament to the relationships built at the College that we are included in these events.

1) May 21: I participated, with Justin Bouchard, in the Intergroup Dialogue Workshop. This is a process to teach dialogue on difficult issues that is being initiated at the University. I feel it may be worthwhile for the College to engage as they are looking for a non-Faculty based partner.

2) I represented the College at all six spring convocations.

3) I negotiated with All the King’s Men to continue their relationship with the College, singing Evensong here once a month.

4) I represented the College at Headstart on June 8.

5) I attended the Anglican Heads of Colleges meetings in Sudbury (my colleague at St Paul’s got to go to Rome). A most interesting discussion on College finances shows that St John’s is in the middle of the pack in terms of endowments and financial viability.

6) On June 13 I welcomed Ruth and Graeme Butler from Australia to a tour of the College. Ruth’s grandfather, Rev. Stephenson, taught at the College between 1924-1928.

7) June 20: I met with the Diocesan Discernment Group on Ordination for Ministry to discuss the closing of the Theology program at St John’s and the implications for the Diocese.

8) June 21: I represented the College at the signing ceremony between the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the University.

9) June 21: I represented the College at the St John’s Ravenscourt graduation and presented the scholarship.

10) At the beginning of July I was one of the Diocesan delegates to the Anglican General Synod in Ottawa.

11) I represented the College at Bishop Jim Allen’s memorial service on July 11.

12) I represented the College at the New Academic Staff Reception on July 18.

13) Over the course of the summer I have negotiated our participation in the Theology courses at St Margaret’s Church. One of the advantages to this arrangement is that for now the College does not have to assess the academic standards of the courses – that is Wycliffe’s responsibility. I have pushed for there to be four public lectures available to all.

14) I have most recently negotiated for the Joie de Vivre choir to continue using our Chapel for concerts in return for two concert/services for the College. We will be having Nine Lessons and Carols in the Chapel on December 15 at 3:00 p.m.

15) We will be continuing our sponsorship of the Children Rising Mentorship program by providing lunches for the students when they arrive on campus (November 23). I am trying to encourage our students to become mentors.

Dean of Studies

Dean of Studies
Report to Assembly
September 17, 2013

1. New Fellows and staff. We have four new Fellows and one new staff member at the College this fall.

A. Visiting Fellows.

Elizabeth (Lisa) Alexandrin. Lisa holds a PhD in Islamic Studies from McGill University (2006) and is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion. Her research interests include Medieval Islamic intellectual history, Sufism and Ismailism, Islamic historiography and philosophy. Most recently, Dr. Alexandrin has been investigating narratives of visionary experiences and dream interpretation in the Kubravi Sufi tradition. Her research involves
translation of important medieval texts and she is proficient in many languages including Arabic, Persian and Uzbek.

**Paul Dyck** holds a PhD in English from the University of Alberta and is an Associate Professor of English and Dean of Humanities and Sciences at the Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg. His work on rare books from St. John’s College over the past decade, much of it with Dr. David Watt, has contributed to his current sabbatical project. Over the next academic year Paul will be researching the bibliographical and theological concerns of George Herbert’s *Temple*, a book of poetry published in 1633.

**B. Research Fellows**

**Amy Scott** is a third year Doctoral Student and Sessional Instructor in the Department of Anthropology. She has been active in student organizations throughout her time at the University, serving as Co-president and Vice-President Graduate of the Anthropology Student Association. Her doctoral research focuses on bioarchaeology, specifically human skeletal growth and development. Amy is the recipient of several awards such as the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, a SSHRC doctoral award, and the E.Emeke J.E. Szathmary Graduate Fellowship in Biological Anthropology.

**Krista Walters** is a Doctoral Student in the Department of History under the supervision of Dr. Adele Perry and Dr. Mary Jane McCallum (History, University of Winnipeg) and will be writing her qualifying examinations this fall. Krista’s dissertation looks at governmental nutrition and health education programs aimed at Indigenous communities in Northern Manitoba and the surrounding regions. Ms. Walters currently holds a UMGF and is the 2012-13 Centre for Rupert’s Land Studies Harington Fellow (U of W). She has also been awarded an Indigenous History of Tuberculosis in Manitoba 1930-1970 PhD Research Fellowship.

**C. Staff**

We are pleased to welcome new staff member Allison Chubb. Allison started as the half-time Chaplain at St. John’s in July and has now settled into her new office in room 223. She graduated with a Master’s of Divinity from the University of Toronto in the spring and was ordained in Winnipeg in June. Previously she worked as an ESL teacher and a university recruiter, and is looking forward to being back in an academic setting working with both local and international students. Allison is particularly interested in exploring the spiritual and emotional needs of a diverse student body and discovering what chaplaincy needs to become for this time and place.

**2. Retired Fellows**

Bill Norton, a long-time member of St. John’s, is leaving the College so we will be having a Retirement party in his honor on October 23rd. See below for details.

**3. Update on the furniture renewal: The Legacy Project.**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Legacy Project. We could not have succeeded without the generous donations of the Fellows and matching funds from the College. Now we have a revitalized room which we can pass on to future generations.

For those of you who don’t know the institutional history, the old furniture in the Senior Common Room was of excellent quality, but in desperate need of re-upholstery and renewal. Designers told us that the couches and chairs had been custom made for the College almost forty years ago and certainly worth preserving as classic examples of mid-century modern furniture. Based on that analysis we chose fabrics from the collection of the seminal designer, Charles
Eames, to maintain the integrity of the style. Some of the teak tables were also salvaged and repainted and other new pieces purchased to coordinate with the new look. Things are nearing completion now and the painters will be able to start the week of September 16th.

4. Events for Fall 2013

**Tuesday, September 10th:** Barbeque. Free barbeque between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. jointly hosted with St. Paul’s College.

**Wednesday, September 11th:** Opening of Term Reception. Senior common room.

**Sunday, September 22nd:** The Great Debate. St. John’s College vs. St. Paul’s College at Hanley Hall, St. Paul’s College. The topic this year will be “Be it resolved that the University’s sole function is that of teaching and not research,” with St. John’s College taking the affirmative position and St. Paul’s the negative. Picnic lunch begins at 12:00 noon (donations welcome) and the debate will follow.

**Wednesday to Friday, September 25-27. Thin Air: The Winnipeg International Writers Festival** will be hosting two readings in the Cross Common Room, 108 St. John’s College. Wednesday, Sept 25th from 1:30 – 2:20 Andrew Kaufman will be reading and on Friday, September 27th from 11:30 a.m. until 12:20 p.m. Elisabeth de Mariaffi will be speaking.

**Sunday, September 29th. Matriculation at 3:00 p.m.** New members are welcomed to the college at our annual Matriculation ceremony where they receive a pin and sign a College membership book which dates back until 1866.

**Monday, September 30th. St. Jerome’s Day, the Patron Saint of Libraries.** The library will be marking this special event.

**Wednesday, October 23rd. Retirement** reception for Bill Norton in the Senior Common Room from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.. This event is jointly sponsored by St. John’s and the Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of the Environment, Earth and Resources.

**Wednesday, October 30th. Celebrating Excellence at St. John’s College.** Based on the success of last year’s event we will be hosting another reception in the St. John’s Library from 3:00 until 4:30 p.m. to recognize the outstanding achievements of our Fellows. In addition to acknowledging new publications, this year we will also be including distinctions such as teaching, academic, professional and community awards. A memo will be sent out in early October requesting information.

A table of sample publications will also be set up the following week at Convocation and Fellows are encouraged to attend.

**Sunday, November 3rd. Convocation at 3:00 p.m.** This is a formal event of the College where we confer honorary degrees, present student scholarships and bursaries and celebrate the achievements of all College members.

**Wednesday, December 4th. End of term reception** in the Senior Common Room.

**Saturday, December 7th. Xmas Party** for children and grandchildren of St. John’s Fellows, with gifts, food and a special visit from St. Nicholas.

**Other events to watch for:**
We are now organizing our **Soup and Bread lectures**, where speakers are invited to give short presentations on their research interests in the Senior Common Room. Presentations are generally twenty minutes long and are followed by a short question period. Free soup, bread and salad!

In addition to the free lunches, we will also be hosting Brown Bag Lunches throughout the term, where guest speakers share their insights with Fellows in an informal setting. Bring your own lunch, but free desserts are provided.

Brenda Cantelo

**Chaplain**

No report

**Bursar**

**September 17, 2013**

**Bursar’s report to Assembly**

**Finance**
The 2012-2013 draft audited statements were recommended by the Finance & Admin Committee for Council’s approval. They have yet to go to Council, so the copies distributed are for information only. At year end, there was a surplus substantial enough to finally pay off the operating costs of the previous Capital Campaign. This year’s budget is progressing well. The residence was quite full during the summer, and at capacity for all of August. Once again, we are positioned well for the fall.

**Residence improvement**
Work to renovate the residence rooms continued throughout the summer. All of the rooms have been painted, and well over half of all the rooms have received new flooring and mirrored closet doors. Because the residence is now full, work will slow somewhat but we hope to be finished by the new year. The response from students has been overwhelmingly positive. The project to have internet available in every room is not yet complete. There have been some delays by physical plant, but they are aware that this is a very time sensitive issue and are doing their best to have it completed by the end of September.

**Other projects**
The roof over the academic wing of the college is being replaced. This is a big project and is still ongoing. Everyone’s patience and understanding during this noisy work is much appreciated. The area between St Paul’s and St John’s is also finally being properly finished. After years of steaming underground pipes and chain link fence, we will soon have a lovely paving stone walkway and proper landscaping.

**University contract with Xerox**
The General Office has received its new photocopier from Xerox. The machine in the Fellow’s wing is not yet at the end of its lease, but I’ve asked the university to replace it ahead of schedule. They’ve ordered the machine and anticipate it will be here in a couple of weeks.
Dean of Residence

Summer
We were approximately 70% full for the summer and most of the students were a part of the Intensive English Program. We decided to go with a mandatory meal plan for the summer which was a huge success since there are very few places open during the summer after 3:00PM. With the vacant rooms we continued with the renovations. Shaw cable managed to completely wire the residence with their network and we are waiting for the university to plug us into the rest of their network so we can get internet in residence.

September
We are full and we have an active wait list. 40 of our students are with the IEP program and we continue to have a good relationship with them. The demand is still high for housing as there is waitlist with housing with over 300 people on it.

Renovations are ongoing. Each room is now painted and we are still working on the flooring. We have around 45 rooms left to do and we will be rotating students around to continue to work on it throughout the year.

I am pleased to welcome the 2013-14 members of the Leadership Team.

- Nikolas Akkerman – Sr. Don
- Rhianne Rodniski – Don
- Aqueline Maskiveni – Don
- Wilson Wu – Don
- Andrew Prest – Co-Chair
- Joshua Peters – Co-Chair

Development Officer

Development Officer Report to Assembly
September, 2013

Fundraising
- Gifts received since April as at today = $26,685
- Successfully raised the funds for the Health Quest Camp
- Sending out a Class of ’63 ask letter – spearheaded by a grad from that year. They want to start a scholarship
- Peter Aitchison’s family will be setting up a scholarship or bursary in his memory.
- Fall appeal is on track to go out in late October

Alumni/Stewardship
- Continuing to call/visit with donors on a regular basis.
- While on vacation in Calgary I visited a donor.
- Endowed Fund Trust letters were mailed at the end of May.
- The Annual Report to Donors and Annual Report to Faculty/Staff were mailed in June and we received positive feedback.

Special Events
- The Great Debate is scheduled for Sunday, 22nd September. Hosted this year by St Paul’s.
- Attending the Homecoming Dinner on the 28th September, 2013
Convocation luncheon - 3rd November

Marketing/Communications
- Latest issue of In Lumine is with the designer.
- The redesigned webpage is up and is highlighted in the In Lumine.

Staffing
- Currently have two volunteers coming in on a regular basis to update the database.
- Have applied for a work/study student

Misc
- Continue to attend UofM External Relations and Donor Relations Department meetings.

Feasibility Study
- A case statement has been prepared.
- Consultants were hired to test constituent support for our projects
- The consultants are interviewing participants throughout the month of September.
- A report will be submitted to the Development Committee in early November.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jackie Markstrom
10th September, 2013

Librarian

St. John’s College Library
Report for Assembly
September, 2013

Staffing – one of our sessionals, Maiya Uprety, is ill and will not be returning this fall but we feel that we can manage so we won’t be hiring anyone new for now. Hopefully she will be able to return after Christmas.

Collection – we are continuing to weed items from the St. John’s material in the Libraries Annex and use the space created to move books from the Library to storage.

We have received two important gifts of books over the summer, one from John Stafford and one from Jamie Howison. These are in the process of being evaluated and some of the books will be added to the collection.
Physical space – We have a request in for a new circulation desk with the Libraries and the request is still on the list. This year it is likely that new electrical outlets will be installed to replace the power bars that students use to plug in their computers.

We are also working on a proposal for new study tables and chairs that would make more efficient use of space in the library and allow more students to study here.

Events for the fall include a coffee and goodies reception in honor of St. Jerome’s Day on September 30. Jerome (347-420) is the patron saint of libraries, librarians, archivists, translators and students, so we thought we would mark his day with some coffee and cookies. All are welcome to come and visit the library that day or any other day for that matter.

We will also be having a reading and celebration for Father Stephen Sharman who has received his PhD with the completion of his thesis on the Venerable Bede. We will let people know once we have settled on a date.

The Library will also once again be site for the celebration of the year’s academic work by College Fellows.

We will try to have readings by the University’s writers in residence as well.

Jim Blanchard

Librarian

Registrar

Registrar’s Report to Assembly
September 17, 2013

Recruitment: We participated in the University’s Head Start program on June 8, 2013, and Orientation September 3 & 4, 2013. Orientation was the more successful of the two, particularly the All About U Expo on September 4, signing up several new members.

JumpStart: We had six participants at this year’s JumpStart. I am working on improving our recruitment process for the event for next year.

College Learning Community: This joint project with St. Paul’s College is in its second year. We have 13 participants this year. In addition to their courses, we have arranged for several other extracurricular learning opportunities through partnering with U1 and the Academic Learning Centre. I have also begun my coaching appointments with the participants.

Upcoming:
September 29 is Matriculation. If you have not already done so, please let me know if you will be attending.
October 8 we will be participating in the Career and Degree Exploration Day here on Campus. This is an opportunity to make more University students aware of our presence, and the benefits of membership and how being a part of St John’s College now may help them after their University Career. End of October is the Evening of Excellence. I don’t have the date yet, but it is usually in the last week of October. November 3 is Convocation.

Sherry Peters
Registrar

b) Report from Senior Stick

Senior Stick’s Report:
- Jumpstart went well, but would like to see more participants in the future
- Carrel selection is completed, and people are currently paying for their carrels, minimum setbacks
- Carrel Points?
- Full contact list
- Budget completed
- 4 spots left on council to fill, will be done soon

c) Reports from College Committees

None

8. Adjournment
C. Trott/J. Bouchard
CARRIED

The official copy of the minutes is signed by the Chair and Secretary and kept in the Registrar’s Office

Chair
Secretary
Date