

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE COUNCIL
Minutes
For the Meeting of March 22, 2023
Meal served at 5:30 pm, Meeting from 6:00pm Room 108

Present: A. Vovchuk; S. Peters (Secretary); J. Weimer; A. Abra; M. Bowman; A. Rampton; J. Markstrom; I. Froese; G. Mawejje (Chair), L. Alexandrin; J. Ripley; L. Wilkinson; J McConnell

Regrets: A. Desmarais; C. Loewen; K. Fowler; G. Woodcroft; J. Dueck; K. Levasseur; B. Pope; J. James

1. Opening Prayer
Opened the meeting with prayer
2. Approval of the Agenda
MOTION: That the agenda be approved as distributed.
J. McConnell / A. Rampton
CARRIED
3. Approval of the January 25, 2023 Minutes.
MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2023 be approved as distributed.
J. Weimer / A. Rampton
CARRIED
4. Business arising from the Minutes
None
5. New Business
 - a) Appoint or Re-Appoint a Chair – MOTION from Council Executive: That Godfrey Mawejje be re-appointed Chair of Council for the next academic year.
As quorum was not met, this motion will be postponed to the May meeting..
 - b) Budget Summary – The Bursar presented the budget summary and noted that café sales and catering orders are higher than they were at this time in 2019 which is good. Summer is also starting to look good with regular students returning and groups that previously booked with us for summer are coming back now post-pandemic, as well as new groups are reserving rooms with us as well, to the point where there are times we will be close to or at capacity. A trial date for July 12th and 13th has been set for our case with the CRA. This does not necessarily mean we're going to trial but we do need to prepare for it and let the Crown know that we are fine with going to trial. The budget for the upcoming year is in the process of being prepared.
 - c) Set the Budget Parameters for the upcoming fiscal year – MOTION from the Finance & Administration Committee: That Administration strike a balanced budget excluding the Capital Campaign for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
As quorum was not met at this meeting, this motion will be taken to an electronic vote.
 - d) Building projects update - A space plan has been prepared for the third floor with a cost-estimate, which is technically university space so we hope the University will be a partner in payment, or we can use it in negotiation with regards to the residence. There is a lot of enthusiasm for dedicated art space in the re-imagined food services space including a part-time art curator. Work on the residence questions continue and we need to think about what renovations can happen to our residence to keep it going for the next five years which could also serve as a solid foundation should we need to do a complete renovation of the residence. The University is developing a business plan for the residence, how they would pay for it, etc. and when that plan is ready, we will set up a memorandum of understanding with the university on this. The Warden and Development Officer have been meeting with alumni and there is strong

enthusiasm for the greater plan as a whole and specifically for the collaboration with the University on the residence.

6. Reports from Committees, College Officers and Student Council

- a) Reports from Committees – Council Executive, Development, Finance & Admin.
Council Executive – met to set the agenda for tonight’s meeting.
Development – no report
Finance & Admin. – Passed the motion re: budget parameters, will be meeting to review the operating budget

- b) Report from Assembly – Received an update on the building projects, discussed the possibility of space off the Daily Bread Café, and the Fellows survey, and discussed upcoming events.

- c) Reports from College Officers and Student Council
 - i) Warden – Please see attached
 - ii) Dean of Studies – Please see attached
 - iii) Development Office – Please see attached
 - iv) Dean of Residence – Please see attached
 - v) Chaplain – Please see attached
 - vi) Bursar – Please see attached
 - vii) Registrar – Please see attached
 - viii) Senior Stick – Please see attached

7. Other Business
None

8. Adjournment
J. Weimer
CARRIED

St John's College

Warden's Report to College Council, March 2023

College Renewal/Capital Campaign

Per the motion passed by College Council in November, Administration has been developing plans and a fundraising strategy for the physical renewal of the College building. The original plan anticipated a renovation of the existing residence, along with a redevelopment of the third floor and an expansion of our food service areas. However, since the College was approached by the University about a potential collaboration on a residence project, it has necessarily led us down some new planning avenues. We have been meeting with representatives of the Office of the UM Vice-President (Administration), Architectural and Engineering Services, and Campus Planning about the overall project. The Development Officer and I also travelled to Ottawa and Toronto, and have been having several local meetings, to discuss the project with our alumni and donors and there continues to be great enthusiasm amid the various twists and turns.

Teaching/Scholarship

On Feb. 18, I served as a panel commentator at the Second World War Research Group – North America online conference, “Atrocity and Excess.” Since Council last met, I have also completed a book manuscript review for Yale University Press, and a book review for the *English Historical Review*. On March 7, I participated in the dissertation defense for one of my former students at the University of Southern Mississippi. The course I am teaching for the History Department, “History of Britain from 1485,” continues.

Highlights of Other Recent Activities

- On Feb. 11, I participated in the SJCSA retreat run by our Chaplain at the Leaf.
- On Feb. 13, I served as a judge for the finals of the National Public Speaking Competition at St. John's Ravenscourt.
- On Feb. 28, I attended and offered the first reading at a renewal of ordination vows service for Anglican clergy at St John's Cathedral.
- On March 1, the Chancellor, Chaplain, and I met with the Lutheran Bishop and on-campus spiritual care adviser about future collaborations.
- On March 2, I was a judge for the UM Graduate School's 3 Minute Thesis competition.
- On March 11, I attended the “Super Convocation” – two belated UM graduation ceremonies for students who missed their in-person convocations during 2020 and 2021.
- As part of the University's ongoing strategic planning process, I served as a facilitator for two consultation sessions and attended three, including a consultation session held at SJC.
- I am serving on the committee planning our Art and Music Competitions, which closed with performances and a reception on March 17.
- 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 March 2023

Soup & Bread Lecture Series

We have had two great lectures this term already (Dr. Julia Santos and Dr. Ben Collins)! Our final lecture of term will be presented by Dr. Julia Smith, one of our new fellows this year. The lecture is scheduled for Thursday, March 30 @ 12pm. These lectures are a great way to get to know your colleagues and hear about their current (and exciting!) research projects.

Art & Music Competition Update

The 11th annual SJC Art Competition is up and running! The submissions are on display in the Daily Bread so please be sure to check them out. On March 17 from 1-3pm, the final adjudication of the artwork will take place along with a reception in the Daily Bread. Additionally, we have collaborated with the Music Faculty this year and there will be performances in the SJC chapel by the finalists in their competition. The event will commence at 1pm in the chapel and after the musical performances, we will convene in the Daily Bread for the art adjudication and the reception. Please mark this one in your calendars as we would like to have as many fellows attend as possible. It promises to be a great event and we hope to continue this collaboration with the Music Faculty next year. The music portion will take approx. 1 hour and then we will convene in the Daily Bread.

KC Adams Art Exhibition

KC Adams is in the process of setting up the art exhibition in the Quiet Room and she will host an official opening to the exhibit on **March 16 from 4-7pm**. There will be refreshments and it will be an exciting opportunity to see this wonderful project that KC has been working on for the past few months. Please note this date in your calendars and drop in to see the exhibit, which will run until June.

End of Term

In an effort to make some changes and provide more variety when it comes to social events at the college, we have decided to hold a different event in April to mark the end of the semester.

Marjorie Ward Lecture

Marjorie Ward is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28 @ 4pm. Our speaker is Darrell Stranger, a journalist from Peguis First Nation who works at APTN. He will be presenting on decolonizing journalism and the importance of self-representation in news and media for Indigenous peoples.

Fellow Survey Results

As you know, we sent out a survey to the fellows a few weeks ago to get a sense of how we might better serve the fellowship. We also want to revitalize the social and academic life at the college in the wake of the pandemic. The results suggest that fellows are interested in both social (about 80%) and academic events (about 67%). The warden and I have discussed several options moving forward and we would like to implement a 'pilot project' of sorts as the term comes to an end in order to try out some new initiatives in both areas. We have tentatively scheduled an informal 'pub happy hour' on the last Friday of the month (during the academic year) so the first one will take place in the Daily Bread on Friday March 31 from 2-4pm. Feel free to drop by for a chat and a pint (or a coffee). Additionally, there was great enthusiasm for events such as Marjorie Ward and Soup and Bread, which is encouraging. Our numbers at Soup and

Bread this year have not been particularly strong, but I realize this year is our 'return from covid' year and I hope that we will see higher attendance rates in the near future.

We are also hoping to initiate more events that bring fellows and students together at the college. We have discussed a writing retreat with both fellows and grad students as well as a joint symposium where we have one student present and one fellow present. We will keep you posted as more details on those events become available.

Fellowship Roles and Responsibilities

SJC has a fellow's handbook but most of us have never seen this document and the warden and dean of studies are aware that the roles and responsibilities of the fellows are not always clear. Since we have had a number of new fellows join us within the last 2-3 years, we have decided to re-visit this issue and prepare an on-boarding document of sorts for all fellows in order to clarify some of the obligations that come with fellowship at SJC. We recognize the fellows already have many responsibilities within their respective faculties but we also want to create a space at the college where fellows want to participate in college events. The sense of community at the college is one of our strengths and we understand that the pandemic has certainly changed the nature of our interactions over the last few years. We want to take this opportunity to generate enthusiasm and interest in college events and this depends on the participation and attendance of our fellows. Please stay tuned for further developments (and we welcome your input on these issues)!

Development Officer Report to Council
March 2023

Fundraising

- To date raised: \$455,900.
- Chaplaincy appeal being mailed in March to just over 300 individuals.

Alumni/Stewardship

- Continuing to visit with Johnians in person, via zoom, phone calls and emails.
- Travelled with the Warden to Ottawa/Toronto to visit with alumni. Shared the revised project information which was well received.
- Met with former Chair of Council for lunch and have several other donor lunches booked.
- Planning a trip to Vancouver/Victoria for 16th– 23rd April with the Warden. We will be visiting with alumni/donors for the Monday/Tuesday and then I will be attending a conference from the 19th-21st

Special Events

- Currently working on finding a presenter for a Lunch and Lively Conversation for April.
- Planning a luncheon for monthly donors, major donors and those who have made a bequest to the college. June.

Marketing/Communications

- Working on an issue of In Lumine and hope to get it out by May.
- E-Newsletters are emailed out every other month.
- Working on the Annual Report to Donors which is typically mailed May/June.

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

- The direction of the campaign is changing and until we have a more definite plan then my meetings with the consultant, Kat Kupca are occasional.
- Continue to meet and talk to potential donors about the projects.

Other

- At the invitation of the Bishop I was on the Task Force for Common Ministry and Mission. We had been asked to address the issue of Parish contributions to the Diocese. A report was submitted to their Council and referred to Executive.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jackie Markstrom
8th March, 2023

Dean of Residence Report - March 2023

Residence Projects

I am currently working with the Bursar on initial plans around renovations to the basement common rooms (TV Lounge, Games Room, and Study Room) which will hopefully include fresh paint, new furniture, improved lighting, and replacement of existing TVs with up-to-date 4K TVs (potentially with the addition of a video game console). I am also evaluating the current use of the Dons'/Housekeeping offices and considering the future of this shared space with the potential of moving the Dons' office to its own quarters.

I updated the Residence brochure for the recent February U of M Open House and have included QR codes to critical website areas (residence fees, application form, etc.) allowing these brochures to be professionally printed in the near future while remaining accurate from year-to-year.

Winter Session

As of March 8, we have 41 residents in the residence, including three PhD students from Earth Sciences who are boarding with us on a short-term basis.

Summer Session

The Summer session is already shaping up to be quite busy, especially during July and August. I have had significant interest from a number of groups who have previously made use of the residence during the Summer months and expect at several points over the Summer to be at or near capacity. I have likewise had significant interest from students studying at the University on a short-term basis over the Summer. It appears that the University is only accepting students who are staying on into the Fall term, creating significant opportunities from St John's to attract international students (from initiatives such as MITACS internships and the EU Erasmus+ Mobility Program) who might in other years have boarded directly with the University.

Residence Activity

I hosted a Valentine's Banquet on February 17 on behalf of the Residence Council Co-President, who was unable to attend. Student engagement with events has remained tenuous and I have made the decision to cease attempts to convene a full Residence Council for this year. I am presently considering ways to reinvigorate the Council for the Fall session and hope to assemble a group mid-Summer to put together plans for Orientation Week.

Don Applications are open until March 17 with interviews to follow in early April. I have had limited interest from people who are not presently Dons and am in the process of actively soliciting applications from current residents who seem like they might be a good fit.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Bowman
Dean of Residence

March 2023 Report to St. John's College Council

Preamble

Overall, a slow increase in student participation continues. Since the library re-opened anecdotally, there seems to be a greater student body presence.

Student Council

I led a retreat at the Leaf in Assiniboine Park. Students reacted positively to the green surroundings.

Winter programming

Meditation every Friday 11:30 am to 12 noon

Wellness Group – twice a month starting January 25th located in the spiritual care centre of the university (5th floor university centre)

Anglican Service twice a month. Two students are interested in baptism, and I am leading a service. Anyone else is welcome to join.

Easter Vigil April 8th at 4:30 pm

I continue to plan the Easter Vigil which includes the baptism and confirmation of 2 St John's Students (Evan and Jadon). I have connected with local Anglican churches and some of the parishioners will assist or attend the service.

Maundy Thursday April 6th

Michelle (Lutheran Chaplain) will co facilitate with me as we lead a service on Maundy Thursday. Because the university is closed Good Friday, we will set up the stations of the cross. The service will be at 12:30 pm in the chapel. We leave the booklets for the stations and all are welcome to do the stations as a solitary meditation.

Individual meetings

Recently there are more students seeking one on one support.

University of Manitoba Chaplaincy Group

I visit the group weekly and will co facilitate the wellness group with Deacon Michelle.

Save the date!

Day of Youth (14 to 16 years old) – July 4th 10 am to 3 pm, an environmental awareness day with the focus on the healing garden. We will have interactive teachings, a BBQ lunch. More info to follow Michelle and I have just started planning.

U of M Lutheran Chaplaincy

This year Michelle Collins continues to work with the Anglican Chaplain. Hopefully in the future we can plan more events. A big thank you to Michelle for all her support, and shared knowledge and experience.

Forum for InterCultural Leadership and Learning (FILL)

I have now on the board of FILL and am required to take a 1 week intensive training. I will be away March 20th to 24th.

Submitted by Rev. Helen Holbrook SJC Chaplain

Bursar's report to Council March 22nd, 2023

College Operations

After the departure of the Ukrainian refugees our Residence occupancy level remains around 40%. However, we have already received a number of inquiries from external groups wanting to book blocks of rooms during the summer including a number of returning groups that have reconstituted their programs following their hiatus during the COVID shutdown. This is very encouraging and bodes well for our summer numbers.

Catering and Daily Bread Café sales have remained strong, with 3rd quarter catering revenues well ahead of our numbers from 2019, and DBC sales on par:

	2019	2022
Catering (Q3)	48,840	68,721
DBC (Q3)	52,738	53,181

Budgeting/Audit

The Assistant Bursar and I met with one of our auditors from BDO Canada in February for some preliminary discussions to plan for our upcoming audit in the spring. This was a good opportunity for Beatriz to meet one of the auditors, and discuss the general nature, scope, and process of the audit.

The Finance & Administration Committee has approved a motion that recommends Council approve the budget parameters for the 2023-24 Operating Budget, which will then be reviewed in full by Finance & Admin, and subsequently presented to Assembly for approval at its May meeting.

Residence Project

The Warden and I had a second meeting with the Associate VP Admin and the CFO of the University in early March. Some points of interest from that meeting:

- The University hopes to have business plan proposal for its construction ready to present to the province by the summer.
- The University remains open to conversations about locating the Residence on the College campus.
- The University is open to developing a MOU with the College that would act as a placeholder to firm up our partnership while the more detailed aspects of any agreement could be carefully considered.
- The University recognizes our need to have a significant stake in the project to solidify our position as a partner.
- The University reiterated their desire for us to provide an enhanced student experience for students.
- The University recognizes there is a lot to think about and that this relationship and potential partnership is complicated and requires proper care and consideration.



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

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Registrar's Report
March 2023

The April 1 Scholarship application webform is now live and is running fairly smoothly. Last I checked, fifteen students had already submitted their applications. I am now working on creating the July 31 application webform. I've learned a lot from the testing of the April 1 form so I hope the July 31 one will be a little easier to create. It helps that there are several aspects of the April 1 form that can be duplicated.

Thursday, February 23 was the UM Open House. Thank you to SJCSA members Evan Chan and Mercy Shwaykosky for helping me out, and to the SJCSA for providing massive amounts of Halloween chocolate to give out. It was a big hit. There was rarely a lull in activity at our booth and a lot of students are interested in the College. Also a big thank you to Ivan Froese for greeting the St John's Ravenscourt students when they arrived on campus, and hosting an impromptu Q & A session with them at the end of the day.

Sherry Peters
Registrar

Senior Stick Report

Graduation Dinner

Scheduled for 6pm on Saturday, April 1st at the Pavilion in Assiniboine Park

The last day to purchase tickets is Wednesday, March 22nd at 11:59pm (\$35/ticket). There will be a cash bar as well as a silent auction (there is no ATM on site). There is also delicious food and good music! Please attend if you are able!

This year, the St John's College Valediction is Evan Chan! Evan is our UMSU Representative on SJCSA and has been integral in our discussions with UMSU such as receiving thousands of dollars in funding as well as discussing our membership status with the UMSU President and Vice President. We are very excited to be able to award this to him as he has become a pillar in the SJCSA as well as a great team member and friend!

We will be deciding Fellow of the Year by the end of the day Monday, March 13th and will notify the fellow by Tuesday.

March Programming Event – Bowling Night

Our Programming Directors have organized a Bowling Night at Dakota Bowling on Friday, March 17th from 6-8pm. All St John's members are welcome to attend! (Tickets are \$20)

March Community Outreach – Coffee House

Our Community Outreach Representatives have organized a Coffee House at the Daily Bread Café for Friday, March 24th from 4-7pm. There will be coffee and snacks provided! All funds are going to support Willow Place (this is a Women's shelter in Winnipeg for women experiencing domestic or family violence).