MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
September 25, 2020 | 4-6pm
By Zoom / Teleconference

Present


Officers and Staff: Emily Mockler

Regrets

Board Members: Joshua Barker, Liz Smyth, Meric Gertler

Officers and Staff: Joyee Chau, PJ MacDougall

Welcome and remarks from the Vice - Chair

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05pm, thanked those Board Members that attended the anti-Black racism awareness and action session that preceded the Board meeting, and delivered a land acknowledgement statement.

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved and posted online. CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the May 13th of the Governing Board be approved and posted online. CARRIED.
Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the August 6th meetings of the Governing Board be approved and posted online. CARRIED.

The Vice-Chair then invited the Principal to deliver her report.

Report of the Principal

The Principal delivered updates on the following:

1. Admissions

Highest rate of re-application, since we started tracking admission data in 2013.

45 returning Non-Resident Junior Fellows, 45 returning resident junior Fellows and 37 new Junior Fellows.

This is good news overall and we are in terms of the college maintaining its community, and we are delighted to welcome the new group of Junior Fellows.

2. COVID-19

Impact of COVID has been huge for Massey College. The Risk Committee has approved a protocol – posted to the website — and the community is adhering to it as much as possible. Levels of compliance are good, but she noted a sense of “COVID fatigue / depression” among students and staff. The administration continues to diligently monitor public health guidelines and make sure that Massey is adhering to all recommendations. The Principal and her team are working hard on creating virtual, and small in-person events that engage the community and in particular Junior Fellows who may feel isolated.

3. Massey 2020

Massey 2020 is a working document that aims to present a reimagining of Massey that draws on its past successes while investing in a vision that confronts the realities of 2020 and the new landscape of graduate education. The report is divided into two parts:

i. Empowering the Next Generation of Thinkers; and
ii. Leveraging the Community for the Public Good;
In short, the vision is to invest in the Junior Fellows to provide them with the financial support and the skills so that they contribute to the public good in the best possible way. It also proposes that the College’s program be articulated more deliberately around themes to ensure that senior members of the College are kept informed of the latest developments in the world of ideas and contribute to dissemination of knowledge of the important issues of our day.

The Principal is currently working on fine tuning the language and design of the report, and then the report will be circulated to the community for consultation.

iii. Update on anti-Black racism at Massey

Anti-Black racism information sessions are currently underway for the Board and the Staff, but the efforts are larger than the education program currently being rolled out. The College is grateful to the Massey Art Committee, which is rethinking the art and books that are on display at the College to make sure that diversity is represented. Senior Fellows Jennifer Jenkins and Pamela Klassen are working on starting a community discussion toward a critical review of the College’s history. Massey College is also working on an audit of election processes to ensure that they are the best practices available. Ekua Quansah and Zahra Dahani from Quansah & Dahani Consulting are advising on constituting a new council to help to address anti-Black racism.

Report of the Risk Committee

COVID-19 Guidelines have been updated and issued to the Community. These guidelines are long, but necessarily so due to the importance of all the issues and is a testament to the seriousness of COVID-19.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Massey College Covid Guidelines be approved, and that the Principal is authorized to vary the guidelines from time to time as circumstances dictate. CARRIED.

The risk committee will continue to monitor public health guidelines and the COVID-19 situation closely.

Report of the Finance and Audit Committee

The Board heard a presentation by the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Tim Casgrain. He reported that the Finance and Audit Committee has struck a sub-committee to better monitor the College’s financial investments.
Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2020 be approved. CARRIED.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT Grant, Thornton LLP be approved as auditors of Massey College for the year ended April 30, 2021. CARRIED.

Report of the Don of Hall

The Don of Hall thanked College Staff and the members of the Risk Committee for all of their hard work, and a successful return of many resident and non-resident Junior Fellows, despite the pandemic.

He reported that the Junior Fellowship is working hard to build community and engage and promote inter- and intra-community events. He then welcomed the Governing Board to continue their engagement with the Junior Fellows and the wider Massey Community.

The Don of Hall highlighted the Junior Common Room’s ongoing commitment to addressing issues of racism and how it may be perpetuated in the community. Junior Fellows are now being offered multiple opportunities to attend workshops to learn how to proactively prevent racist behaviour in their own actions and communities.

The Don of Hall concluded his report by thanking the Governance and Nominating Committee and the Governing Board for their inclusion of Junior Fellows and recent alumni on its committees, and pending votes, the Board itself.

Report of the Chair of the Quadrangle Society

The Chair of the Quadrangle Society has working with the Principal on the ideas regarding “Massey 2020”, had the opportunity to meet new members of the community and get reacquainted with Junior Fellows, Staff and the range of members from the College during the Welcome Reception in the College Quadrangle in early September, and will be participating in and supporting the Meeting of the Minds Program – launching the week of September 28.
Report of the Alumni Representative

The Alumni Representative gave a brief update on the following activities;

i. Finalizing By-laws, a call for nominations to a new Alumni Council to go out within the next month
ii. A new Alumni Mentorship Program
iii. Alumni Dinner and Lecture series
iv. Alumni outreach
v. New content for Alumni to be included on the MasseyCollege.ca website

Other Business

No other business was brought forward.

In Camera Sessions

Two in-camera sessions followed:

1. Principal and Governing Board Members

Report of the Governance and Nominating Committee

The Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee brought three motions before the Board:

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT Nurjehan Mawani be elected as a Senior Fellow. CARRIED.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT Chief R. Stacey Laforme, Anita McGahan and Akwasi Owusu-Bempah be elected to the Governing Board for a first term from September 25, 2020 until June 30, 2025. CARRIED.

Upon motion, duly made, seconded and unanimously carried IT WAS RESOLVED THAT Avnee Paranjape be elected to the Governing Board for the period September 25, 2020 until June 30, 2022, terminating earlier if she ceases to be a non-resident Junior Fellow. CARRIED.
2. Governing Board Members

Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 6:12pm.