



## Attendance

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### Core Exec

PRESIDENT

Ramsey Andary

VICE-PRESIDENT

Daman Singh

FINANCE

Snow Mei

### Executive

EQUITY AND OUTREACH

Chimwemwe Alao

LITERARY AND CREATIVE ARTS

Ryan Hume

UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Aidan Swirsky

OFF-CAMPUS

Abby Godden

SERVICES

Victoria Kourtis

SPIRIT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Sylvia Urbanik

### Representative

UPPER YEAR

Sameer Rai

MIDDLE YEAR

Paul Schweitzer

Michelle Beyn

Sara Mandia

Catherine Zhou

Kelly Curran

FIRST YEAR

Danielle Stella

Martha Beach Bartel

Anushka Kuria

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSIONER

Michelle Zhong

### UTSU Directors

EX-OFFICIO NON-VOTING

Ryan Hume

Chimwemwe Alao

### Staff

SPEAKER

Eric Schwenger

SECRETARY

Nicole Gumapac

### UCRC

UCRC REPRESENTATIVES

Artur Khasanov

Aynaz Kh

**Guests**

Student Life Coordinator

Meng Lim

**Not in Attendance**

SOCIAL

ATHLETICS

UPPER-YEAR REPRESENTATIVE

MIDDLE-YEAR REPRESENTATIVE

FIRST YEAR REPRESENTATIVE

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER

UTSU VOTING DIRECTOR VOTING

Francesca Campos

Abbey Kachmar

Jonathan Liang

Felipe Vicencio-Heap

Albert Hoang

Thomas Pender

Minli Chen

Tisha Hasan

Mira El Hussein

**Content Note:** There are discussions of Islamophobia within the University community and around the world, as well as mentions of the Quebec City terrorist attack in agenda items 8 and 9.

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting is called to order at 11:10 AM.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Chimwemwe reads the land acknowledgment statement. *Michelle walks in at 11:11 AM.*

## 3. BIRT the agenda be approved as presented (Singh/Andary)

Ramsey asks if Abbey will be available to motivate for motion 10 (UC Student of the Year); Victoria is willing to motivate for this motion. Aidan also asks if Mira will be available to motivate for her item (Council Meeting Publicity); Daman responds that she should be available, but he can also motivate for the item if she isn't. Artur and Aynaz from UCRC are introduced and extended speaking rights. Lindsay (one of the UC Orientation Coordinators) is also extended speaking rights.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

## 4. BIRT minutes of the previous meeting be approved as presented (Singh/Curran)

**MOTION CARRIES.**

## 5. Reports

### a. President

Ramsey reads his report. *Snow walks in at 11:18 AM. Abby walks in at 11:22 AM.*

### b. Vice-President

Daman reads his report. *Abby exits the room at 11:30 AM.*

### c. Finance

Snow reads her report, congratulates Victoria on the success of Fireball and has been working on cheque reimbursements for Fireball. Snow and her finance commission has also been working on the internal audit for last year's Orientation, as well as sending out emails for UC's ancillary groups and starting their internal audit to ensure their books are in order.

**d. Athletics**

Sameer reads the report on Abbey's behalf. Aidan asks if tickets for the Raptors game will be first-come, first-serve. Sameer replies that they are considering this, as well as a raffle.

**e. Literary and Creative Arts**

Ryan reads his report.

**f. Equity and Outreach**

Chimwemwe reads his report.

**g. Mental Health**

Tisha is not present; everyone is encouraged to read the report in the Appendix.

**h. Off-Campus**

Paul reads the report on Abby's behalf. Abby re-enters the room at 11:37, and "Woo!!!"s and "Yeah!!!"s at the weekend retreat. Abby encourages everyone to come to the events.

**i. Social**

Francesca is not present; everyone is encouraged to read the report in the Appendix.

**j. SCC**

Sylvia reads her report.

**k. Services**

Victoria reads her report. *Ryan exits the room at 11:38 AM. Ryan re-enters the room at 11:40 AM.*

**l. Sustainability**

Michelle reads her report.

**m. University and Academic Affairs**

Aidan reads his report.

**n. Orientation**

Michelle and Lindsay read their report.

**o. UC Follies**

Ramsey reads the report on their behalf.

**p. UCRC**

Artur and Aynaz read their report.

**q. UTSU**

Chim reads the UTSU report.

**r. SLC**

Meng's report was not sent in, so delivers her report orally. She congratulates Victoria again for her success with Fireball. Meng encourages everyone to apply for UC Student Leadership Awards, as well as to run for UC Lit elections. Finally, she brings up the final Career Perspective series for March 16, which focuses on the Health Sciences. She looks forward to warmer weather and sends out congratulations to Michelle for the Green Ribbon nomination, as well as Sylvia and SCC for doing amazing work with a small budget.

**6. BIRT Lindsay Kruitwagen and Michelle Beyn be ratified as the Orientation Coordinators for Orientation Week 2017 (Andary/Godden).**

Ramsey motivates, saying that there was an extensive hiring process that took place since the end of November. All applicants needed to apply individually to look at their individual merit; applications also needed to be re-opened at some point. After extensive screening, these two were chosen. Abby adds that, "They're fab!"

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**7. Council Meeting Publicity**

Whereas the UCLit seeks to serve its members and holds meetings on a monthly basis which are open to all members but are seldom advertised as such,

Whereas members are generally unaware and unable to access these meetings and engage with the processes discussed in meetings that directly affect them partially as a result of a lack of transparency in when meetings are held,

**Be it resolved that the UCLit be mandated to advertise each meeting at least one-week prior with the agenda being made public at least three days prior.  
(El Hussein/Andary)**

Ramsey and Daman motivate for this, primarily modelling advertisement based on VUSAC that advertises a week in advance, with the final agenda being released the day before the meeting; however, for this to be done, reports must be sent in earlier so that these documents are available to constituents earlier on. Sameer asks for folks to think about the repercussions of having everyone be invited every single month and whether it would be effective for our constituency. Sylvia echoes this, stating that UC students sometimes ignore event invites on Facebook from the Lit because of how many events they are invited to. Daman responds, suggesting that just sharing the event on personal timelines would suffice. Eric re-iterates that the motion is regarding advertising as opposed to inviting people. Danielle says that in residence, there are calendars to advertise events; Anushka adds that dons can also be briefed about Lit events and meetings before their monthly house meetings. Kelly agrees about advertising through house meetings. Aidan points out that this motion is currently not binding or codified into policy, so Constitutional Review needs to look into this so there is institutional memory of this practice.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**8. BIRT the UC Lit express support for the #OurSMC Campaign  
(Swirsky/Andary)**

Aidan motivates, stating that SMCSU operates were prorogued due to the leakage of an Islamophobic snapchat video, as well as other internal factors due to problems with new administration that affected the autonomy of the student organization. There are differences between SMCSU and the Lit, since the Lit is incorporated at the provincial level while SMCSU operates under the St. Michael's College Constitution, but he implores the Lit to back up this campaign to show solidarity. Ramsey reads out information about SMCSU's goals and aims, as well as expresses support for Georgina Merhom, who is essentially running this campaign on her own. He expresses gratitude to the great administration at UC such that this situation has never happened to the Lit, and believes that all other student councils deserve this same amount of autonomy and trust. Sameer asks what this endorsement means and how this will affect #OurSMC. Ramsey responds that if they decide to go to their admin, the UC Lit can confirm that they looked into SMCSU's operations and support the students' endeavours. Danielle reads a segment from a Varsity article, stating that Georgina is looking to establish a new student

government at St. Michael's College and asks how this will differ from SMCSU. Ramsey responds that currently there is no public information about this and states that the situation with SMCSU can be likened to the Lit being arbitrarily shut down by the Office of the Dean of Students without explanation, which goes against their constitutional autonomy. Aidan echoes Ramsey, saying that St. Mike's administration is encroaching on student organization autonomy.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

## 9. Discussion on Islamophobia

Aidan states that since the last Lit meeting (in January), a lot has happened. Trump was officially inaugurated as US President and issued an executive order banning Muslims from seven Muslim-majority countries. Furthermore, a white supremacist in Quebec City carried out a terrorist attack on a mosque. Aside from Islamophobia, there have also been issues about anti-black racism being perpetuated in administrative bodies, as well as perpetuation of transphobic rhetoric under the guise of academic research at the University of Toronto. The impetus behind this discussion is largely because at the last University College Council meeting, while a statement was released from administration regarding Islamophobia, as well as deadlines being extended for American citizens applying to the University of Toronto, the response from both University College administration as well as the UC Lit has been unsatisfactory and mainly bureaucratic lipservice. Aidan asks Council for suggestions on what the Lit can do in terms of providing services and encouraging healing.

Chim agrees that the current response from the Lit has not been too great, but suggests the use of UC 240 as a healing space for students affected by Islamophobia. Danielle references the values chart in the UC Lit office and suggests having something similar placed in the JCR walls to show explicit support for Muslim students, as well as to start a message board where folks can voice their support. Paul states that something similar is done by the CoCos in the CSC, but Abby cautions that while 90% of the messages on the board are nice things, the other 10% are not so great things (i.e. memes). Nicole speaks of a healing circle held by the Muslim Students' Association that was held in the Multi-Faith Centre in response to the Quebec City terrorist attack that they attended, and suggests that holding something on UC campus might be more accessible to students. They also state that while these are great ideas, the Lit should be wary of not overstepping their boundaries as allies and should focus on prioritizing the voices and needs of Muslim students, as opposed to making assumptions on what the Muslim community needs. They also suggest reaching out to pre-existing organizations on campus, such as the Muslim Students' Association and ask how the Lit can support them. Ramsey agrees with Nicole, stating that while the Lit should try to do what they can, the Lit should be careful to do what people, who actually experience Islamophobia, need, as opposed to what we want to do. *Artur and Aynaz leave the room at 12:36 PM.* Chim and Aidan agrees. Chim also adds that Muslim students should be given the space to determine what support is needed most, and has been

writing down ideas that were suggested by Council. Chim will also be reaching out to U of T's MSA to see what can be done.

## 10. **BIRT \_\_\_\_\_ be selected as the UC Student of the Year for the 2016-2017 term (Kourtis/Hume)**

Victoria motivates, saying that normally only the executives decide on who the Student of the Year is, but Abbey and Victoria have instead asked people to propose names at the table. Chim asks everyone to keep in mind what it looks like if the Lit just chooses to nominate their friends, regardless of whether they're largely involved with the Lit. A few names are put forward before Council proposes to move the meeting into camera.

**BIRT the meeting move in camera at 12:43 PM.**

**MOTION CARRIES.** *Lindsay exits the room at 12:43 PM.*

**BIRT the meeting move out of camera at 1:04 PM (Singh/Kuria).**

**MOTION CARRIES.** *Lindsay re-enters the room at 1:04 PM.*

Aidan states that this process was a little bit uncomfortable and reminiscent of the time-consuming deputy process from two years ago that tried to obliterate this. He hoped that this would be a discussion on the merits of individuals but did not have the air of inclusivity when talking about them. Victoria asks folks to send her ideas on how this process can be improved in the future so she can include them in her redbook.

**MAIN MOTION CARRIES.**

## 11. **Other Business**

Ramsey has four things to discuss. The first thing is that the spare Diabolos key kept in his mailbox with the spaceman from Looney Tunes [secretary note: Marvin the Martian?] has gone missing since Fireball. This key shouldn't have been touched to begin with, but if someone finds it, please let him know, otherwise the locks may have to be changed. Since the last UC Lit meeting, his laptop was stolen, but he is thankful to everyone who participated in helping him and gives a big shout out to Eric. He strokes his new laptop lovingly, stating that this is his new laptop. Third thing, he states that only four execs have filled out the feedback form for execs while 14/15 representatives have filled out their feedback form. Lastly, after this meeting in Croft, Daman and Ramsey will be talking to reps and exec in the JCR, as well as cleaning up the UC Lit office. Victoria asks everyone to send in their nominations for commission awards by tonight so awards for Ball could be done. Daman asks that whoever keeps unplugging the internet router to charge their phone, to please stop doing so, because the internet will be down and the printer will stop working, only to find out that it was because the router was unplugged. He states that there is an extension cord literally 30 cm away that can be used instead for charging phones. Paul

states that this extension cord is broken. Sara replies that a new extension cord was plugged in. Daman is very passionate about folks unplugging the internet router, as this seems to happen every day.

**12. BIRT the following is adopted as the quote of the meeting:**

Sameer forgetting that Albert is part of the Lit.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**13. BIRT the meeting be adjourned (Singh/Andary).**

Meeting adjourns at 1:18 PM.

## Reports (Appendix A)

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### President:

Hope everyone had a restful reading week!

Things that gone on since our last council meeting:

- Fireball was a HUGE success! A big congrats again to Victoria, Kirsten, their commission, and everyone else that contributed!
- Hiring: Orientation Coordinators have been hired! Positions to come are Speaker, Secretary, Follies Exec, UC Review Editor-in-Chief
- All-Gender washrooms: The UC building manager took a look at the washrooms to advise on how we can make them gender neutral. He has investigated the protocols on campus and will arrange for the appropriate signage and door locks that are necessary to be able to have these washrooms become gender neutral. The urinal will also be removed in the near future.
- A big congrats to Albert and his team on releasing the UC Review Fall Edition!
- UC Lit elections are coming up!! Nomination period starts on February 27th for the exec elections and there is the Elections info session that is on the 28th.
- SGRT: (will expand about these at the meeting) Fall Reading week/Orientation week update, OurSMC initiative will be supported by the SGRT, New College has left the SGRT for the remainder of this year.
- Applications for UC Leadership Awards are now available! If you've been on the Lit this year and involved around the UC community, please make sure to apply: <http://www.uc.utoronto.ca/leadership-and-student-life-awards>
- **Redbooks:** It's that time of the year! Start jotting down notes and tips in your transition documents for next year to ensure a smooth turnover! Yes, this includes Reps!

We're in the home stretch of the year! Although our successors will be elected over the next busy month, we as council still have plenty of time to make things happen and plenty of events to run successfully. Let's finish strong by supporting each other and working hard!

### Vice-President:

Hope everyone had a good break and is ready to get back into that fun fun midterm x election season!!!

- Elections Appeals members (Snow, Chim, Felipe, Abbey) be aware that we may need to meet to handle any appeal requests made during election season
- We got approved for NFP status with TechSoup and Google! Yay free stuff!
- Please don't encourage non-UC clubs to try and book UC spaces for free
- The Lit office has been disgusting. There is no reason to be leaving stacks of used plates on a Friday night and no reason for the door to be unlocked. This stuff is obvious and shouldn't need to be said. The office has been way too dirty this year and it always ends up being one person doing a deep clean just to come back to a disaster a few hours later.
- Nominations open for all UTSU positions tomorrow if you're interested
- Be kind to each other during election season I love all of u

### Finance:

Will present at meeting

### Athletics:

Since my life has been consumed with Fireball for the last little while, I just want to start this report off by saying my sincerest thank-you to the two people on council – Sara and Fran, who were my roomhead helpers on the weekend. They worked very hard and helped bring our vision to life. I also want to just give Sara a huge shout out to being the biggest MVP of the weekend; she helped ENORMOUSLY with set up and clean up and she deserves the highest of Fireball honours.

#### BACK TO ATHLETICS:

- Skyzone happened Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. I think it was a success? I heard people liked it? I hope people liked it? 10/10 would recommend again? It's a very tiring experience (2 hours of jumping is no joke) but it was good! And under budget! Holla @ me!
- UC Goes Skating happened last Thursday with the CoCo's. It was a lot of fun and a pretty good turn out considering!!! A decent amount of people who have never skated before, so it was great for them to get that opportunity and to be able to teach them how to skate.
  - Both events had really good outreach in that I have never seen most of the people who attended them at any other event/never met them before so it was really awesome to meet some new UC peeps. Yay to making new UC friends!
- BALL: Last report, I told everyone to start thinking about their award winners. I will either send out an email shortly to execs, or have already sent one if I am not basic (I am probably basic) with more details. In general, you will need to provide me with at least ~one~ name for your commission award. If you have more than one, you'll have to let me know and I will try to make accommodations within the awards budget for you. THIS IS DUE AT 11:59 FRIENDS.
- Ball is on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Please mark this on your calendars and make yourself available. I'm not gonna say you have to be there but.....pls
- Promotion for Raptors game will be starting March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Game is on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

K bye!

#### Equity and Outreach:

##### Literary and Creative Arts:

I hope everyone had a restful reading week. February has been a quiet month for our commission. Look out for our poetry slam co-hosted with the UTSU and Ezra Shanto which is coming up on March 1st, at Hart House. Ezra has especially worked hard booking famous slam poet Spencer Butt! So please come, and invite people to the event on facebook!

Next month we'll also be rolling out discounted AGO First Thursday tickets. I'll send out a relevant email later.

Best to all,  
Ryan

#### Mental Health:

Hi All ☺ <3

I will like to start off by saying that fireball was awesome. Thanks Vic you rock.

Mental health commission had an amazing mental health conference called academic minds. Around 50 people showed up. Thank you to my commission and UAA for helping make this event happen. Panelists were awesome food was great. We plan on finishing the zen zone within the next couple of weeks. Peer2Peer is doing amazing. Daphne and Lynn are doing a great job coordinating things. Our first meeting went great. We have talked about stigma and stress and resources so far. That is it.

Lots of Love <3

**Off-Campus:**

Hey y'all,

Hope it's going well. Our January 24th meeting was short but fun and had a decent turnout (we had nuggets). Cereal smash had an underwhelming turnout but everyone who went enjoyed the cereal and the smash. Fry crawl also had a small turnout but the fries were frytacular. Our valentine's dinner suffered from the same problem but it was just after fireball and everyone had midterms.

Coming up is our independent commuter appreciation week (bye ocsa) which will hold some events from the cocos, some from yours truly, and a collaboration event (smash with ice cream sundaes). After a week of fun is a weekend of even more fun with the commuter retreat, shoutout to Felipe for the cottage. We're fully booked with a few people on the waitlist so turnout is looking good!

**Social:**

Social: Hi council! Trivia Night was a success even though it got a bit overshadowed with Fireball and midterms going on. We literally had 0 sales 2 days before but thanks to your support we were able to have a full house that night. Thanks Aidan and Felipe for helping Social run the event this year, couldn't have done it without you!

UCPC is coming up next month! We're thinking of holding it on Church St again since students had so much fun going last year. I'll keep you posted on updates the next few weeks about promotions and sales so please keep an eye out on that.

Thanks,

**SCC:**

Hi friends! An update from SCC: We have officially broken our goal for revenue for the semester! We're just over \$1500 for the semester, and \$4100 for the full year. Thank you to everyone who's helped get us there. Just a reminder to keep recording things in the google sheet on the desktop when you sell them (you have access with your lit email) and to write the details on the receipt before putting it in the cash box if they pay by card. There's still over a month left, let's see how high we can set this record!

**Services:**

Good morning sunshines!! Happy end of Reading Week and I hope you all got to relax!

Now that Fireball is done, I have no life so this will be short and sweet.

Fireball is done and over and I'm pretty sad to be completely honest but the event went very smooth and set-up went well other than the desk hiccup.

For those of you that were there from start to finish, thank you so much for letting my "Fireball dreams come true". I was so happy to see it all come together and I'm so happy there were no major problems. For those that didn't do as much and sat around while others worked hard, don't worry I saw. I see everything. This is not a callout. This is a "fix yourself" because we work as a team.

Anyways, Fireball is still the love of my life and I don't hate it after the longest 72 hours of my life so I think we're good! For the rest of the year, Services will be working with Athletics to bring you Ball!!! Actually the greatest name out there! We will be doing Lit awards, as usual, so execs keep an eye out on your email so that we can get that done! Don't worry, Ball will need no set-up or clean up so y'all can relax! I'm not asking you for anything! It will be Saturday March 26th at

8pm... YES THAT'S A SATURDAY SO Y'ALL BETTER BE THERE!!! #drinktickets There will be changes to Ball this year (other than the name) like sit down dinner and more dessert (because Abbey and I have sweet teeth so)! I'm excited to plan another event and I hope to see you all there!  
Lots of Services love <3  
-Vic

### **Sustainability:**

- Bought trees for each common room with UCRC and gave out a watering schedule. I will also be writing an email to Colin to distribute to all the dons so they know what is going on.
- Documentary club wants to do a collaboration with us during EcoFest
- In the process of planning a panel event with UAA
- Thank you Ramsey and Meng for nominating me for the Green Ribbon Award. Please vote for me at <http://www.fs.utoronto.ca/sustainability-office/programs/green-ribbon-awards/gra-vote-2017/>  
Today is the last day to vote!

### **University and Academic Affairs:**

Hi everyone! It's been a busy few weeks for the UAA commission, with us putting on an event a week since January 23rd. That was the date of our "Academic Success Jeopardy" collaboration with UCRC's Community & Outreach Commission, which was deemed enjoyable and informative by those who attended. The following week, we collaborated with the CoCos to hold "This Is Our Campus Part 2", our second roundtable on student activism. We very much appreciated that 14 student activists chose to accept our invitation to participate and offer expertise:

- Dede Akolo, current Intern at the Multi-Faith Centre University of Toronto
- Jina Aryaan, current Executive at [Arts and Science Students' Union](#)
- Zachary Biech, former President of [Indigenous Studies Students' Union - University of Toronto](#)
- Ifrah Farah, current Intern at the Multi-Faith Centre University of Toronto
- Ryan Gomes, current Vice President Professional Faculties at [University of Toronto Students' Union \(UTSU\)](#)
- Amanda Harvey-Sánchez, former divestment campaign lead at [UofT 350.org](#)
- Dalia Hashim, current President of [Muslim Students' Association @ University of Toronto](#)
- Andy Johnson, currently of [Intersex Nonbinary and Transgender Action Coalition of Toronto - Intact](#)
- Malia Omale, current Equity and Inclusions Director of [A.S.A \(African Students Association\) - The University of Toronto](#)
- Ally Patel, current Co-President of [Woodsworth Inclusive \(WiNC\)](#)
- Lucinda Qu, former Vice President External of [University of Toronto Students' Union \(UTSU\)](#)
- Pri Sharma, current Executive at [Arts and Science Students' Union](#)
- Katrina Vogan, founder of [U of T Thrive Initiative](#)

\* Cassandra Williams, current Vice President University Affairs at [University of Toronto Students' Union \(UTSU\)](#)

With them, and with a number of student attendees, we covered such topics as the role of university students, and the institution itself, in fostering social change; best practices for outreach and organizing; and how activist organizations can share knowledge and resources when crises arise on campus or in the wider community (such as Trump's executive order and the terrorist attack in Québec). Those who attended enjoyed the food and the depth of the conversation, and although the month has been busy for me so far, we fully intend to start up a follow-up Facebook group for information exchange and solidarity-building.

The week afterward was "Career Perspectives: Business", which, as usual, we worked on with the Alumni Office (Mike Henry) and the Student Life Office (Meng Lim). Mike was able to secure three wonderful UC alumni-turned entrepreneurs (Chris Davies, Don McCaw and Ho K. Sung), who offered advice on how to find opportunities by honing interpersonal, initiative and inquiry skills, and on how one can attain from theory-based classes and external involvement many of the leadership and management traits that MBA providers look for – an MBA does not even always offer the degree of experiential learning and trial-and-error that a business work environment does! Our next installment is Health Sciences,

and hopefully through collaborating with Health Studies students, a less “niche” topic and a more coordinated advertising effort, attendance targets will be better attained this time around.

Finally, Trivia Night was held on February 16th, in collaboration with the Social commission. Thank you to all of those who helped make a final push for attendance and advertising – the event ended up being decently populated, though I hope in future the advertising will be spread out enough that we do not need to reach this point. Two professors (Cheryl Thompson and Marcel Danesi) agreed to attend, though Prof. Danesi fell ill on the day of. Demonstrably, the event time did not work for most professors, as most of the numerous professors who responded to my email inquiries were busy, but took much more interest in the idea than anticipated, so with this information in mind and with more fine-tuning of outreach and logistics, this joint effort is definitely one that can be expanded upon in future years. Thank you so much to Fran and Tua for all of their organizational work, and to Felipe for hosting.

College Council met on Friday, February 10th, offering updates on UC’s building and residence revitalizations (the accessibility costs have risen due to the need to realign the entrance to the Quad; Sir Dan’s will be renovated first, followed by Morrison, as its renovations will be less expensive than Whitney’s); how the new up-front Ontario Student Grant will require the Registrar’s Office to synthesize students’ financial information even before acceptance of offers to UC; the starting of a working group on the future of the UC Union building, including the possibility of adding residence floors to it; and UC’s responses to the University’s Truth & Reconciliation report, and to Trump’s executive order restricting immigration and the Quebec terrorist attack. As for the former, the decision had been made by UC administration to not impede upon the work of central administration, unless an area is found to be lacking, and in either case will work with the Faculty of Arts & Science to implement the University’s recommendations at UC. As for the latter, the response only referred to extending deadlines and offering academic assistance to future students who cannot study in the U.S., and offered no recourse to students currently enrolled at UofT and UC, especially Muslim students, who are circumstantially or emotionally affected by the legislation and events. This is why I have motioned to have a discussion at this meeting, our first since the executive order and the attack, on how we can work with administration to ensure that resources or events serving this purpose take form at University College within the very near future.

On behalf of UAA, I also got the chance to speak at the UTSU’s “Cost of Higher Education” roundtable, which allowed a number of students to ask questions of Deb Matthews, Ontario’s Minister of Advanced Education & Skills Development, regarding Ontario’s new tuition fee framework. Minister Matthews demonstrated a calculator of the grants and loans students of any year could be allocated up-front at the beginning of each year, and fielded questions on transparency of the data for this calculator, the elimination of the education tax rebate to fund the framework, the eight-semester limit of time and financial aid resources, and how the proposed university-funding framework, dependent on jobs and income data, disadvantages research universities and the analysis of more marginalized theoretical perspectives. The hope is that, with the UTSU’s new dedicated seat on the Minister’s roundtable on the framework, consultation opportunities between the UTSU and students of UofT’s colleges will be deeper and more frequent going forward, and with more student input on the framework from our large, multidisciplinary university to be communicated directly to power brokers.

Coming up: we’re working with Kaplan Test Prep to put on a catered mock LSAT and MCAT session tomorrow evening (Monday the 27th) in UC 163. We are currently also planning our March events: an International Students’ Resource Fair, the aforementioned Career Perspectives: Health Sciences, the student-run Paws for a Cause event, a Coffee With the Profs (either relating to classroom innovations or to current events), possibly helping fund the Sustainability Commission’s professorial panel on water management, hopefully a small-ish event on choosing Subject POSTs, and our April Exam De-Stressor, which will contain the return of the Bike Blender, arts & crafts and discussion groups from the Mental Health commission, a catered “speed-studying” event spearheaded by the first years, and hopefully a therapy dog!

Please let me know if you have any questions! And PLEASE help suggest ideas for event logistics, professors we can work with, or elements we can add to the de-stressor!”

#### **Orientation:**

Hi friends!

We (Lindsay and Michelle) are super excited to be the Co-Chairs for UC Orientation 2017! We've started getting everything ready for hiring; our Exec applications are currently live and due today (February 26<sup>th</sup>). We encourage you to apply if you haven't already, and tell others to do the same if you or they are interested in playing a bigger leadership role with Orientation this year. Head Leader and Leader applications should be coming out within the next few days, so keep an eye out for those as well! We're very excited to be working with the UCLit and the Student Life Office this summer, and we will also specifically be in contact with some of the commissioners of the 2017-2018 board later on!

Good luck with your upcoming midterms/assignments/elections/jobs/stressful things!

Lots of Orientation love,

Linds and Mich

**UC Follies:**

Here's the UC Follies report for February:

1. The UC Follies presented two productions at the U of T Drama Festival, "Just the Fax, Ma'am, Just the Fax" by Lucas Loizou and "Touch" by Marium Raja. We were very happy to win the Adjudicator's Award for Best Ensemble for the cast of "Just the Fax"!
2. The UC Follies are currently in rehearsals for our final production of the year, the Greek fragmentary play "Myrmidons" directed by James Hyett. "Myrmidons" will be performed at the end of March.
3. Stay tuned for information about hiring for next year's executive and next year's show submissions, coming early March!

Thanks!  
Marie

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