

**ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
ASSEMBLY
Minutes**

For the meeting of March 16, 2022 @ 2:30 pm via Zoom

Present: I. Froese, S. Peters (Secretary), A. Abra, F. Hasan, L. Valmestad, E. Jones, S. Close, D. Larsen, D. Oliver, R. Thomas, J. Weimer (Chair), J. Markstrom, A. Desmarais, H. Holbrook, B. Hallman, M. Benbow, M. Evans, C. Piotrowski, B Collins, J. Thorpe, H. Enns, L. Wilkinson, D. Watt, M. Dennis Unrau

Regrets: A. Perry, L. Kuffert, M. Minor

1. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved as distributed.

I. Froese / B. Collins

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on January 18, 2022

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting on January 18, 2022 be approved as distributed.

M. Benbow / A. Abra

CARRIED

3. Business arising from the Minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting

None

4. New Business

- a) Dean of Studies – As Esyllt's term as Dean of Studies is coming to an end in June, she gave a brief presentation on what the position entails for information should any Fellows be interested in the position. The Warden thanked Esyllt for her years of service as Dean of Studies. The Warden also noted that the new Dean of Studies will be elected at the May Assembly meeting. If anyone is interested in the position, or if there is someone you would like to nominate, if you have questions, please contact Esyllt or Allison.
- b) Financial update and budget timeline – We will be back on track with doing our normal budgeting at the May Assembly meeting. In February, Council met to re-allocate some endowment funds to keep us self-sufficient until everything has re-opened and we are back to normal operations.
- c) Upcoming events at the College – With the College re-opening, and if all continues to go well, we will be open 100% for the summer term. The Warden opened up the floor for discussion regarding this transition, how we can support Fellows coming back to the College, your graduate students in their return, and what events would people be having in person in the coming months.

5. Other Business

a) The Warden informed Assembly that discussions continue regarding working with the diocese in bringing an Afghan family to Canada. There are still many questions to be answered before any decisions will be made. Regardless of the outcome, this is opening up possibilities of the role the College might play in working with refugees in the future.

6. Reports

a) Reports from College Officers

Warden – See Attached

Dean of Studies – See Attached

Chaplain – See Attached

Bursar – See Attached

Dean of Residence – See Attached

Development Officer – See Attached

Registrar – See Attached

b) Report from Senior Stick – See Attached

7. Adjournment

MOTION: that the meeting be adjourned.

I. Froese

By Consensus

St. John's College

Warden's Report to Assembly, March 2022

College Reopening

On Feb. 28, along with the rest of the University of Manitoba, the College began the process of officially reopening from pandemic-related closures. It has been great for the staff to be able to work together in person again, and to see more students and fellows return to the building every day. We are actively recruiting new students to live in the residence or join SJC as members, booking events and catering commissions, and developing ways to rebuild our in-person community after the long period away. I am cautiously optimistic that this partial reopening will progress to the full reopening of the College and University campus by Summer 2022.

SJC Alumni/Fundraising

I have continued to connect with SJC alumni virtually throughout the latest Covid wave, through individual meetings and events like a Lunch & Lively presentation on Feb. 24. Jackie Markstrom and I are in the process of planning an April trip to Vancouver and Victoria to meet with some of our west coast alumni.

Residence Project

We are continuing to fundraise and conceptualize the future of the project as we come out of the pandemic and assess its impacts on previous planning. On Feb. 3, the Bursar and I represented the College at stakeholders meeting concerning a new report that UM has commissioned to evaluate current campus housing needs, which seemingly remain very high.

Other Activities

- I represented the College at multiple meetings of Dean's Council, Provost's Council, University Senate, Faculty of Arts Council, and Diocesan Council. On March 8 and 10th, there was also a Dean's Council retreat.
- I attended two sessions of the Senior University Administrators' Training Course (SUAC).
- I met with Christine Cyr, Associate Vice-President Indigenous – Students, Community and Cultural Integration, to discuss some of the College's ongoing projects with respect to Indigenization and Reconciliation.
- I continued to engage in discussions about the possibility of the College sponsoring an Afghan refugee family, and engaging in more refugee work more generally.
- I attended worship at Holy Trinity Church on Feb. 13, where I gave a presentation about SJC.
- I attended the virtual celebration of UM emeriti appointments, which included SJC fellows David Arnason, Diana Brydon, Dennis Cooley, and Kurt Markstrom.
- I attended two Soup & Bread talks, a Lunch & Lively, and the CSSRP Social Science Speaker Series, to hear presentations by our fellows Caroline Piotrowski, Lauren Kepkiewicz, Dennis Cooley, Jocelyn Thorpe and Kent Fowler.
- I attended the virtual book launch for retired fellow Francis Carroll's new book.

- I attended the Valentine's Banquet hosted by our Residence students in the Daily Brad Café.
- I served as a judge in one of the heats for the Graduate School's Three Minute Thesis competition (3MT).
- I served on the hiring committee for a new assistant bursar, which resulted in the hiring of Gabriela Melo.
- I was organizer of and speaker on the roundtable "War in the Classroom: Teaching Military History" at the online portion of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting on Feb. 26.
- I attended the virtual day-long symposium "Information at War," sponsored by the Second World War Research Group, North America.
- I participated in the thesis defense of one of my MA history students from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dean of Studies Report to Assembly March 2022

Recognizing Fellows' Scholarship, Teaching, Outreach, and Creative Work 2020-2022

Many thanks to all of the Fellows (Senior, Visiting, Adjunct and Retired) who have shared recent accomplishments with me. It's been wonderful to see new work emerging even through a pandemic and a strike.

I will be showing a slide presentation during my Report to Assembly. This will also be emailed to all of you, and available on the SJC website.

College Events

Student Art Competition

Thanks to the hard work of Liv Valmestad and the Art Committee, our 10th Annual [Student Art Competition](#) exhibit is now open online. In addition to juried prizes, there is a People's Choice Award. You can vote for your favourite submissions **online** between now and **April 18th**. Winners will be announced April 22nd.

Soup and Bread

The final research talk for this academic year will be given virtually by Jamila Ghaddar on **Wednesday, April 13th at 11:30 CST**. The title of their talk is "Provenance in place: Archival fictions from the Fifth French Republic to Canadian Confederation." A poster and zoom link will be circulated soon.

Marjorie Ward Lecture

I'm very pleased to announce that our 2022 Marjorie Ward lecturer will be Indigenous artist and curator, Jaimie Isaac. Her talk is entitled "**Inherited Legacies: a place of recognition, kinship and culture. Reflecting on rising with community, artistic practice, and curating with care.**" It will be held in-person on **Thursday April 21, 2022** at 7:00pm CST, and will also be live-streamed. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend our key annual public event. The lecture will be followed by a short reception.

For those of you who don't know Ms. Isaac or her work, this is her bio:

Jaimie Isaac is a curator and interdisciplinary artist, member of Sagkeeng First Nation in Treaty 1 Territory and is of mixed heritage. She is the Chief Curator at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria since September 2021. Isaac is dedicated to making space for womxn, BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+ voices and decolonizing art and cultural institutions. She served as the Indigenous and Contemporary Arts at the Winnipeg Art Gallery for more than 6 years and has been in other leadership positions in arts and cultural organizations and continues independent projects. Isaac holds a degree in Art History from University of Winnipeg and a Masters of Arts from the University of British Columbia, with the thesis focus on Decolonizing Curatorial Practice. Exhibitions curated at the Winnipeg Art Gallery were Nahdohbii: To Draw Water, 2021 (an international curatorial collaboration Triennial), Born In Power 2020, subsist, 2019, □ (co-curated), Behind Closed Doors, 2018, organic, 2018, Insurgence Resurgence, 2017 (co-curated) and Vernon Ah Kee:

cantchant, Boarder X (National tour 2016-2022), We Are On Treaty Land, 2016, and Quiyuktchigaewin; Making Good, 2015. In her tenure she managed touring shows, and initiated many dynamic and sustained partnerships and programming.

Artistically, Isaac co-founded The Ephemerals Collective, which was long-listed for the 2017 and 2019 Sobey Art Award. Collectively and independently, she has exhibited and presented work internationally. Jaimie collaborated with an artistic team on a public sculpture at the Forks called Nimama at South Point path: Niizhoziibeau, 2018 and collaborated on a public art project, Cyclical Motion: Indigenous Art & Placemaking, 2018 and a solo public art work, 8th and Final Fire at the Forks, Winnipeg, 2021. With published work, Jaimie has contributed articles and features for Art + Wonder, C Magazine, Bordercrossings, and essays for exhibition catalogues; Naadobii: To Draw Water, Insurgence Resurgence, Boarder X, Close Encounters: The Next 500 Years, and unsacred. Isaac has contributed in collections of writing within The Land We Are Now: Writers and Artists Unsettle the Politics of Reconciliation, West Coast Line 74 and Public 54: Indigenous Art: New Media and the Digital Journal and many forthcoming publications. In community, Jaimie was co-faculty for the Wood Land School at Plug In Summer Institute in 2016. She is the Advisory Committee for the Manitoba Museum and is on the board of directors for Bordercrossings Magazine and Trustee for the Sobey Art Foundation. Jaimie is an honouree for Leaders of Tomorrow from the Manitoba Museum 50th Tribute Awards 2020, CBC Future 40 Finalist, 2020 and the Canadian Museums Association recipient for an outstanding achievement award in exhibitions category with the Boarder X exhibition, 2021.

Dean of Studies position

I'd like to let everyone know that I will be leaving my position as Dean of Studies on July 1, 2022. As an infectious disease and health care historian, the pandemic has had a significant impact on my research program and research demands. For nearly two years, I have been a member of the Royal Society of Canada's COVID-19 Taskforce. This continues to be rewarding and engaging work, but it is also time-sensitive and requires ongoing commitment.

Upon being awarded a two-year Humanities Research Professorship effective July 2021, I decided not to immediately resign my role as Dean of Studies because a new Warden was coming on board. In July 2022, it will be a good time to make a transition to a new Dean of Studies. Warden Allison Abra will have more to say about the selection of a new Dean of Studies in the coming months.

I've loved this role, the supportive nature of SJC, and the opportunity to serve.

March 2022 Report to St John's College Assembly

Residents

I met with residents individually via zoom from December to mid February. All in person services were postponed. Going forward, I will begin with in person meetings (I was on vacation Feb 24 to March 5th).

Student Council

I have attended all meetings except one. On March 19th I will host a student council retreat at St John's with a focus on moving forward as restrictions are removed. The Council is looking forward to an in person grad in April.

On-line services

Offer Celtic Daily prayer on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Chapel Services

1. Return to meditation on Fridays at 11:30 am starting March 11th.
2. Gospel based discipleship on Tuesdays at 1pm
3. During the 6 week Lenten period every Wednesday at 1:30 pm a time for reflection. Will co host with Lutheran U of M Chaplain Michelle Collins. On March 9th will host a vigil for peace with a focus on Ukraine.

University of Manitoba Chaplaincy Group

Working with Edgar on developing a Spiritual life tool kit.

On March 23rd, there will be a COVID memorial at St John's college chapel a 10 am. U of M will livestream the event. Allison Abra will share a short reflection, along with other representatives of the University.

The Spiritual service will be relocating to U of M union centre (5th floor) the week of March 14th, where there are offices and space to hold small services. It is hoped I can facilitate a labyrinth session when the university is open.

Healing Garden Project

We were awarded some funds from the Anglican Foundation. I have started planning and will create a budget. It is hoped we may augment the funds in the future.

I have been given a name of an elder who will assist us with Indigenous medicines garden.

In conjunction with the garden, I will be working on clearing an area at the back of the chapel for smudging. I did consult with the U of M elders who are very supportive. I have just begun to assess what can be done and make a formal proposal.

Wechetowin (people helping people)

Anglican Indigenous group Wechetowin gave St. John's some welcome cards for our residents. They are willing to give us some more when we run out. Still hoping for a sharing circle maybe in the Spring – late April, depending on restrictions.

Theology

On going assessment.

Food for the Journey

Will finally return May 14th, God Willing! Our first speaker is the executive director of Velma's House. More details to come!

Summer Opening

I am planning to host a de confusion center near my office the first week of summer session. Students will be invited to drop by for beverages and snacks and assistance in any way as they navigate the university grounds (many students have yet to attend an in person class). mar

Overall

It was unfortunate that another wave arrived. However, a summer session opening is advantageous as it will allow for a slower cautious opening. Also with the gardening project starting up in May (might be awhile before the snow

disappears) it will be a great opportunity for students to engage with St John's college.

Submitted by Rev. Helen Holbrook SJC Chaplain

Bursar's Report to Assembly March 16th, 2022

General Operations

On February 28th, we resumed our in person staffing levels to approximately 60% to coincide with the partial return to campus, following the Omicron wave. It's been great to connect more directly with staff, and we've seen an overall increase in the number of people in the College – using the study areas and of course eating in the Daily Bread Café. It's also been great to see some of the Fellows returning and spending some days in their offices and we anticipate all this activity to gradually increase as we move closer to a full return at the start of the summer term.

Buildings/Facilities

On Sunday, February 27th we experienced a major power outage at the College that impacted the Residence. It was determined that a fault occurred in the feeder line that runs from the main College building to the Residence, and so our students were without power for two days while an industrial generator was procured and hooked up to restore power. The major repairs were completed by the following Monday. During the outage, we moved all our Residents to a hotel for two nights and we appreciate their cooperation while having to deal with this inconvenience. Further discussions will be had with the University to determine who is responsible for these repairs and their associated costs.

Staff Update

The College is very pleased to have Gabriela Melo join the College as the new Assistant Bursar. A hiring committee consisting of myself, Allison Abra, Jackie Markstrom, David Watt and Elnora Wiebe selected her from a very qualified group of candidates. Gabriela has spent the past four years as Regional Controller at Arctic Glacier and brings a wealth of accounting and financial management expertise to the position. Her first official day was March 7th, and we're excited to have her join the St John's College administrative team.

Dean of Residence Report – March 8, 2022

Residence Projects

There are no major projects happening in the residence right now. A few routine maintenances were requested over the Winter term so far. Notables are some plumbing requests and window repairs in a number of rooms.

We had an unscheduled power outage in the residence a week ago. The power was gone from February 27th afternoon till March 1st morning. The residents were moved to a hotel for 2 nights. We received confirmation from Physical plant yesterday that all systems are functional now.

Regular Semester

Currently we have 31 residents, almost all of them international students. We are focusing on summer bookings now. All our usual short stay program coordinators have been contacted. Specifically, the programs are MITT Explore, Engineering (Fuzhou), IEP, Wawatay Program, Health Career Quest, Math camp and Bison Women's Soccer. We have confirmation that MITT Explore will be hosting their program online this year, and Bison Women's Soccer will require some rooms.

I have received confirmation that the Brandon Career Symposium will be hosted online this year as well. Looking forward to another interview with them to highlight the benefits that St John's College brings to student experiences.

ICM held their first accommodations info session last week via zoom; the aim for this session was to inform their soon-to-arrive international students about different options for accommodation, both on and off campus. I'm happy to report that we have received positive feedbacks and students are eager to join the residence community.

Residence Activity

Don hiring process is underway and residence council elections will take place within weeks as well.

For March and April, the residence is planning several events. A few noteworthy are U-puttz centre, Rec Room and year-end Banquet dinner.

Happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

Fayaz Hasan

Development Officer Report to Assembly
March 2022

Fundraising

- To date raised: \$269,385. There is approximately \$200,000 residue from one of the bequests received.
- Chaplaincy appeal being mailed.

Alumni/Stewardship

- Continuing to visit with Johnians in person, via zoom, phone calls and emails.
- Planning a trip to Vancouver/Victoria for 2nd – 8th April.

Special Events

- Held a Lunch & Lively in February with Jocelyn Thorpe. Was very well received.
- Planning for the next L&L is starting – will be in May hopefully in person event.
- Planning a luncheon for monthly donors and those who have made a bequest to the college. Again, likely in May.

Marketing/Communications

- The current issue of In Lumine at the printers.
- E-Newsletters are emailed out every other month.

Staffing

- Applied to Canada Summer jobs for a grant for the 2022 summer student. Likely will find out in May if we have been successful.

Capital Campaign

- Meeting with the consultant, Kat Kupca, on a weekly basis.
- Continue to meet and talk to potential donors

Respectfully submitted by:
Jackie Markstrom
9th March, 2022



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 1866

Registrar's Report
March 2022

I continue as Acting Awards Clerk. The first application deadline of April 1 is fast approaching, and the applications are starting to come in.

February 24 was the UM's online open house. We had our virtual booth as a part of the event. These online events have not been great for us in terms of recruiting new students to the College. I'm not sure they have been good for the University in general. It is difficult enough to attract students to our in-person booth when we lure them with free chocolate and signs telling them of the benefits of membership. They have no reason to click on a virtual chat for something not directly related to their course of study. Additionally, attendance at this open house was considerably lower than in the past. It is time we get back to in-person events.

Conversely, as Fayaz has probably mentioned in his report, on February 28, ICM held virtual information sessions on residence options via zoom in which we were broken up into smaller groups and could interact on video with the students and it was a fabulous event.

And finally, the Brandon Career Symposium will once again be online this year. We will have a dedicated web page with information for interested students and possibly a video interview as well.

Sherry Peters
Registrar



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ASSEMBLY REPORT

March 9, 2022

SJCSA EVENTS SINCE THE LAST ASSEMBLY MEETING

- Our paint night that took place on February 18th was a success. We raised \$150 for RAY.
- We delivered plants to first fifteen people for the wellness plant drive.

UPCOMING SJCSA EVENTS

- We are hosting a pottery night on March 23rd in-person. The instructor will be the same one from last year, and we are going to keep the cost at \$20 person. All supplies will be provided.
- Our community outreach event for March will be a fencing night on March 25th and it will be in-person as well. Proceeds will go to the Red Cross in support of Ukraine.
- Our sports event for the month is still being finalized but will take place at the ALC.

GRAD 2022 UPDATES

- Grad will take place on April 9th at 6:00pm.
- The venue is the Pavilion Atrium at Assiniboine Park.
- It will be a plated meal, which we have already chosen and submitted.

- All forms for the event have been submitted, and we will send the official invitation to Sherry by the weekend.
- Photographer, florist, and most other services have been booked, we are just currently looking for an affordable but certified DJ.
 - We have not been able to decide on a colour scheme though, all of them are too pretty.
- Towards the latter half of March, we will run the nominations for Fellow of the Year and Valedictorian.

CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE COUNCIL

- Regarding carrels, council members would like to maintain our eligibility standards that are part of our set guidelines, which is that all council will be offered a carrel if they choose to rent one.
 - We feel that not sticking with the previously established process is unfair to council members, who have traditionally been the ones to look over the carrel rooms.
 - As the council typically does not consist of more than twelve people, and not all members choose to rent a carrel, we feel that there are enough carrels for members to be automatically granted one if they choose to apply.
 - However, we will be further discussing carrels at our meeting tonight, so this may change.

END OF REPORT