

Graduate House Residence Advisory Committee

Thursday April 7th, 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Zoom

1. Introductions

- a. Kamadchi Karunanandan, Assistant Dean, Residence Life & Communication (Committee Chair)
- b. Elizabeth Urbanowski, Manager of Finance, Administration, & Operations
- c. Ryan Hopkin, Facilities Coordinator
- d. Adoni Jeyandran, Service Coordinator (Minutes)
- e. Angel Badewole, Head Residence Advisor
- f. Christopher Rodger, Graduate House Council Representative
- g. Keturah Gray, Graduate House Resident
- h. Shae-Linn Davies, Graduate House Resident
- i. Victoria Chiu, Graduate House Resident
- j. Bowen Chan, Graduate House Resident

Absent

- David Kim, Dean, Residence & Director of Student Life
- Kevin Dancy, Director, Residence Operations
- Boran Kumral, Graduate House Resident
- Guanglei Zhou, Graduate House Resident
- Joseph Kawalec, Graduate House Resident
- Fute Wong, Graduate House Resident
- Charlie Buck, Graduate House Resident

2. Residence Life Updates -Kamadchi

- a. Capacity limits have been removed
 - i. Email was sent regarding capacity limits
 - ii. All the posters were removed from the building
- b. Reminder to wear mask indoors
 - i. U of T shared an email regarding the mask mandate, but we will share more details about the mask policy at Graduate House in preparation for Spring
- c. Rapid Antigen Tests available at the Service Desk
 - i. Students who test positive and/or feeling ill are expected to fill out the illness form
 - ii. One antigen test kit per resident available at the Service Desk
- d. GCPS feedback
 - i. GCPS Requirements: addition of GCPS was to foster a culture of participation, inclusion, and community that residents have expressed needing more of in Grad House

- ii. GCPS will be achieved by:
 - Completion of suitemate agreement upon moving into Grad House
 - Attending a minimum of four pillar programs over the academic year (Sept to Apr)
 - Participating in one-on-one meetings with RA
 - Meet program requirements such as signing up for program in advance or filling out post program survey
- iii. GCPS and Occupancy
 - During February, our head RA created a form for residents to fill out to identify their progress in attaining GCPS
 - Residents will receive a different form to claim GCPs status in May
 - Kamadchi and Admissions Coordinator will cross reference for submissions with applications in May/June to check priority status
- iv. Check in and gauge understanding/ thoughts
 - Kamadchi: Are you familiar with GCPS? Are residents interested in achieving GCPS? What ideas/thoughts do you have on effective promotion? No names will be posted in the minutes for confidentiality.
 - Resident 1: Mixed thoughts about it. Good that programs are facilitating people coming together and meeting each other. But in events where people are here for the credit changes the mood. The mandatory effects change the atmosphere during the programming
 - Resident 2: I like the idea of GCPS because it pushes me out of my comfort zone. I like that there is multiple different ways to participate such as online or in person. The effective promotion can include seeing how many events you have without us tracking it ourselves
 - Kamadchi: We sent out a survey for GCPS progress earlier this year.
 - Resident 3: Yes, survey was helpful. Sometimes I don't know if they are feedback surveys after the event. They should make it more clear in the promotion to do the program survey to get the GCPS credit
 - Angel: To add to a resident's comment, RAs are tracking attendance at events. Also, if you attended a program that would qualify for GCPS. We are looking at attendance even if you didn't fill out the post event survey

3. Residence Services – Adoni

- a. Wrapping up Service Desk Assistant hiring

4. Facility Updates- Ryan and Elizabeth

a. Updates

- i. CCR Painting and carpet refresh completed: new table tennis table
- ii. Ryan: Any thoughts about the refresh?
- iii. Resident I really appreciate it and a lot of people are enjoying the space. Spring is coming so refresh is nice.
- iv. Annual suite refresh and bathroom renovation
 - Estimate suites to be done is not the full 10-11 suites
- v. Patio Furniture Refresh: Summer 2022

- Adding a pop of colour and cleaning is happening right now
 - Power washing of concrete planter on the left side and general clean up of all leaves and debris in the CCR
- vi. Roof Replacement, Phase 3
 - Estimated: May to September
- vii. LED Retrofit
 - Ongoing; brighter lights
- b. Upcoming reminders
 - i. Elevator maintenance April 11
 - ii. Spring move out/ move in end of April and early May
 - Strategies to improve move-in experience and simplify move out eg: Through cleaning of rooms/suites
 - Used clothing donation drive with Canadian Diabetes group
 - iii. Pressure washing outdoor patio concrete planter and cleanup April 9th
 - iv. Electrical shutdown building wide Saturday June 25th, approx. 14 hours-no power for emergency power
 - v. Phase 3 roof replacement
 - vi. Duct Cleaning (TBA)
 - vii. Building Assessment & Destructive Testing (TBA)
 - viii. Hot water shutdown (TBA)
- c. Summer Project Review
- d. Work Study Opportunity: Communications Assistant (pending approval)
 - i. We are looking for suitable candidate who can help us develop a communication/media calendar of events/reminders of enhance all our communications especially from the Facilities side. Job # 197565

5. Communication-Kamadchi

- a. Instagram account is implemented to build engagement
- b. Overall goal: use Instagram as an educational tool for prospective and current GH residents
- c. Instagram is used for the following:
 - i. Educational material on process updates (i.e., mask mandate)
 - ii. Build awareness on facility related process
 - iii. Promote programs and events Grad House and UofT
 - iv. Promote jobs postings at Grad House and UofT
- d. Kamadchi: What would you like to see on Instagram page that align in our goals?
 - i. Resident: The recent video was great. Others have sent the video to me. We can try a day in a life with a resident or day in a life of a graduate house employee. People who like to see more behind the scenes of grad house
 - ii. Resident: We can add educational/helpful reminders such as its exam week withSGS calendar
 - iii. Kamadchi: Thank you, we are in the beginning stage of building on the Instagram page, so we value your feedback. Also, the likes for the videos exceed the views.

- iv. Resident: The views might not be representative of the individuals in the building because anyone can watch Instagram videos
 - v. Resident: It would be helpful from a branding perspective to create a grad house logo. So, we can tell right away its grad house related. Finding s subtle way to tell people its grad house content
6. Residence Council Updates: Christopher
- St. Patrick’s event has a good turn out. About 15-16 people attended with subsidized food.
 - Ping pong table arrived
 - Other planned events for the summer term: Archery tag, bubble soccer
 - Kamadchi: I’ve contacted RA Tao who oversees the Toronto community pillar and Tao will work with Graduate House council to run programs this Spring/Summer
7. Other Business
- a. Gauging interest for RAC for Spring/Summer term

Round table items

Next Meeting –TBD