

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE COUNCIL
Minutes
For the Meeting of January 24, 2024
Meal served at 5:30 pm, Meeting from 6:00pm Room 108

Present: J. Weimer, K. Fowler, S. Carleton, L. Wilkinson, J. Smith, I. Froese, V. Bellay, R. Kaur, H. Holbrook, G. Woodcroft, B. Pope, D. Oliver, A. Abra, G. Mawejje (Chair), S. Peters (Secretary), J. Markstrom, K. Kent Drewes

Regrets: M. Bowman, J. McConnell,

1. Land Acknowledgement
The Warden gave the Land Acknowledgement
2. Opening Prayer
H. Holbrook opened the meeting with prayer.
3. Approval of the Agenda
MOTION: That the agenda be approved as distributed.
D. Oliver / K. Fowler
CARRIED
4. Approval of the November 22, 2023 Minutes.
MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of November 22, 2023 be approved as distributed.
D. Oliver / J. Weimer
CARRIED
5. Business arising from the Minutes
None
6. New Business
 - a) Update on College Building Projects – The Warden and the Bursar met with the Capital Projects Committee for the University where the pitch was made to the committee for the residence project and were present to answer any questions the committee might have. The committee has asked for more information on the financial plan. It is possible that our bringing in funds that have already been donated, putting those funds towards the down payment, would be seen as more favourable by the federal government for funding.
 - b) College Financial Planning – The Bursar informed Council that we will be doing a COVID Financial Impact study to understand how the College was affected by COVID and the CRA matter, to give us a more solid foundation to build the budget on. We have yet to receive the final payment from CRA though our CRA officer is supportive of getting us our final payment which we hope will come in the next month or two. He also informed Council that the potential for an administrative fee on our endowments will be a part of the budget setting process, including an outline of how the money will be used.
 - c) Update on Theology – The Warden updated Council on the programs the new Diocesan Discipleship Developer is preparing for the Diocese, tying together what we are already offering through our partnerships, as a Theology Hub, to offer credentialing opportunities for lay leadership and those interested in pursuing a licentiate. The first steps will be to renew our Memorandum of Understanding with Canadian Mennonite University and reach out to WECAN at Emmanuel St. Chad in Saskatoon. He is also reviving our in-house theology programming like the Wilmot Lecture series.
 - d) Call for Honorary Degree Nominations – The Bishop asked Council to consider nominating someone for an Honorary Degree. The nomination form was circulated and should be submitted to the Registrar by February 18, 2024.
 - e) Upcoming events – The Warden informed Council of some of the upcoming events at the College including the Marjorie Ward Lecture.

6. Reports from Committees, College Officers and Student Council

- a) Reports from Committees –
Council Executive – Met and set the agenda for tonight’s meeting.
Development – No report
Finance & Admin. – No report
- b) Report from Assembly – No report.
- c) Reports from College Officers and Student Council
 - i) Warden – see attached
 - ii) Dean of Studies – see attached
 - iii) Development Office – see attached
 - iv) Bursar – see attached
 - v) Dean of Residence – see attached
 - vi) Chaplain – see attached
 - vii) Registrar – see attached
 - viii) Senior Stick – The SJCSA is planning to renovate the lounge. The Grad dinner date will be set soon.

7. Other Business

The Bishop informed Council that Rev. Donald Mackenzie passed away last week. He was a friend and a product of the College. He had just begun replacing Andrew Rampton at Trinity and on his Second Sunday he passed away.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

G. Woodcroft

CARRIED

St John's College

Warden's Report to Assembly, January 2024

As we enter the new year and new academic term, the admin team is making a number of plans to advance our goals around College renewal. Our recruitment efforts for new day students and to the residence have once again been operating at full force during Welcome Week. The Development Officer and I have a trip planned to Edmonton and Calgary in late January to reconnect with our Alberta alumni. Plans are also progressing with respect to our proposed partnership with UM on a new residence, and we have meetings scheduled this month that should clarify a number of the financial and logistical aspects of the project. Once those are more squared away, we will be able to make plans and start fundraising towards our other capital projects.

Teaching, Scholarship, and Public History

I published a book review of Paul Addison and Jeremy Crang's *Spirit of the Blitz* in the November issue of the *English Historical Review*. I also conducted another interview for the All Saints' Church WWII oral history project. My course with the History Department concluded successfully in December. I will not be teaching during the winter term and so will be endeavouring to get some concrete work done on my book project, *Love and War*. I'm hoping to be a regular attendee at the writing room hosted in the College by the Center for Creative Writing and Oral Culture led by fellow, Jocelyn Thorpe.

Highlights of Other Recent Activities

- On Dec. 5, the first ever SJC holiday jazz party including students, fellows, staff, Council and community members was a great success. Attendance exceeded our expectations and we had to order more food halfway through. I believe it was the launch of a great new tradition!
- The Chaplain and I once again collaborated on a holiday care package for the students remaining in residence throughout the winter break.
- On Nov. 30, I attended a Soup & Bread lunch presentation by our fellow Sean Carleton and one of his students.
- On Jan. 10, I attended a fundraising workshop for academic administrators.
- I continue to work with the Bishop and DDD on potential revisions to the College's theology program. We are also pleased to be re-launching the Wilmott Lecture with roundtable event on Feb. 12.
- I have been part of the planning of this year's Art and Music Competition along with the Dean of Studies and Art Committee. I am also working with the group inside and outside the College to revive the fundraising concert for the WSO's Sistema program, scheduled for Feb. 11.
- I continue to serve on the Advisory Circle for the Emmanuel Mission Learning Centre at Holy Trinity Church.

- I continue to represent the College at meetings of Dean's Council, Provost's Council, University Senate, Faculty of Arts Council, and Diocesan Council.

Dean of Studies Report to Council January 2024

Soup & Bread Lecture Series

The committee (Annette Riziki, Helen, and I) are currently working on the winter 2024 schedule. More details to follow.

SJC/Faculty of Arts grad/undergrad Symposium

Sherry and I have sent out an email to all college student members in the Faculty of Arts regarding the upcoming symposium. We are preparing another email with a formal call for papers and once we receive an indication of how many students would like to participate, we will confirm a specific time on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

Fellowship Roles and Responsibilities

The SJC Fellow's handbook is ready! Please read through the guidebook, especially the section on roles and responsibilities of fellowship. If there are any questions, I would be happy to answer them. Our fellowship attendance at events has certainly improved since last year but we would still like to see greater participation in college events, especially convocation, soup and bread, and the Marjorie Ward Lecture.

Events in the Winter Term

The two big events coming up this term are the Art and Music Competition (Friday, March 22 from 3:30-5:30) and the Marjorie Ward Lecture (Dr. Marcia Anderson will be speaking on Indigenous medicine in Manitoba on Monday March 11 @ 5:30pm). Please be sure to mark these on the calendar now as we are hoping for a strong turnout from all members of the SJC and broader community.

Membership Committee

We have received one more application for fellowship since our last assembly meeting and the Membership Committee has voted to admit the following applicant (and this was voted on at Assembly on Jan 16 and passed):

Visiting Fellow position (1-year term)

Liz Hydesmith is a doctoral candidate. She is currently in the process of writing my proposal for doctoral research, having completed her candidacy exams in Anthropology this fall semester, 2023. Her research examines the history of connection between Indigenous communities and nurses through nursing stations, with a focus on a particular era (around 1970's) and in a particular region of northern Manitoba. This interest streams from her own work experience and later-in-life interest in exploring the relationships of care. Most of her work experience has been in nursing and health system administration mostly from the perspective of urban centered, although remote area directed, care. She now comes to the University of Manitoba doctoral studies and St. John's College with interest in reflecting on this care model and have, through St. John's College, connected with Dr. Adele Perry and Dr. Esyllt Jones for their advice and direction in this search.

Development Officer Report to Council
January 2024

Fundraising

- To date raised: \$60,000 although December donations have yet to be entered into the system.
- Chaplaincy appeal will be mailed during Lent to support Chaplaincy.

Alumni/Stewardship

- Continuing to visit with Johnians in person, phone calls and emails.
- Meeting with alum/donors in Edmonton and Calgary at the end of this month.
- Will use a one-day stopover in Toronto to visit with alum/donors mid-February.

Marketing/Communications

- Working on an issue of In Lumine with the intention it be out by March.
- E-Newsletters are emailed out every other month.
- Working with Marissa to update Development Office webpage

Staffing

- Applied to Canada Summer jobs for a grant for the 2024 summer student.

Capital Campaign

- Will be meeting with Kat shortly to update her on current status.

Other

- Christmas cards signed by Allison were sent to some alum/donors.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jackie Markstrom
9th January, 2024

Bursars' Report to Council January 24th, 2024

College Operations

The recruitment efforts for the College, including both day students and in particular potential Residents, continued in full swing leading up to the holiday break, and has resumed once again in January. We are receiving expressions of interest from students looking for accommodations and have already had a few new Residents move in for the winter term. Filling the Residence continues to be our main focus and we are making progress in that area.

CRA Appeal

All the relevant and required documentation was submitted to CRA for their review prior to the holiday break, in accordance with their official request following the consent to judgement in our favour. I also had extensive conversations about that documentation with our Appeals Officer who indicated he was supportive of our eligibility and the courts decision and is working cooperatively with the College to bring this matter to a conclusion and release the final payment for our outstanding claims.

Residence Project

Allison and I continue to meet with the University regarding the proposed joint Residence Project, including being part of a presentation to the Major Capital Projects Committee on January 19th, which will be followed by another meeting with the CFO and Associate VP Admin in February.

Staffing Updates

There are numerous updates regarding the Admin staff:

- Congratulations are in order for our Assistant Bursar, Beatriz Martins who went on maternity leave just prior to the break. Baby boy Antonio was born on January 4th and everyone is doing well!
- Sharaina Cottick has taken over for Beatriz while she is away, with the help of Elnora Wiebe who will be assisting Sharaina while she finishes her final year of her Commerce degree.
- Amy Backhouse is returning from her maternity leave on January 15th, and we are excited to have her back at the College.
- We are also grateful for David Plett and all the contributions he's made to the College, filling in as Receptionist, providing Data Analysis on a project basis, and covering for the last part of Amy's maternity leave after Hong Ngyuen left for a permanent position. David's last day is January 15th.

Dean of Residence Report – January 2024

Winter Session

As of January 9, we have 40 people in the Residence for the Winter Term. However, since the Winter Closure I have had many inquiries from students looking for housing.

I have been in regular contact with ICM, U of M Student Case Managers, the International Centre, and Migizii Agamik regarding the continued availability of Residence rooms.

Marissa Naylor setup a paid Kijiji ad which ran from, which was promoted amongst their ads for several weeks. The ad was viewed 119 times, and I received 5 inquiries. The Residence has also continued to be included in Rupert's Land News (the official news publication of the Diocese of Rupert's Land) and in the weekly "4 Your Parish" communication sent each week to all parishes.

Residence Activity

The Dons' Team continues to host a monthly Residence community-building event, held on the second Saturday of each month. Previous events have included movie nights, a bon-fire at Kings Park, and a paint and pizza night inspired by "Paint Nite."

The Residence Council has planned an exciting slate of events for the Winter Session, including movie and board games nights, a trip to Flying Squirrel Trampoline, ice skating at the Forks, a winter-themed paint night, a trip to Rec Room, and an end of year gathering to be held April 5.

My office has recently moved into the Residence (Rm 107) meaning I have much more regular opportunities to say hello to our residents as they go about their daily activities and have spent time most days in the Dining Room over the lunch break to greet new residents and check-in with continuing ones.

Our Resident reporting system (check-in/check-out logs; incident reports; daily Dons duty logs) has recently moved to a tokenized-system within the University's Drupal web platform, which offers the Dons and myself much enhanced tools to track significant events in the Residence.

The Winter Dons team included Hamidou Diallo, Raihanah Rahim, and Mwaba Mucheleka.

The Warden and Chaplain once again provided residents remaining over the Winter Closure with a food hamper consisting of various holiday goodies. On behalf of the residents, thank you to all fellows and staff who contributed to this initiative. The Winter Dons report that the treats were much enjoyed by everyone over the holiday period.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Bowman
Dean of Residence

November 2023 Report to St. John's College Council

Individual meetings

Continue to visit with students and residents.

December Events

Lament for Hope – St Paul's Chapel, Co facilitated St Paul's and St John's chaplaincy services. Well received.

December Advent carol service. Led by Mark VanKampen (U of M Mennonite Chaplain) on December 6th. Well attended (39).

Programing

Weekly meditation on Thursdays at 12:00 pm starting January 11

Weekly Communion Services Wednesdays at 11:30am

Every Tuesday and Thursday Morning Prayer at 9:30 am

Weekly Drop in gathering (in the atrium – outside the chapel) at 12:30 pm. Will serve cookies. Details to come, will start Wednesday January 17

Ben Girgis will continue at his placement at St John's for his theology degree.

Food for the Journey – January 27th 10:00 am, Black Anglicans presenter Rev Wilson Ak9nwale

Submitted by Rev. Helen Holbrook SJC Chaplain



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 1866

Registrar's Report January 2024

In anticipation of opening the scholarship application on February 1, I am hosting a Scholarships Workshop on January 23 which will walk students through the process of completing the application form, including what should go in to the letter of application, references, and completing the financial need worksheet. At the time of writing, 12 students have already registered. The workshop will be recorded and made available on our website so that students will have it for future reference.

Jade and I are working together on creating a symposium for Faculty of Arts students at all levels to present their research, which we hope to have at the end of February. The exact date is yet to be determined.

I have been in contact with Trevor Lehman, an SJC alum who works as a career advisor at the UM Career Services. I have asked him to present a series of three workshops for our students from figuring out what kind of career they want, how to look for that kind of work, and how to write their resume. The workshops will be held the last week of February and the first two weeks of March.

Sherry Peters
Registrar