



Innis College

Innis College Council

327th Meeting

Friday, April 22, 2022 at 2 pm

Minutes

Present: James Cahill, Jannie Chien, Jason Daye, Mira Ghosh, Rhea Gosain, Welna He, Tony Hu, Sana Imran, Eva-Lynn Jagoe (assessor), Kate Johnson (assessor), Charlie Keil, Claudia Li Tang, Sophie Liu, Suzanne Macintyre, Steve Masse (assessor), Cynthia Messenger, Mike Orr (designate of Henry Hill), Mukti Patel, Emma Paulus, Jake Pereira, Tony Pi, Amisha Punja, Jenna Renders, Noel Simpson, Joanne Uyede, Ben Weststrate (secretary), Andrea Williams, Carol Ye

Regrets: Larry Afun, Ennis Blentic (assessor), Donald Boere (assessor), Martin Calcaterra, Curtis Chambers, Chloe Chau, Jocelyn Chen, Lauren Cramer, Madi Frost, Ria Gupta, Nina Huang, Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Scott Richmond, David Roberts, Ayaka Teshirogi, Kevin Wang, Patrick Woodstock

1. Speaker's remarks

Speaker Joanne Uyede chaired the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

A motion to approve minutes of the [March 11, 2022 meeting](#) was moved (Cahill), seconded (Simpson), and carried.

3. Business arising from the minutes

None reported

4. Principal's report

A. Renewal and Expansion Campaign Update

Keil reported that the dean of Arts & Science has prioritized the colleges as primary means of enhancing the student experience. To that end, there has been renewed commitment from the faculty to support the College's Renewal and Expansion Campaign. The faculty is a vital contributor to the project. Currently, the project cost is being recalculated in light of rising inflation. We hope the project will be approved through university governance in the next six months.

The Campaign Cabinet — a group of alumni and friends who drive Innis's fundraising effort — met

on Monday, April 18. Through these efforts, we are nearly the 50% mark toward our \$10-million goal (i.e., \$4.2 million).

We should move from a “quiet” to “public” phase of the campaign this spring.

B. The Innis College Ukrainian Community Scholars at Risk Award

Thanks in large part to Ennis Blentic, [Innis established a fund](#) within the U of T’s Scholars at Risk Fund, which supports refugee and displaced students and scholars. [Our fund](#) focuses on students coming to the University from Ukraine.

The College hosted a screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary, *Winter on Fire: Ukraine’s Fight for Freedom*, with the director to raise funds toward our \$25,000 goal, which the University will match. As of Thursday, we had raised \$22,600.

The University has launched a program to bring over 20 Ukrainian students for the summer session, and Innis Residence will house those students. An additional ~50 Ukrainian students are coming to the residence for a Department of Computer Science summer program.

C. Administrative leave

Keil’s one-year administrative leave begins July 1, 2022. The acting principal will be announced soon, pending governance approval in May.

5. Board reports

A. Academic Affairs

Board moderator Hu reported the following highlights from a [March 24, 2022 meeting](#).

- The Cinema Studies Institute was involved in three faculty searches.
- The Urban Student Program has dedicated new course codes to ones currently held in “special topics” shells.
- Writing & Rhetoric Program course names and descriptions are being revisited to better appeal to students (i.e., more explicitly articulate learning outcomes).
- A&S has conducted a UTQAP (University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process) review of our academic programs; results will soon be revealed.
- The Innis Writing Centre operated exclusively virtually during the Winter term. Discussion of delivery mode for Fall/Winter is pending.
- The library is partnering with the Office of Student Life on a light therapy lamp pilot.

Keil added that program administrators are currently reviewing copy for their forthcoming new websites, and he thanked them for this great effort.

B. College Affairs

Board moderator Pereira reported the following highlights from a [March 25, 2022 meeting](#).

- The College’s annual budget process is complete with no major changes, except a small carry-forward from last year.

- Most COVID-related signage has been taken down in the College, except mandatory masking. UCheck is no longer required to eat in the Innis Café dining area.
- The rooftop patio should reopen in May, while the College searches for a solution to the rodent-chewed holes there.
- Innis Town Hall has transitioned back to in-person events and is looking at optimizing the hybrid model.
- Innis Café is now back to regular hours, and the Agar family is looking forward to rebuilding their business.
- The Residence Committee reported: five suite kitchens were fully renovated; two suites are currently being renovated to be barrier-free; Venetian blinds are being replaced by black-out roller shades throughout the residence; and fire panel and fire safety system replacement is complete. Summer projects include replacing the all door locks and renovating office spaces.
- Physical distancing is gone but UCheck and masks are still required in the library. In-person research consultations can again be booked.

Keil added that an update from the Provost's Office is forthcoming regarding the University's mask policy. It's likely the policy will allow more local (i.e., building by building) autonomy around masking requirements.

C. Community Affairs

Board moderator Punja reported the following highlights of a [March 30, 2022 meeting](#).

- Two significant new donations came in from the alumni and friends community.
- The alumni mentorship program continues to run successfully, including its Black Alumni Mentorship pilot program.
- The 2022 Harold Innis Lecture was confirmed to be delivered by activist-lawyer **Aaju Peter**.
- Alumni Office is hosting a hybrid event on April 19 (see Principal's Report, above) and a virtual event on April 21 (i.e., the Innis Alumni Lecture with **Vivek Krishnamurthy**).

Keil added that an exhibit of the poetry and artefacts of **Anne Innis Dagg** — scholar, activist, friend of the College, and daughter of Harold A. Innis — was recently installed in the east atrium lobby.

D. Student Affairs

On behalf of board moderator Teshirogi, Paulus reported the following highlights of a [March 25, 2022 meeting](#).

- ICSS reported that the orientation coordinators, **Rhea Gosain** and **Yash Singhal**, have been hired. The incoming president, **Ayaka Teshirogi**, and executive vice-president, **Eilene Su**, were also elected.
- The Office of Student Life Community Wellness Portfolio reported a number of initiatives, including the publication of [three wellness guides](#).
- RAAC reported that leadership awards applications were due April 19, 2022.
- SSC reported the approval of four student-focused projects.

6. Executive Committee

A. Election of council secretary

As per section 8.A of the ICC Constitution, Uyede called for nominations for the 2022/23 council secretary. Punja nominated Weststrate, who accepted. There were no other nominations.

A motion to acclaim Weststrate as the 2022/23 secretary was moved (Punja), seconded (Patel), and carried.

7. Other business

A. Summer adjudication authority for student awards

A motion to extend temporary authority to adjudicate awards to the registrar, until RAAC reconvenes in the fall, was moved (Paulus), seconded (Hu), and carried.

8. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved (Uyede) and carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm.