



*University College Literary & Athletic Society*  
**Second Meeting**  
**Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> 2016– 11:00 AM**  
**Croft Chapter House**

**Minutes**

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**Attendance**

**Core Executive**

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
ATHLETICS	Abbey Kachmar
SERVICES	Victoria Kourtis
SOCIAL	Francesca Campos (Google Hangouts)
SPIRIT AND COMMUNICATIONS	Sylvia Urbanik
OFF-CAMPUS	Abby Godden

**Representatives**

UPPER YEAR	Sameer Rai
	Felipe Vicencio-Heap (Google Hangouts)
	Jonathan Liang
MIDDLE YEAR	Albert Hoang
	Paul Schweitzer
	Kelly Curran (Google Hangouts)
	Michelle Beyn

**UTSU Directors**

UTSU DIRECTOR VOTING	Mira El Hussein
EX-OFFICIO NON-VOTING	Ryan Hume
	Chimwemwe Alao

**Staff**

SECRETARY	Nicole Gumapac
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**Guests**

STUDENT LIFE COORDINATOR	Meng Lim
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**Not in Attendance**

SPEAKER	Eric Schwenger
MIDDLE YEAR	Sara Mandia
	Catherine Zhou

1. **Call to order**

The meeting is called to order at 11:07 AM

*Ryan, Mira and Michelle walk in at 11:09 AM.*

2. **BIRT the agenda be approved as presented (Singh/Rai)**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

3. **BIRT the minutes of the previous council meeting be approved as presented (Singh/Beyn)**

*Abbey walks in at 11:11 AM.*

**MOTION CARRIES.**

4. **BIRT reports of council be approved as presented (Appendix A) (Singh/Andary)**

**a. President**

Ramsey reads his report.

*Jonathan walks in at 11:13 AM. Snow walks in at 11:16 AM.*

Albert asks if the videographer will be a hired position. Ramsey responds that he will talk to UC student life, look to the Lit's photographer or hire externally, but award them a bonus for the video. Sameer asks if the SSCRC was formed yet. Daman responds that an election will have to be held for the position.

*Albert walks out at 11:23 AM.*

**b. Vice-President**

Daman reads his report.

*Albert walks in at 11:26 AM.*

Felipe asks about the Hart House farm for the retreat. Daman responds that Hart House farm is for the Fall due to student expenses. Mira asks about the date for the retreat. Sameer answers that it is on July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Ramsey implores that everyone finishes the cupcakes and cakes that were brought in, and points out that we did not have quorum on time, asking everyone to come to the meeting on time from now on.

**c. Finance**

Snow reads her report.

**d. Athletics**

Abbey reads her report.

**e. Equity and Outreach**

Chim reads his report.

**f. Literary and Creative Arts**

Ryan reads his report.

**g. Off-Campus**

Abby reads her report.

Aidan asks for clarification regarding the CoCos. Abby clarifies that it is more towards increasing advertising and visibility for Cocos' social media and CSC advertising. Paul adds that they are looking at furniture arrangements and WiiU scheduling.

*Snow walks out at 11:38 AM.*

**h. Services**

Victoria reads her report.

**i. Social**

Ramsey reads Francesca's report on her behalf.

**j. Spirit and Communications**

Sylvia reads her report.

**k. University and Academic Affairs**

Aidan reads his report.

*Snow walks in at 11:42 AM.*

**l. Orientation**

Abby reads her report.

**m. UTSU**

Mira reads her report.

**n. Student Life Coordinator**

Meng introduces herself as a recently graduated UC alum who worked largely in resident life before switching with Scott into the position of student life coordinator. Ryan asks if she is Australian. Meng responds affirmatively, that she is from Melbourne. Ryan motions to Abby, as she is also from Australia.

**MOTION PASSES.**

**5. BIRT council approve the Land Acknowledgment Statement to be read before meetings (Alao/El Hussein)**

Chim talks about the concerns with the UTSU version of the land acknowledgment statement. He contacted First Nations House for clarification and says that the UTSU version is the one written in collaboration with the elders and is approved by First Nations House. Chim reiterates what Ryan said last meeting, regarding how it shouldn't be an item on a checklist but that recentering their narratives in history should be a continuous thing. Mira agrees that this is an important process in decolonizing our day to day interactions.

**MOTION PASSES.**

**Reading of the Land Acknowledgment Statement**

**Chim:** I would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home of many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory. We can never work to end systemic and institutional violence if we do not center the narratives of Indigenous people in our collective decision-making for social justice and equity. As settlers on the Credit River, we directly benefit from the colonization and genocide of the Indigenous people of this land. In order to engage in resistance and solidarity against the injustices inflicted on the Indigenous people of this land, it is imperative we constantly engage in acts of awareness and decolonization. I would also like to pay my respects to Indigenous elders both past and present, and to any those may be here with us today: physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

**6. Discussion on Orientation Bursaries**

Mira brings up concerns of incoming first years regarding potential bursaries given how expensive orientation is. Abby responds that there are 10 orientation bursaries that are budgeted for and outlines the process for applying for these bursaries, which takes place through the registrar, who assesses the student for financial need and whether they qualify for the bursary. Abby talks about updating the website to reflect information regarding bursaries, financial need and other pertinent information, but stresses that it is not within the UC Orientation budget to provide more than 10 orientation bursaries, otherwise it takes away from the operation of UC orientation. Mira clarifies the number of bursaries and to advertise this to first year students. Albert and Chim suggests to add a section about a limited amount of bursaries so students take the initiative to apply for it. Jon also suggests advertising about Thrive, the free and shortened version of Orientation Week, as well as MyJourney for commuter students. Albert asks when the website will be finished. Abby replies that it should be finished within the next week or week and a half. Abbey asks what happens if more than ten people apply for the bursary. Abby states that the registrar would select which students receive the bursary.

**7. BIRT council ratify Hussain Punjani as UC Lit Web Coordinator 2016-2017 (Andary/Beyn)**

Ramsey and Michelle motivate for the ratification of Hussain. Ramsey states that Hussain is very qualified, having experience in websites, apps, design and others. Michelle was very impressed with his interview and qualifications.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**8. BIRT council ratify Serena Ceco as UC Lit Elections Coordinator 2016-2017 (Andary/Kachmar)**

Ramsey motivates for the ratification of Serena, since she was the most prepared and confident in the interview. She answered situations well, had great stances and was neutral. Abbey agrees that she'll do a great job.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**9. BIRT council ratify Albert Hoang as UC Review Editor-in-Chief 2016-2017 (Andary/El Hussein)**

Ramsey states that Albert had a fantastic application and that the past editor-in-chief, Melissa, had no concerns and already started transitioning him. Mira agrees wholeheartedly.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**10. BIRT council hires a Sustainability Commission Commissioner and Mental Health Committee Chair through an application and interview process hosted by the Hiring Committee (Andary/Hoang)**

Ramsey states that an application process through a hiring committee is the best way to hire the Commissioner and Chair, but clarifies that the positions are not paid. Albert agrees that the addition of the two committees are great. Chim asks if the people in the two positions are required to attend Lit meetings. Ramsey states that it isn't necessary since they don't have voting rights and just have to submit reports. Aidan is really stoked about the two committees and asks whether the chair sets the mandate or calls and runs the meetings. Ramsey responds that they would act as commissioners, so they would have their own ideas, but they would also need to listen to their commissions in getting ideas for events.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**11. BIRT council take a 5-minute recess to look at the JCR couch swatches (Andary/Singh)**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

*The meeting recesses at 12:16 PM. The meeting resumes at 12:21 PM.*

**12. BIRT council decide on a swatch for the reupholstered JCR couches (Andary/Rai)**

Sylvia outlines that the Council is leaning towards either Crimson or Ruby, which are the same colour but only differ in texture. Mira advocates for Ruby, saying that it is the better texture, is luxurious, and shows that Council cares about its students. Ryan commits to Ruby, saying it makes him feel like home. Michelle thinks Ruby would last longer and is more durable. Sameer likes Crimson better, saying that given his limited

knowledge regarding sofa leather, when the texture has bigger ridges, it is better for prolonged use. Albert and Abby have been rubbing the leather on their faces, and answer as a unit that Crimson would be better. Daman states that we don't have enough time for everyone to rub the leather on their faces. Aidan states that we should make UC Crimson again. Paul states that they look like the exact same thing, but goes with Crimson. Sylvia points out that we are reupholstering the couches because they are falling apart, so durability should be taken into consideration.

### **MOTION CARRIES.**

#### **13. Other Business**

Daman asks for suggestions for the summer retreat. Victoria suggests getting a cottage at Wasaga Beach, but it is too expensive. Albert points out that BlogTO or Narcity released something about close cottages that cost \$10 per person. Daman asks for people who can drive to places if Council goes with cottages and not Centre Island. Sylvia asks for another person to help Felipe pick up a box of sweaters. Daman asks Council to help clean out the Lit and JCR before renovations. Ramsey asks Council if they would be available on July 19<sup>th</sup> for a joint equity training through central student life with the Lit and the Innis Council Student Society. Daman says that he is working towards getting a listserv, so the Lit doesn't have to use Blackboard anymore.

#### **14. BIRT that council adopt the following as the Quote of the Meeting (Singh/Urbanik)**

"Sorry, we don't have enough time for everyone to rub the leather on their face."

### **MOTION CARRIES.**

#### **15. BIRT the meeting be adjourned (Singh/Mei)**

The meeting is adjourned at 12:41 PM.

## **Appendix A: Reports**

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### **President:**

Happy beginning of summer! Hope those of you who took a summer course or two survived!

Things to report on:

- SSCRC governing council vote happened. Glad to announce it passed! Will talk about it in more detail at the meeting.
- The JCR is officially closed for the summer starting Monday June 28th. We have to still box and mark the stuff in the offices as a council though! After the offices are cleared out, all of us should be staying out of the JCR until further notice. We will be getting a temporary office over the summer somewhere in the cloisters and everything else will be stored in Croft. The pubs and sound rooms will still be accessible. I will be working with Yvonne and the UC Advancement team on providing weekly/biweekly updates of the renos as well as possibly creating a video.
- We will be creating a Lit introduction video to display during orientation week (and around our social media) instead of the meet-the-Lit portion of UC day due to scheduling shifts and Orientation changes. We will keep you updated on this as we plan it out with SCC, student life, and the videographer (to be determined), but we really want to make sure everyone is in it if possible! Stay tuned soon.
- We have spoken with Melissa Vincent, the outgoing Editor-in-Chief of the UC Review, and have agreed to make the UC Review an official ancillary of the Lit. We will be working with the incoming Editor-in-Chief on adding this to our constitution over the next little while.

- We hired our web coordinator and elections coordinator and are currently holding interviews for photographer, WUSC co-directors, and Diabolos finance assistant!

**Vice-President:**

Hi friends!

Hope everyone is having a good summer.

A few updates from me:

- Because of an open day that Ontario Parks is having the weekend of our retreat, the original plan to go camping isn't going to work out. We have an alternative lined up that I'll explain at the meeting but if any of you have any other ideas let us know!

- I'm currently working on updating the bylaws to reflect the changes we made last year, and I'm also reformatting them (changing font/styling etc.) to make them easier to read. Once I'm done this, Con Review will be able to meet.

- Ramsey and I went to the governing council meeting and spoke in favour of the SSCRC's creation. I'll explain more about what this policy is and why its important at the meeting.

**Finance:**

Hope everybody is having a wonderful summer so far.

The initial audit package was submitted earlier this month. Just going through follow up questions and documents now.

We had the first finance commission meeting early June :)

UC Day was great, I hope everyone had a good time (I did!). We sold a lot of spirit wear the second time around (go Sylvia!).

Pretty excited for our summer retreat next month!!!

**Athletics:**

Hey guys!

Nothing much is new for athletics. Our main priority right now is looking for captains! We are doing some sort of an application this year, just so everything is formal and organized all in one place. The form will be posted on the Lit page very soon, probably next week. So please make sure when it goes up you're sharing it and if you know anyone that would make a great captain for an intramural team next year (including yourself!) please get them to apply. It is very important to for our intramural teams to have good captains, (which means good student leaders), I can't even stress it enough. The "application" is a soft ting, it'll most likely take like 30 seconds.

We also decided to cancel our beach day as we did not think it made sense to have two separate beach days by two separate commissions, and it would just be time and effort that we could be spending somewhere else if students are already going to be getting a kickass beach day. Our budget for beach day can be allocated to the CSC's beach day if they want it.

That's all folks!

**Equity and Outreach:**

Hello Hello!

Hope everyone has been doing ok. So not too much has happened this month in the commission. We're still working away at the Rocky Horror Picture Show. I also recently met with Paul and Abby to discuss the equity event for MyJourney. For those who don't know, the event will be an Equity 101 workshop that would act as an introduction to equity and some of the more technical terms and ideas. If any of you would want to help out with the planning for the event, message me to let me know.

That's all for now folks!!

**Literary and Creative Arts:**

Melissa Vincent, editor in chief of the UC Review for the 2015-2016 year met with me, Ramsey, and Daman to discuss the future of the publication and its relationship with the Lit. We agreed that the UC Review should officially become an ancillary, like the UC Follies. It was a productive meeting and Daman will be working with the Review to review their constitution.

**Off-Campus:**

Hi friends! We've completed our MyJourney leader hiring. We had a huge number of applicants, we are really grateful for such a high interest in this position from so many qualified individuals. We have 18 leaders in total.

We've finalised our schedule for the weekend (which includes a hype new murder mystery shoutout to albert waddup). We've been reaching out to alumni for the alumni social, if you know of any cool uc alumni that you think would be interested, lemme know. Registration has been released online at [ucorientation.com/myjourneyregister](http://ucorientation.com/myjourneyregister) (which is awesome, as all of our data for both orientation and myjourney is in one place which just makes life so much easier. bless u hesham for doing this for us). We have 19 people registered and paid so far!

Paul and I are looking into the possibility of having some kind of BBQ/social in the CSC when we purchase the WiiU. It would be potluck style as we ain't about droppin that money.

We've met with the cocos and discussed the use of the CSC for the upcoming year, and discussed ways in which we can make the space more accessible/inclusive. We're hoping that through working together effectively throughout the year we will be able to make the CSC more open and comfortable for a wider range of students.

**Services:**

Morning sunshines! My deputy, Kirsten, and i have started to work with the orientation exec to start brain storming ideas together on how we're going to execute Red and White. There will obviously be a touch of eggs? in space. The layout will stay the same; East and West Hall for dinner and dance, 376 for dessert, and the main hallway for a photo booth. Other than Red and White, I've had meetings with Advancement and Student Life regarding the layout of Fireball. It's all very exciting; there will probably be a tent in the quad (WOOOH TENT PARTY) because every large space we would normally use is under renovations for the coming year, the Art Centre will most likely be used maybe for dessert or just a space to walk through (so now you can all actually go and see it), and the JCR will most likely be used in different ways other than just for live performances which we aren't sure if we're going to have, basically we'll be using more of the north side of the building rather than the south side. Also, the locker is FINALLY CLEANED!! That's all. Lots of Services Love <3

**Social:**

Things aren't busy this month in the social end. I met up with AVSSU's social last Thursday to talk about Halloween Club night before she goes on vacation (it didn't happen yet when I sent this but I'm sure it went well). My deputy and I wanted to make little committees for our commission so we can increase student involvement. We weren't sure if we should make a formal application process so we're just going to keep it open via the social facebook group (I'm makng a new one so I'll add yall to it!)

For now we decided on dividing the commission into a design team, promotional team, and planning team. We'll put more info about each position when we post for sign ups but feel free to join one if you're interested (cough reps in social cough).

Plus, I will also be attending the first Homecoming Committee meeting this Tuesday to represent the Lit so I will keep you guys updated for any important news! Also, if you have any questions you'd like me to ask or keep in mind just let me know beforehand.

Peace,

Fran

**Spirit and Communications:**

Hey council! Hope everyone is enjoying their summer. I'd like to thank everyone who helped out with spiritwear sales during welcome days, whether it was actually selling at the tables or helping me carry all the boxes down from the tower. We sold \$284 and \$639 worth of merchandise respectively, so we are well on our way to exceed predicted revenue for the summer budget. Our new (old) crewnecks have been selling well, which is great to see, and the next big item we'll be ordering will hopefully be baseball caps, along with some smaller promotional items. I also did a complete inventory and clean of the bell tower after the welcome days. I've lowered the prices on some of our

spiritwear considerably, especially on the older stock. Come September I'm hoping to get rid of as much of it as possible, as I'd much rather it be in the hands of students rather than collecting dust up in the tower.

**University and Academic Affairs:**

Hey all! Just want to fill you in with some UAA summer plans. Over the next two months we hope to plan the issue-discussion event we have set up for September, and find some possible collaborators to ensure the broadest possible coalition of students gets their voices heard at that event. We also will hopefully begin working with advancement to start planning the alumni mentorship events (notify me if there's a specific academic discipline you want us to tackle!); continue working with the UTSU and the Community Action Commission to build a student lobbying network; effectively communicate the Complaint and Resolution Council for Student Societies to commission members so that they know its impacts and implications; and book the dogs for the exam destressors (yes, this far in advance is needed!). Thanks, and I wish you Juncta juvant!

**Orientation:**

Hey hi hello. Orientation things have been moving along well! Here's what we've been up to:

Registration is now LIVE (whaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaat) at ucorientation.com! So far we have had ~125 register and pay, and around 70 more have made an account on the site and have yet to pay. Early bird (\$105 registration fee) ends at the end of the month, and then the price increases to \$115.

Leader fees are due on Friday! Tell your friends to pay it on time, oooooor [scissors emoji]

We have finalised our schedule for the week (yaaas). We have a new event this year focused on mental health/mental well being, which Ramsey & Ryan are taking a lead on. We also have a "red carpet" type event before the club night where we will have a photobooth and snacks and it will be cute.

The welcome days went well, the first years and parents were very interested, although many didn't wanna stand outside and register cos it was too hot outside.

We have decided to stop doing mailouts this year, as they are wasteful and not necessarily the most effective. We will be using electronic means of reaching out to our incoming first years with the information that would ordinarily be delivered by the mailout.

We will be organising all-volunteer socials in the upcoming weeks, so keep an eye out for when they get posted! That's all for now!

Cheerios! <3

**UTSU:**

Hey folks! The important business from the last two UTSU meetings has been that we've hired our union's International Students, Mental Wellness, and Sustainability Commissioners. As well, some of our director-elected committee seats have been elected. Elections will continue into the next meeting.

After a sizeable discussion period, the Board voted to approve the 2016-2017 Preliminary Budget.

UTSU team out ;)

**UCRC: DID NOT SUBMIT**

**UC Follies: DID NOT SUBMIT**

**Appendix B: Verbatim Minutes**

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**1. Call to order**

The meeting is called to order at 11:07 AM

*Ryan, Mira and Michelle walk in at 11:09 AM.*

2. **BIRT the agenda be approved as presented (Singh/Rai)**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

3. **BIRT the minutes of the previous council meeting be approved as presented (Singh/Beyn)**

*Abbey walks in at 11:11 AM.*

**MOTION CARRIES.**

4. **BIRT reports of council be approved as presented (Appendix A) (Singh/Andary)**

a. **President**

Ramsey reads his report.

*Jonathan walks in at 11:13 AM. Snow walks in at 11:16 AM.*

**Albert:** About the videographer, would that be a position to hire for or is that just for the one video?

**Ramsey:** We will talk to Meng and Scott, it could be our own photographer or we could work with student life and see if they have any professionals or hire externally. We will likely give them a little bonus though since it's a big job to do.

**Sameer:** The SSCRC thing just passed and hasn't been formed yet, right?

**Ramsey:** Yes, at the next meeting we will talk about choosing someone to put on it.

**Daman:** We have to hold an election for the position and it can't be anyone on council.

*Albert walks out at 11:23 AM.*

b. **Vice-President**

Daman reads his report.

*Albert walks in at 11:26 AM.*

**Felipe:** What happened to the Hart House farm for the retreat?

**Daman:** Hart House farm is the Fall retreat. We don't use it for the summer because it's really expensive and we don't want to use that much student money for two retreats.

**Mira:** Is there a date set up for the retreat?

**Sameer:** July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Ramsey:** Everyone, please finish the cupcakes and cakes. As well, we did not have quorum on time. That's disrespectful to people who were on time, so please try to come to the meeting on time from now on.

c. **Finance**

Snow reads her report.

**d. Athletics**

Abbey reads her report.

**e. Equity and Outreach**

Chim reads his report.

**f. Literary and Creative Arts**

Ryan reads his report.

**g. Off-Campus**

Abby reads her report.

**Aidan:** Could we have more details regarding the CoCos?

**Abby:** We've been looking at better advertising since it has not been the best before. Just making things more visible, better online advertising, better ways to contact the Cocos on all social media. And within the CSC, regular updates, signs for CoCos' office being more visible and further discussions because we haven't fully finished the transition with previous CoCos, so we will be meeting a lot more in actual months about making space more inclusive, different kinds of events, etc.

*Snow walks out at 11:38 AM.*

**Paul:** We will also be looking at new furniture arrangements, WiiU scheduling and how it's going to go down.

**h. Services**

Victoria reads her report.

**i. Social**

Ramsey reads Francesca's report on her behalf.

**j. Spirit and Communications**

Sylvia reads her report.

**k. University and Academic Affairs**

Aidan reads his report.

*Snow walks in at 11:42 AM.*

**l. Orientation**

Abby reads her report.

**m. UTSU**

Mira reads her report.

**n. Student Life Coordinator**

**Meng:** I've officially started for about two weeks, and I'm very excited to work with the Lit because I haven't been able to engage with it as much in the past few years. I am a UC alum, I graduated recently and have been working in resident life, and have now moved into student life while Scott moves into resident life, so I am pretty new in the role. We are transitioning each other and I will be sitting in every meeting, and meeting up with you all one on one throughout the summer and the school year as well. Let me know if you have any questions.

**Ryan:** Are you Australian?

**Meng:** I am, yes. I'm from Melbourne.

**MOTION PASSES.**

**5. BIRT council approve the Land Acknowledgment Statement to be read before meetings (Alao/El Hussein)**

**Chim:** I was originally going to use the UTSU version, but there were concerns about the accuracy of the statement. I contacted First Nations House and according to them, this is the copy that was written in collaboration with elders and approved by First Nations House so this is the one we should be going by since it is read before Convocation Hall and is the most accurate. We would like to go forward with this so we can read this before meetings. I'd like to reiterate what Ryan said last meeting about how this shouldn't be a checklist, but we should always make sure that we think about the history and work towards recentering their narratives in history and continually try to keep that in mind.

**Mira:** This is an important process in decolonizing our day to day interactions.

**MOTION PASSES.**

**Chim:** I would like to acknowledge this sacred land on which the University of Toronto operates. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home of many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work in the community, on this territory. We can never work to end systemic and institutional violence if we do not center the narratives of Indigenous people in our collective decision-making for social justice and equity. As settlers on the Credit River, we directly benefit from the colonization and genocide of the Indigenous people of this land. In order to engage in resistance and solidarity against the injustices inflicted on the Indigenous people of this land, it is imperative we constantly engage in acts of awareness and decolonization. I would also like to pay my respects to Indigenous elders both past and present, and to any those may be here with us today: physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

**6. Discussion on Orientation Bursaries**

**Mira:** I chatted with incoming first years who said that orientation is very expensive and I'm sure that this is the best we can do since it is expensive, but they were asking about bursaries. I wanted to open up the floor for discussions so that we could figure out what's a good way to make sure people know this exists. I don't know how they work so feel free to correct me if I'm wrong but I feel like this is something incoming first years should know about since it is a bit financially difficult.

**Abby:** We traditionally have 10 orientation bursaries budgeted for. Last year we had 14 applicants, and 10 bursaries given out. How the process works is that first years have to pay for Orientation and register, and then Sherry

McCormack in the registrar, they email her about financial need and she will assess whether or not they qualify for the bursary. If they do, they receive the bursary in late September, since most UC bursaries take a while to process and it has to go through the registrar's office since they have all the information on student financial need. The website is literally bare bones right now so we will be adding things like FAQs, a financial need section and others. I know this is something important and I truly understand those students who struggle with the price of orientation since I am also a student with financial need, so it will be easier to advertise for once it is all on one place on the website. We simply don't have more than 10 bursaries and I don't want to over-advertise because we can't give the bursary to 50 students, but if council feels strongly about having more bursaries, then we would have to have funding for that because we don't have funding for it right now.

**Mira:** Right now, what I was more curious about was number of bursaries. I noticed that a few people who spoke to me have already discounted the idea of orientation because they can't afford it, so just hint at it and give them an idea that it's there.

**Albert:** When you advertise it, say there are limited amount of bursaries and they'll have to take initiative for applying for it.

**Chim:** On the website website, you can also say on the FAQs that there are a limited amount of bursaries available.

**Jon:** Bursaries are a good idea, and we can also let them know about Thrive, which is a shortened version which is free, and MyJourney for commuters about pre-frosh week frosh week. So if money is an issue, we can also advertise to them.

**Albert:** When will the website be finished?

**Abby:** Next week or week and a half, we will be putting up pages as they're done.

**Abbey:** What if more than ten people apply?

**Abby:** There's only so much we can give out before we are really stretching out our budget. Ideally 10, but if we have a lot more students who express interest, we will look at our budget, but we can't take away from the operation of orientation week.

**Abbey:** So is there a more formal process?

**Abby:** It's through the registrar's office since we don't have heir financial information, so they just give us names.

#### 7. **BIRT council ratify Hussain Punjani as UC Lit Web Coordinator 2016-2017 (Andary/Beyn)**

**Ramsey:** We had hiring for web coordinator and we found a god. Hussain is very qualified, he just finished his first year here but he has a lot of experience in putting together websites, apps, design and stuff like that. He ran this notable project in high school to develop this app that helps students connect with government jobs and they were bought out at the end of the year. He is very talented, he did a lot of research on the website and is very passionate and wants to contribute.

**Michelle:** This guy blew me away. When he started talking, he listed everything that needed to be fixed and provided solutions about how to fix it. He's a genius, and I don't know how he exists.

#### **MOTION CARRIES.**

#### 8. **BIRT council ratify Serena Ceco as UC Lit Elections Coordinator 2016-2017 (Andary/Kachmar)**

**Ramsey:** We had a good number of elections coordinator applicants, and it wasn't easy but Serena was the most prepared out of the bunch. She came in and looked over elections code, talked about certain situations very well, had

very good stances on things, very neutral. She is from Trinity college but she'll be very neutral and she will do a good job.

**Abbey:** She's great. I think she'll do a great job.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

9. **BIRT council ratify Albert Hoang as UC Review Editor-in-Chief 2016-2017 (Andary/El Hussein)**

**Ramsey:** Albert did a fantastic job, fantastic application, Melissa had no concerns whatsoever and the transition period started already.

**Mira:** If I start saying more things, I'll never stop, but Albert is just the best.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

10. **BIRT council hires a Sustainability Commission Commissioner and Mental Health Committee Chair through an application and interview process hosted by the Hiring Committee (Andary/Hoang)**

**Ramsey:** In planning out committees vs. commissions, we're seeing if we should nominate someone from the lit, open elections from everyone, open it to the public as there are a lot of qualified people for this. A good solution for this would be to have chairs that are selected through application process. This is the process we've come up with so far, and any member on the Lit can also apply for it, so if you're very passionate about it, you can go for it, but it's not paid.

**Albert:** Most talks around campus are on sustainability and mental health so these two committees are great, I'm just surprised we didn't have them earlier.

**Chim:** Would these positions be required to attend Lit meetings?

**Ramsey:** No, just to submit reports. They don't have voting rights so they shouldn't have to attend.

**Aidan:** When I read the agenda, I was really stoked because I think just based on the committee last year and this year, both these areas are huge within the UofT community right now and they should have no separate attention and added more to their plate so this is great that we have more people especially focused on this role. Just a question from our constituents: Does the chair set the mandate or just call and run the meetings?

**Ramsey:** For both, they would act as commissioners, so the chairs would have their own ideas, but they also need to listen to their commissions in getting ideas for events, so they'll act like that, so they chair their meetings just like commissioners so think of it in that aspect.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

11. **BIRT council take a 5-minute recess to look at the JCR couch swatches (Andary/Singh)**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

*The meeting recesses at 12:16 PM. The meeting resumes at 12:21 PM.*

12. **BIRT council decide on a swatch for the reupholstered JCR couches (Andary/Rai)**

**Sylvia:** We are leaning towards Crimson or Ruby, which are apparently the same colour but have different textures. So it comes down toward the feel of these couches, but overall they seem to be the same. It is an important one so we should take this discussion seriously.

**Mira:** Ruby is so much softer, so I will speak in support of Ruby. This is serious. It's a better texture, it's so much more luxurious and it shows that we care about our students.

**Ryan:** I usually don't get worked up about a lot of things in my life, but I'm going to commit to Ruby. It's soft and luxurious and the colour is very warm and welcoming. Ruby makes me feel like home and I can't think of any argument anyone can give against it.

**Michelle:** I'm feeling Ruby since it would last longer and would be more durable in general, so I feel like obviously, I definitely think Ruby is better since it feels like it'll last longer.

**Sameer:** I like Crimson better. Not a big deal, but I like the one where if I lie on them, I don't want to sweat, and in the limited amount that I know about sofa leather, when the texture has bigger ridges, it is better for prolonged use. So I like Crimson better for the JCR.

**Albert:** Many of you know that I sleep a lot on the JCR couches, so I have to go with Crimson, if you feel it on your face it feels like a waterfall.

**Mira:** You know what I feel? Offended.

**Daman:** Sorry, we don't have enough time for everyone to rub the leather on their face.

**Aidan:** Make UC Crimson again.

**Paul:** I actually think that from what I'm looking at, they say they're the exact same thing, so I think I'm going with Crimson.

**Sylvia:** If texture is important, we are reupholstering these couches because they're falling apart so we should take it into consideration that we want these to last as long as possible.

**Ramsey:** If you compare them, Crimson is scalier and Yvonne is personally for Ruby because there is less scale.

#### **MOTION CARRIES.**

### 13. **Other Business**

**Daman:** If you have any suggestions for our summer retreat, we can discuss them now.

**Victoria:** What if we got a cottage at Wasaga Beach?

**Daman:** Too expensive.

**Albert:** BlogTO or Narcity or something released something about close cottages that were like \$10 per person.

**Daman:** If we end up doing cottages or not Centre Island, we need people to drive us so if you have a car and you can drive without killing us, let me know.

**Sylvia:** Another box of sweaters has to be picked up, Felipe offered to pick it up so if someone can pick them up I will be posting that in the Facebook group.

**Daman:** Come help clean out the Lit and core exec.

**Ramsey:** I've been talking to Brianne (ICSS president) and she offered to do a joint equity training through central student life with the Lit and Innis Council, so who is available late afternoon, Wednesday afternoon of July 19<sup>th</sup>? If

everyone can't make it, we'll try to arrange a second one in August but it will be joint with Innis, so please try to come out to that if you can.

**Daman:** I'm going to get us a listserv, this only really matters for Abby and Sylvia, but an actual listserv so we don't have to use Blackboard anymore.

14. **BIRT that council adopt the following as the Quote of the Meeting (Singh/Urbanik)**

**Daman:** Sorry, we don't have enough time for everyone to rub the leather on their face.

**MOTION CARRIES.**

15. **BIRT the meeting be adjourned (Singh/Mei)**

The meeting is adjourned at 12:41 PM.