



Standing Committee Report to Senate
Date of Senate Meeting: December 2, 2013

Committee Name: Senate Residence Committee
Date of Meeting: October 21, 2013

Discussion:

New Residences Report

- With no appeal filed by the Ontario Municipal Board, the construction of the two new residences buildings will move forward and demolition of the houses at the Stuart Street site has begun. Contractor bids will be received by late October/early November with fencing and construction to begin by late November. The new buildings will be ready for move-in weekend 2015.

Admissions Committee Report

- Review of the upper-year residence admissions process will be conducted by the committee this year to create a policy that encourages commitment at an earlier date by upper-year students accepting a residence room for the following academic year to limit the amount late cancellations and no-shows.

Meal Plan Committee Report

- Review of the cash equivalency amount of \$8.75 will be conducted by the committee this year. The cash equivalency rate has not been reviewed for quite some time and with increasing costs (such as food), it is becoming increasingly difficult to offer a meal at \$8.75.

StAR Program (Student Appreciation in Residence Program)

- Run by the Residence Society, this brand new initiative is the first positive recognition program in the Queen's residence system. Dons are now able to complete documentation when they observe students who have gone above and beyond to build community in residence. Students have been nominated for challenging derogatory slurs and encouraging inclusive language, or helping take care of a sick roommate. Students who meet the criteria of community building are presented with a certificate, a formal letter of commendation, and a \$5 gift card to a Kingston business. Gift cards are only assigned from places that do not serve alcohol on the premises. Previous businesses include Menchies, Minotaur, The Limestone City Cupcakery, and Modern Primitive. This project is in its initial year of implementation but is intended to be sustained for future years.
- The goals of this program include:
 - To increase the relevancy of Judicial Affairs to a broader demographic of first year students. To adopt a preventative model of discipline which encourages active community building in addition to the current model which regulates a base standard of behaviour.
 - To improve town-gown relations by creating positive ties between first years and local businesses.
 - To improve the dynamic between staff members and residents, and encouraging first year agency in their community.
 - To provide an alternative option to substance consumption by encouraging students to participate in substance-free activities, thereby modelling harm reduction.
 - To increase visibility of the Residence Society office and executives interaction.
 - To record and identify first year student leaders for future employment opportunities.
- The program has received overwhelmingly positive feedback and to date, 23 students have been recognized.

Decisions:

Jean Royce Hall Council Financial Audit

- The *2011-2012 JRHC Financial Statements with Auditors' Report* was presented to the SRC and agreed by consensus to be accepted as circulated.

Discipline Working Group

- The *Student Conduct Statistics September 2012-April 2013* was presented to the SRC and agreed by consensus to be accepted as circulated and forwarded to Senate for referral to SONAD.

Residence Information Technology ad hoc Committee

- It was agreed by consensus to strike an ad-hoc committee to review the unique technology needs of residence. The mandate of this committee will be to review existing technology services to residence students and develop a forward-looking plan to meet the emerging/unique technology needs of students living in residences. The committee will hire an external consultant, provide regular reporting to the SRC for information, and final recommendations to the SRC for approval with the work of the committee to be concluded by September 2014.

Sincerely,

Adam Say, Chair of the Senate Residence Committee

Members: E. Berkok, H. Daya, B. Griffiths, M. Lafreniere (on leave), K. Murphy, C. O'Connor, J. Pierce, B. Pero, and C. Landon (Secretary)