

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE ASSEMBLY Minutes

For the meeting of November 20, 2019 @ 2:30 pm in Room 108 St John's College

Present: J. Weimer (Chair), D. Watt, J. Dueck, E. Jones, L. Valmestad, M. Minor, A. Perry, L. Wilkinson, M. Evans, J. Markstrom, A. Rampton, R. Thomas, L. Kuffert, I. Froese, C. Trott, R. Coulter, S. Peters (Secretary), D. Carr

Regrets: B. Fergusson, B. Cantelo, G. Bak, D. Brydon, D. McCance, S. Drury, D. Oliver, C. Penner, M. Hughes, J. Edgerton, B. Hallman, L. Alexandrin, H. Enns, M. Benbow, E. Millions, M. Dennis Unrau, A. Demarais

1. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as distributed.

C. Trott / A. Rampton

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on September 27, 2019.

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting on September 27, 2019 be approved as distributed.

L. Wilkinson / L. Kuffert

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the Minutes of the September 27, 2019 meeting

None

4. New Business

- a) Budget Summary – The Bursar presented the budget summary. We hit our budgeted numbers for summer residence and conferences. Our residence is full and things continue to be going well in catering and are on track for another good year.
- b) Residence Update – The Warden informed Assembly that we continue to move forward with the new residence. We are having difficulty finding a campaign co-chair in Winnipeg. We do have a co-chair in Toronto and some people working for us in Vancouver. We are currently in the silent phase where we are looking for one or a few significant donations, before we open up the campaign to the public. Alumni are quite receptive. We need to hire a contractor to run the campaign, we have to re-open our political lobbying efforts, and we will be setting up a separate trust fund for the residence.
- c) Theology Scholarships – The Warden presented, on behalf of the Scholarship committee, that the College's Theology Scholarships have not been used in the past several years. We are shifting the criteria and combining them to be able to use for the Theology courses we are offering with Canadian Mennonite University.
MOTION on behalf of Scholarship Committee: That we change the terms of the St John's College Theology awards, specifically the Wells Prize, Thom medal, RCAF bursary, Jessie Ostberg Legacy, Mary Vincent Prewer.
CARRIED

MOTION by Scholarship Committee: That the terms of reference for the Divay Quackenbush Award be approved.

Displeasure was voiced that it is specified for Canadian citizens or permanent resident only, when International students are also interested in Canadian history and could be eligible otherwise, when they pay three times the tuition. The Development Officer offered that she could talk to the donors about changing that part of the terms.

CARRIED

- d) Coffee's On – The Dean of Studies thanked everyone who has generously signed up to donate baking, and opened the floor to Assembly for feedback on how it is going. There has been a question of whether there should be a specific time designated but it is currently open. Either a specific time or time-frame given would be beneficial and then people know that the food is there for eating. From 10:00 am to 12:00 pm would be a good time frame and also helps to know when coffee should be made. It was also pointed out that all the volunteer bakers are women. Other, non-women fellows are encouraged to volunteer.
- e) Student Affairs Report – E. Millions submitted a comprehensive report, S. Peters also reported on the grad student writing retreat. Consideration and discussion surrounded the possibility of setting up a grad student sub-committee.

5. Other Business

None

6. Reports

a) Reports from College Officers

Warden

St John's College Warden's Report to Assembly and Council November 20, 2019

This has been a difficult Fall with the passing of a number of our long time Fellows and friends: John Wortley, Wally Fox-Decent, and Lance Roberts. We seem to be facing a turning of the generations at the College.

In Theology, the College has reached an agreement with Canadian Mennonite University to accredit our courses and thus make them available to students pursuing M.Div. degrees not only at CMU but elsewhere. We offered our first course on Anglican Systematic Theology last winter and our second this term on Liturgical Theology taught by the Rt Rev Donald Phillips. In this winter term we will offer the second part of Anglican Systematic Theology and a course on the History of Liturgy. We hope that in the spring session we will be able to offer a course on Indigenous Theology. Planning is already underway for next year when we will offer Contextual Theology as well as Leadership in Ministry.

We were most fortunate to have the Rev Deacon Prof Diarmaid MacCulloch come and deliver the Wilmot Lecture this fall. We did this in collaboration with the University of Winnipeg. Prof MacCulloch preached at St Peter's Church, lectured at the University of Winnipeg on the English Reformation and delivered the Wilmot Lecture on "Sex and the Church". We are looking towards future collaborations with the University of Winnipeg.

- 1) Chaired U of M Press Board, September 24
- 2) Attended Arts Recognition Luncheon, September 26
- 3) Chaired Theology Education Council, September 26
- 4) Attended Diocesan Council, September 28
- 5) Diarmaid MacCulloch visit, September 28 to October 2
- 6) Attended memorial for Lance Roberts, September 29
- 7) Attended President's Scholars Reception, September 30
- 8) Attended Emeritus Title Reception, October 2
- 9) Attended and facilitated a workshop at Faith Horizons, October 5
- 10) Attended Fletcher Stewart funeral, October 8
- 11) PhD Thesis Proposal Defence, October 10
- 12) Represented College at U of M Convocation, October 16
- 13) Anglican-Mennonite Dialogue Zoom Call, October 21
- 14) Facilitated Indigenous Awareness Training for Librarians, October 23
- 15) Attended the CAGP talk on the Philanthropic Landscape, October 24
- 16) Attended Food for the Journey, October 26
- 17) Attended Residence Halloween Banquet
- 18) Presided at Convocation, November 3
- 19) Hiring Committee for Assistant Bursar
- 20) Alumni/Donor Trip to Toronto, November 8 – 16.

Dean of Studies

Dean of Studies: Report to Assembly/Council November 2019

Faculty Research and Travel Award

REMINDER to the Fellows that we offer up to \$300 in support of research and travel for Fellows. We still have some room in this year's academic budget, so please consider applying, especially if you haven't received funds from the program to date.

Visiting Researcher in Western Canadian Studies

Dr. Dale Barbour, the Visiting Researcher in Western Canadian Studies, organized RiverTalk: A Roundtable on Winnipeg's Rivers, held on November 18th. In addition to Dale, two SJC Fellows spoke at this event – Adele Perry, and Michael Minor. We provided a light lunch for participants.

Marjorie Ward Lecture: CHANGE OF DATE

The 2020 Marjorie Ward Lecture will be given by Prof. Joan Sangster (Trent University), on **Thursday March 5**. Dr. Sangster is Past President of the Canadian Historical Association, and a prolific scholar in the history of women and gender, and labour history. Her latest book, *100 Years of Struggle: The History of Women and the Vote in Canada* is shortlisted for this year's Dafoe Prize.

Soup and Bread

Since we last met, we have had two lunchtime lectures in the SCR: Dale Barbour, on October 2; and Liv Valmestad, Nov 6. Ariel Gordon (UM Press) will give a talk on Nov 27 entitled "#NovemberWarmth: On Writing Trees, Climate Change, and the UMFA Faculty Strike."

"Coffee's On"

We have had two successful first Mondays with coffee and baking. I want to thank Adele Perry, Bonnie Hallman, and Elizabeth Alexandrin for their baking contributions. The last Coffee's On for this term will happen on December 2nd. Any ideas or thoughts are welcome as we plan the new year.

End of Term Reception

Our end of term reception for Fellows and Staff will be **Thursday December 5**, starting at 3:30. Things will be a bit festive this year. Thanks as always to Amy and Food Services for making these events so convivial!

Writing Tutor Program

For the remainder of the term, the writing tutor is available in the library on Wednesdays from 12:00-3:00pm. Please share this information with students. A reminder that all students are able to access this service. They do not have to be SJC members.

Utilization so far this semester is 75%.

Career Consultant Program

One of the goals of the Thrive student support program is to provide career supports. I'm pleased to announce that we are starting a pilot drop-in career consultant program, in cooperation with UM Career Services. The Consultant is a SJC graduate, Trevor Leymann, who some of you might know. Trevor will be in the SJC Library Thursday Nov 28 and Thursday Dec 5 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Please advise students about this service. Like our tutoring, it is not restricted to SJC members.

Graduate Student Writing Retreat

Sherry Peters, Erin Millions (former SJC Fellow) and Micheline Hughes (SJC Visiting Fellow) organized a writing retreat for graduate students on November 7 from 9:00am to 4:00pm, held in the Senior Common Room, with coffee and snacks provided by the College.

Cram Night

We will again be sponsoring Cram Night with the SJC Student Association, during the exam period. We provide some late night snacks in the Library, during extended hours. This year's event will be on December 11.

Chaplain

No report

Bursar

Bursar's Report to Assembly November 20th, 2019

Financial

At the end of the second quarter each year our financial statements have two important indicators – Food Services and Conferences and Summer Residence.

At the end of September, Food Services is \$15,393 ahead of the previous September year to date surplus, and Conferences and Summer Residence exceeded our budgeted surplus by \$1,891. Residence regular session has only just begun so those numbers aren't as revealing but we began the term fully occupied so that also bodes well moving forward. You can view the

rest of the numbers in the included September 2019 Budget Summary. The forecast for the rest of the year is positive.

Administration

There are several staff updates I would like to draw your attention to:

Diana Defoort is currently on a medical leave. Her long-term status has still not been determined. Thankfully, all of the year's scholarships and bursaries were awarded while she was still here, and during this time the rest of the administrative staff are contributing to the work that needs to be done in her absence.

Fayaz Hasan is also currently on leave. Unfortunately, Fayaz has been given (in our opinion), an unfair ruling on his application for Permanent Residence status due to a technicality that could have been resolved had he been informed of the issue. Instead his application was simply denied. We are optimistic this issue will be resolved, but at this moment he is ineligible to work in Canada. I am acting as the Dean in his absence, and the Dons have been a great help to me during this time. The rest of the administrative staff have also been very helpful.

After 15 years of dedicated and invaluable service to the College, our Assistant Bursar Elnora Wiebe is retiring. Her last official day is November 30th. The College (and I), will miss her expertise and commitment to her work. We are very grateful for the significant contribution she has made to the success of the College and want to express our heartfelt appreciation. Thankfully, Elnora has chosen to ease herself into retirement and as such will be working part-time 2 days/week assisting with clerical/accounting work.

On the recommendation of a hiring committee consisting of Christ Trott, Jackie Markstrom, Amy Craddock and myself, Nick Procyshyn has been selected as our new Assistant Bursar. Nick has spent the last 4.5 years as a Finance Officer at the Manitoba Metis Federation, and we are excited to have him join the College Administrative Staff. We received approximately 40 applications for this position, and we interviewed 3 very qualified candidates. His start date is November 28th.

The Bursar added the College's appreciation to Elnora Wiebe for her 15 years of service to the College.

Dean of Residence

Residence is busy. The Dons have stepped to fill in until and help Ivan catch up. Dinner will be served on Sunday in the Daily Bread Café during the Grey Cup. The Christmas Banquet is coming up as well.

Development Officer

Development Officer Report to Assembly
November 2019

Fundraising

- The Fall campaign is mostly out and have received positive response.
- Total raised to date is \$127,361

- There is a stock transfer coming in – not sure of the amount but it is directed to a operating fund.

Capital Campaign

- Continuing to work with the Development Committee to put policy and procedures in place.
- Inviting people to be a part of the campaign cabinet
- Visited the Co-Chair in Toronto with positive results
- Hiring a consultant to help with the Campaign materials, etc.

Alumni/Stewardship

- Continuing to visit with Johnians.
- Chris and I were in Toronto during the week of 11th-15th November for alumni/donor visits – these were very successful.

Special Events

- The Friends of St John's College Convocation luncheon was sold-out. Timing will be reviewed next year.

Marketing/Communications

- The latest issue of In Lumine is being prepared. As it will include convocation it will not be mailed until January.
- Working on the Christmas e-newsletter.

Staffing

- We were successful in our Work Study bid and have hired Anne Espino. Anne is a marketing student in the Asper School of Business and is helping us with our communications needs.

Misc

- Manitoba Scholarship and Bursary Initiative (MSBI) – waiting for confirmation that this is the same as last year – 50% match on amount being awarded to students.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jackie Markstrom
18th November, 2019

Registrar

Registrar's Report
November 2019

October 29th from 6:00 – 8:30 pm was Evening of Excellence at the UofM. This is an orientation evening for grade 12 students who are expected to apply for early admission, and their parents.

Once again, it was a good evening, many people stopping by the booth to talk. It was a great introduction to the College for many people. Much thanks to Makenzie Taylor, Susanne Schwickart, and Olivia MacDonald for working our booth.

The 153rd annual Convocation was on November 3rd. Once again, it was a successful event with approximately 45 of our Scholarship, Bursary, and Award recipients attending, and 10 graduates. Thank you to all who attended, and the staff for all the work they did to make it a success, and to the student volunteers.

On Friday, November 1, I gave a presentation to the Manitoba Advising Professionals on Academic Coaching in the Advising Setting, at their annual conference. This is an annual conference for Post-Secondary Academic Advisors from across the province.

On Thursday, November 4, Fellows Erin Millions, Micheline Hughes, and myself facilitated a grad student writing retreat in the Senior Common Room. Five grad students attended, three of whom made use of my coaching for assistance. Attendees had a productive day, and would love to see more of these retreats.

The next big recruitment event for us will be the University Open House in February.

Sherry Peters
Registrar

b) Report from Senior Stick

7. Adjournment
By Consensus.