



Attendance

Core Exec

PRESIDENT: Paul Schweitzer
VICE-PRESIDENT: Danielle Stella
FINANCE: Noah Petrie

Executive

LITERARY AND CREATIVE ARTS COMMISSIONER: Kaitlyn Ferreira
EQUITY AND OUTREACH COMMISSIONER: Alisa Christian
SPIRIT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIONER: Aidan Swirsky
SOCIAL COMMISSIONER: Olivia Jordan
OFF-CAMPUS COMMISSIONER: Felipe Santos
UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER: Miranda Desbiens
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSIONER: Kirsten Stevens
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER: Kiana Habibagahi

Representatives

UPPER YEAR: Aster Gerard
Albert Hoang
Willa Ratz

MIDDLE YEAR: Hiba Taha
Nicole Toyama
Sabrina Weinstein

FIRST YEAR: TBD

UTSU Reps

UTSU VOTING DIRECTOR: Sabrina Brathwaite
Kirsten Stevens

Staff

SECRETARY: Snow Mei
SPEAKER: Daman Singh

Guests

STUDENT LIFE COORDINATOR: Lynne Aleksandrova
Naeem Ordóñez

DIABOLOS CO-MANAGERS: Emily Sparks
Ronak Jain

Not In Attendance

ATHLETICS COMMISSIONER:
SERVICES COMMISSIONER:
MIDDLE YEAR:

Aleksandra Aleksandrova
Parnian Tajbakjsh
Maureen Huang
Priya Gupta
Thomas Pender
Artur Khasanov
Artur Khasanov

UCRC PRESIDENT:
UTSU VOTING DIRECTOR:

1. Call to Order

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

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Alisa reads the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. BIRT the March council meeting minutes be approved as presented. (Stella/Swirsky)

MOTION CARRIES.

Danielle: There are spelling mistakes: ratification of Aster’s last name spelt wrong on all of March’s minutes.

Danielle: Elections Appeals Committee: There are meetings in February & March as well as September, for anyone on elections appeals committee.

Aidan: I’m omitted accidentally on constitution review.

MOTION CARRIES.

4. BIRT the agenda be approved as presented. (Stella/Swirsky)

MOTION CARRIES.

5. BIRT Artur Khasanov is ratified as UCRC President for the 2018-2019 term. (Stella/Ferreira)

Paul: I’m assuming this is for voting rights.

Danielle: I just copied off of last year’s agenda and also how they ratified the UCRC president.

MOTION CARRIES.

6. BIRT council reports be approved as presented (Stella/Stevens)

MOTION CARRIES.

7. Reports

1. President

Paul reads his report.

Paul: The new SLC is here! Also Ronak and Emily are our new Diabolos' managers; let's give a warm table clap.

2. Vice-President

Danielle reads her report.

3. Finance

Noah reads his report.

4. Athletics

(See Report)

5. Equity and Outreach

Alisa reads her report.

6. Literary and Creative Arts

Kaitlyn reads her report.

7. Mental Health

Kiana reads her report.

8. Off-Campus

Felipe reads his report.

9. Services

(See Report)

10. Social

Olivia reads her report.

11. SCC

Aidan reads his report.

12. Sustainability

Kirsten reads her report.

13. University and Academic Affairs

Miranda reads her report.

14. Middle Year Representatives

Hiba reads the report.

15. Upper-Year Representatives

Albert and Willa read the report.

16. Orientation

Kaitlyn reads the report.

17. UC Review

None Submitted.

18. UC Follies

None Submitted.

19. Diabolos'

Ronak and Emily read the report.

20. UCRC

None Submitted.

21. Gargoyle

None Submitted.

22. UTSU

None Submitted.

23. SLC

Naeem reads his report.

8. New Mandatory Leave Draft

Discussion Item

BIRT Lynne Aleksandrova is granted speaking rights. (Swirsky/Stella) MOTION CARRIES.

Danielle: This motion was moved up because of a tight schedule.

Kiana: Does everyone know how it's implemented? There are two main scenarios:

1) Student poses an imminent risk to themselves or others, or 2) Student is unable to engage in essential student activities. The policy basically allows UofT to force students to leave. I went into further detail in why it's bad in the journal I recently posted. I want to focus on the feedback form released by admin. Maybe brainstorm ideas on what council might want to put in the feedback form. Maybe we could have Lynne's input as well.

Nicole: What do they mean by essential university activities?

Paul: I had some questions about what they meant. I didn't get full direct answer. They kept saying it was an extremity. As I understand it, it involves not going to class, and not doing any of the work. They explained it as if the student is failing already.

Lynne: I'm a PhD candidate. I work in the philosophy department building, and I'm a UTSGU internal rep where I give my input on policy. What Nathan Chan explained to me in the spring semester of 2017, the policy is meant to be helpful as a compassionate type of leave, focusing on students with mental distress. The draft started circulating in the fall. There was one draft most impactful to graduate students that was put on hold, one voted by academic council on January 25th; Aidan got up to 3 minutes to address to the board; there were people that had questions, there were rhetorical questions. Those who spoke spoke against the policy. It's a huge puzzle to this date. It took the letter from the chief commissioner of OHRC. Then it was withdrawn from the agenda for further consultations. It is a huge success for the University of Toronto. A number of Ivey Leagues have involuntary medical leave. The University of Delaware has emergency leave. This is about taking measures to maintain the health of students, faculty, and staff. There is a conference of student leaders going on currently at Hart House. Today's the second day. I stepped out of conference to come here. There are strong speeches to stop the policy by the governor on behalf of part time students. You can collect signatures from students. You as a council can present a single sentence: you're not satisfied; you need more consultation before further discussion. The 2nd case scenario is problematic. If the student is not at risk of harm to self or others, there's no excuse to say we can't put this under a student conduct policy. For the 1st clause, if the person has a mental health issue, we should have a special policy for students under

distress. For 2nd clause, the student is kind of being punished for mental challenges already. The letter from the chief of OHRC is two pages. If you search "re: university mandated leave of absence OHRC" it should pop up.

Kiana: I could post that letter. RE: Nicole's question: my understanding is the language is intentionally vague; they don't want set point of "if the student is getting specific grade, we kick them out." On the other hand, there's no standard of how they deal with this situation. They could kick someone out if they wanted to. This is a discrimination against the student. They aren't providing any substance for the student after. They say they'd find psychotherapist. But if they are living in residence, or if they are an immigrant here as a student, where would they stay? For now I just want the deadline for the feedback form (may 16th) to be removed. People are going back home and they may not want the stress of doing this survey right now. They call it a compassionate leave but based on what I've seen it's not compassionate. We're the clients and we should demand to be listened to.

Paul: The language used was altered view of reality; i.e. vague. When we asked a lot of questions, and asked what if a student objected to being removed, the answer was: if they were determined to have an altered view of reality (doing better than they actually are), then that's another issue. A lot boiled down to UofT's lacking mental health support because this policy would be a last resort. People have been unsatisfied with mental health services I'm not sure what action is being taken there. A New College member asked what happens to international students since they would no longer have grounds to stay in this country. There's no policy reflecting this; they said they'd have an agreement with immigration services. There's no protection in the policy though. We are discussing TAs; there is talk about getting proper training for TAs to report situation but I'm not too sure. One change is that if they kick you out it doesn't appear on your transcript. Financially it's a case-by-case basis. As much as they try to compensate someone it's not guaranteed. It was to keep in line with provincial mental health provisions but I can't comment on that really.

Miranda: Is the website still crashing?

Kiana: For some people it is, for me it's working.

Miranda: The website crashing would be working against the deadline.

Sabrina: If someone's doing a work study what would happen to the job?

Paul: Good point, but assuming if they are no longer a student they are no longer able to hold a work study position. It wasn't discussed. As of right now, beyond the provost making an exemption you'd probably lose that.

Aidan: Thank you Lynne for coming in and giving some context of the policy. Because the deadline is inching ever so closer, I was hoping that the UC Lit's social media platforms could distribute info to students. The UC Lit hasn't taken a position on this yet. You heard Kiana about the possibility of doing something on our own. The admin has had a spotty track record of incorporating students' concerns into the drafts. Let myself or Kiana, core exec or anyone on this council know about concerns. Keep doing your research, news articles, and draft minutes of governing council meetings. There are lots of resources out there. I talked to Josh on the UTSU and he wants to set up a meeting with students to talk about strategy to push the thing back; let admin know students don't want policy to be pushed through during the summer when students aren't here. There's mechanisms to push the discourse further to make it clear to students what the policy is and if necessary what to support or reject.

Lynne: I can refer you to the Facebook group we're using. Mandatory Leave of Absence Response Group.

Sabrina B: For the 1st draft we had a session lasting for hours. If you wanted to find a jumping point to get involved, then you can get opinion here and move from there.

Lynne: In the Varsity, there's a series of articles to find updates. In terms of action, there was a petition by the Students for Barrier Free Access you could sign.

Kiana: A few weeks ago, when talking to Nicole: would the UC Lit be opposed to me contacting the media? Like actual media, beyond the Varsity?

Paul: Within your own rights, you can do whatever you want. But just because the UC Lit doesn't have an official position yet, as students and people you can do what you want.

Danielle: If that's something the lit wants to have position on, then once we do have a position, we could publish an opinion via the UC Lit.

Kiana: Before the May 16th deadline, the UC Lit does not have an official position on it?

Danielle: There's no opinion yet.

Kiana: Could we have an emergency meeting since our next meeting is after the deadline?

Paul: We could. It'd be helpful to have council bring it up as early as possible. Keep in mind no real policy discussion will happen at the next official meeting (especially because it's the budget meeting); if you want to set something up you should because core exec can't make a decision by ourselves. It could probably be a Google Hangouts so nobody has to commute down here.

Albert: A concern brought up was the lack of clear policy on how the info provided to the division head would be. I noticed in the latest draft that information still isn't clearly written. The actual notice of student being designated, as needing to have involuntary leave is still unclear. That could be feedback we could provide in the form as well. The latest draft is from January right?

Lynne: No from April.

Aidan: If you have any questions, concerns, what to do to raise awareness of this, please talk to anyone. Don't let this conversation die in this room. There's two weeks until the feedback form deadline. Presumably lots of student activism and hopefully issues will come up. We should definitely ask our own constituents how they feel about this. It's our responsibility to represent the student body actively. Together we can understand how mental health works or doesn't work.

Sabrina B: A safe response would be to push back any deadlines. A big point of how it's rolling out right now is that admin could push it through this summer, but it's important to show you are aware and care, and to tell them to give us more time. The biggest question is what do all these terms mean, and all these questions are unclear. You deserve to have them made clear. Especially with Scenario 2: it's disproportionately targeted to people with mental health issues. They're trying to put it through under students' noses by putting it through this summer.

Kiana: Because the policy is so vague, literally anyone could be a target. Anyone in this room could be forced to leave. Some students have left and have not been able to return. And some people aren't even with us anymore.

Miranda: Did they specify in the meeting how we're going to monitor this, like through faculty seeing things or?

Paul: The monitoring for this comes from a) academic (supposedly going up from TAs), or b) residence students i.e. not coming out of room, and it eventually goes up to the dean. The dean could take action.

9. BIRT Naeem Ordóñez is given ex-officio status (non-voting) on Hiring Committee, Coffee Bar Board, and Constitutional Review for the 2018-2019 year. (Stella/Schweiter)

Danielle: At last meeting Meng was still here, so now we're giving Naeem official status.

MOTION CARRIES.

10. BIRT Council Ratify the Deputies for the 2018-2019 term as follows: (Stella/Schweiter)

- a. President: Sara Mandia, Soli Yared
- b. VP Internal: Justin To
- c. Clubs Deputy: Aqeel Assan Lebbe
- d. Finance: Stephen Zhang, Abhinit Malhotra
- e. Athletics: Maša Stojanović, Kennedy Boyle
- f. Equity & Outreach: Lama Karim, AJ Ubhi
- g. Literary & Creative Arts: Vaish Vijayan
- h. Mental Wellness: Melanie Mascarenhas, Jennifer Rintjema
- i. Off-Campus: Noah Kadish
- j. Services: Maria Taifour
- k. Social: Mia Đurković
- l. Spirit & Communications: Paige Chu, Kristin De Los Reyes
- m. Sustainability: Tuhi Sen
- n. University & Academic Affairs: Sara Koruthu

MOTION CARRIES.

11. BIRT Council Ratify Council Members to Commissions for the 2018-2019 Term as Follows (Stella/Tasuko)

- a. Athletics: Olivia Jordan, Priya Gupta, Aster Gerad, Sabrina Brathwaite, Artur Khasanov
- b. Equity & Outreach: Kirsten Stevens, Priya Gupta, Hiba Taha, Sabrina Brathwaite
- c. Literary & Creative Arts: Felipe Santos, Albert Hoang, Sabrina Weinstein, Thomas Pender
- d. Mental Health: Aidan Swirsky, Sabrina Weinstein, Miranda Desbiens, Priya Gupta
- e. Off-Campus: Kaitlyn Ferreira, Albert Hoang, Willa Ratz, Artur Khasanov
- f. Services: Nicole Toyama, Albert Hoang, Maureen Huang, Sabrina Brathwaite
- g. Social: Willa Ratz, Aleksandra Aleksandrova, Maureen Huang, Aster Gerad, Nicole Toyama
- h. Spirit & Communications: Aster Gerad, Hiba Taha, Parnian Tajbakhsh, Thomas Pender
- i. Sustainability: Alisa Christian, Sabrina Weinstein, Willa Ratz, Maureen Huang, Artur Khasanov
- j. University & Academic Affairs: Thomas Pender, Kiana Habibagahi, Hiba Taha, Nicole Toyama

Danielle: Create a group chat with your ratified council members.

MOTION CARRIES.

- 12. BIRT council ratify Emily Sparks as Diabolos' Operations, Sales & Marketing Managers for the 2018-2019 term. BIFRT council ratify Ronak Jain as Diabolos' Finance Manager for the 2018-2019 term. (Stella/Schweiter)**

MOTION CARRIES.

- 13. BIRT council ratify Kirsten Stevens, Sabrina Brathwaite, and Artur Khasanov as UTSU Representatives for the 2018/2019 terms. (Stella/Taha)**

MOTION CARRIES.

14. Third Floor Café

Discussion Item

Danielle: UC wants to put a café in. We had a discussion with Melinda. We have until October 2018 to say whether Diabolos' wants to run it, or it could be another café that is UC Lit run.

Paul: We would have direct say of what's served. We wouldn't want to have shops in direct competition with Diabolos'. Another proposal was to have admin run it for a year.

Albert: Last year, we were trying to figure out if Diabolos is stable and run well. This year was setting the precedent of running well. We suggested that the Lit not run it for the first year. We don't have a concrete policy. We'd like the Lit to revisit the contract, but in the first few years it'd be wise to focus on Diabolos running well. The Diabolos from 5 years ago is very different from how it is today. The rationale is to get the UC Lit a seat on the board of this new café and have input on how its run but not run it ourselves just yet.

Danielle: Melinda mentioned that if the college would be running it for a specific amount of time, it'd be run under UC Food Services, but then it'd be important to differentiate it from Fung. She mentioned an oversight board full of students, and UC students are hired for the café. Even if we don't have control over café for first year, Melinda is on board with having students oversee it.

Willa: Will it be similar to Diabolos or total separate entities?

Albert: This is part of an earlier discussion. It would not be extension of Diabolos. It wouldn't be Diabolos 2.0. It wouldn't be run under Diabolos' budget. So it'd be separate operations.

Willa: Would there be a separate coffee board?

Albert: It'd fall under Yvonne Macneil (Chief Advancement Officer) when run by UC Food Services.

Kaitlyn: It's easy to give away power but hard to get it back if UC Food Services run it for the first year. Obviously Diabolos will suffer at some capacity.

Nicole: @ Diabolos: How would the new café be different from Diabolos? Are the meat options at Diabolos kosher and halal?

Emily: Diabolos has vegetarian and vegan options, but nothing beyond that.

Nicole: Could the new café be more inclusive to kosher and halal options as well?

Paul: If admin runs it it's something we can petition for. Bagels were discussed. If no iced coffee could be offered at Diabolos, please have it up there. Ideally if they offer different things, competition won't be much of a problem for us.

Noah: Are there any discussions about UC contracting out to another company, or running as a franchise like second cup? Would the UCLit be able to run it as a franchise of i.e. Second Cup?

Albert: The idea is how to differentiate this new café from Diabolos, Reznikoff, and Fung. I'd assume they'd try to, through consultation with Diabolos, find a nice balance of what's offered. That second question, I don't think we've discussed that before.

Paul: I'd be against a third party like a franchise because they'd have a lot cheaper options and be extremely competitive with Diabolos. I hope it'd be a student run or a Reznikoff kind of thing, but I'd myself be against franchising. Our deadline for this decision is October so we have time for more discussion.

Emily: It's great that we have until October. Hopefully by that time Ronak and I could provide more info on where we stand. In order to differentiate this new café from Diabolos – Diabolos is a third wave specialty coffee. Its mostly takeaway. Though we have vegetarian and vegan options, but we could definitely change and incorporate other options. Food and drink options are limited but can expand. They're takeaway as well. Maybe the third floor coffee shop could be a stay in type.

Kaitlyn: Because there's library up there now, the 3rd floor café could be open later with the late night study option.

Nicole: What's the process for letting Diabolos know students' feedback?

Emily: We're in discussion on creating a feedback survey, and how we're going to get them out to students. We want to know if students like what we're doing so far and what they'd like to see improved.

Kirsten: If the new café is a sit-in place, like Caffiends is all stay-in, from a sustainability viewpoint that's great.

Danielle: We'll definitely consider the sustainability point of view if we manage the 3rd floor café. No straws!

Alisa: Going off what Kirsten said, I really emphasize bringing your own mugs, and also focusing on sustainability and affordability.

Miranda: If we don't operate for the first year, could the UC Lit submit suggestions?

Paul: We have CBB, we'd send representatives to this café's CBB. I'd imagine we'd have some sort of say but not as much compared to if the UC Lit ran it.

BIRT council conducts strawpoll. (Stella/Hiba)

MOTION CARRIES.

Strawpoll: BIRT it is favourable the UC Lit operate the 3rd floor café. (Stella/Hiba)

MOTION CARRIES.

Noah: Intention of the café is to hire students as we saw in our last meeting.

15. JCR Community Guidelines/ Lit Office Maintenance

Discussion Item

Danielle: The JCR is a space for regulars and a space for commuters. Because we have control over this area, we want to make sure people who do come here feel safe. It's important to interact with people here. Does anyone have any suggestions, and/or community guidelines?

Nicole: We should have a rule about how we should clean up after ourselves, since it's a dog-friendly zone.

Paul: I see a lot of frustrated looks every time someone gets on piano. A 15-minute limit on the piano should be put in place.

Sabrina: There's some people making out and being a lot, so maybe that could be something that could be addressed.

Kirsten: Alisa could probably speak on this more but including some equity guidelines would be good.

Alisa: Maybe making a poster-board sort, and use the word respect a lot. I have not thought about it, but I think it's a good idea.

Danielle: There are visible and invisible qualities to a person. One thing Paul and I suggested was working with admin was getting elevator to run accessibly. If someone can't access the JCR via the stairs then we're approving this inaccessibility.

Aster: Back on piano situation, if you want I can put up a list of alternative piano locations.

Aidan: RE: PDA, if we could come up with step-by-step way to diffuse these things and put it in the office guideline.

Sabrina B: Does the UC Lit have jurisdiction over the CSC or just the JCR?

Paul: The CSC is run by admin officially but what scope we have in there is through UCOC. Typically we've had some sort of say because the Town Hall where they set guidelines is a joint UCOC-COCO event.

Nicole: RE: PDA – going off what Aidan said, maybe we should also have a definition of what PDA means. If it's going off of who is in the Lit office, that could be subjective.

Paul: Policy is fun; we could define PDA during our summer retreats!

Albert: Could we also discuss office maintenance or is that next in this discussion?

Paul: Hey look at the office. It sucks. We're cleaning after this meeting. Please help us. Clean up your crap (food containers, and Diabolos mugs). To be fair, there's a lot of stuff from other places, ancillaries, and also renovations.

Danielle: Our side of the desk is just as messy.

Paul: We could have a checklist to ensure you've taken your things back.

Albert: I had huge complaints last year about how it is treated as a storage space and it doesn't look like an office. If you need to something in the office let us know, but things shouldn't become permanent fixtures.

Alisa: The physical setup of the office is very scary. I think we should rearrange it, move the desk toward the front of the office, but that involves cleaning. I know Danielle wanted to use it as a resource place with pamphlets, etc.

Danielle: I want the front of the office with a nice big shelf with the PMS donation box, UTSU placards, and student life has a ton of stuff. There are so many resources on campus but at times you need to go to several places to find the info.

Kaitlyn: The office is meant for students come in, but for those who commute, it'd be nice for there to be a shelf to store stuff for a day if events we host run late.

Noah: We were offered excess furniture and computers from the UTSU.

Paul: 4 iMacs!

Danielle: Because of the value of these, we must make sure the office is locked up. Be more aware that we may have money and more valuable items in there. That's also along the lines of office guidelines.

Miranda: Could we establish when you should be in the office vs. interacting in the JCR?

Paul: We talked about bringing back the office handbook. It's a guideline everyone reads when you first have your office hour. We could draft it by the end of the summer!

Miranda: I know we have a corkboard, but could we open up both doors of the office!

Aster: We normally have both doors open but we have so much stuff in there now!!!!

Aidan: Alisa said we should move the desk forward. I agree with that. Because the office is so small, a lot of the busy work is moved to the JCR. It'd be good to put us closer to the action, have resource banks, and changing stations. As for the letter board, we should put in the office guidelines on what to put up on that. The bell tower, where all the spirit wear is stored, we could use some of that space to store athletic wear, and/or other things. The space is currently not being used to its full potential.

Paul: I want to sort out with the ancillaries what the importance of their stuff is first because getting stuff up and down there is great but it's also really spooky. Also stuff up there will get dusty.

Nicole: For new student council members, when would we be told and taught about the UC Lit office and how we should operate it especially since it's messy right now?

Danielle: We could go over that at the retreat, but in August I could give a run down/workshop to the new members and go over the handbook (i.e. how to sell tickets, how to interact more with JCR people).

Nicole: The Fireball locker, is that going to be cleaned?

Paul: That's Parnian's jurisdiction. If you're ratified to Services, you can expect to clean it.

Danielle: As a council we should help out Parnian. I know with 5 people it'd take too long, but 25 people would be a lot faster.

Kaitlyn: RE: Bell Tower – we should consider who could have access to that with the tower, the spiral staircase, and what people could do up there.

Danielle: Having a bell tower key in the lock box, not sure if that's best for security reasons.

Aster: Maybe we could put all of our archives in there so it's a long-term storage space where we don't really have to touch/access it as much.

Paul: We should probably get boxes that are dust protective. It's level 8 spooky up there.

16. UCADAN Preparation for the Summer

Discussion Item

Kaitlyn: It's important to start early. Yoho was super amazing 5 years ago and then every LCA Commissioner continued to take on a lot. We'll start this online. Almost every commissioner is involved in some way. LCA, Equity, UAA, etc...every commissioner that has something planned is in charge of that, and then everyone will sign onto a task so it's not just the commission/commissioner. That way we'll ensure a wider, successful reach.

Danielle: We won't be able to use the actual quad for UCADAN. We talked about possible relocations for the quad party like Sir Dan's. There are issues on alcohol and working with CBS though if we are to do it there.

Paul: Sir Dan's quad is right beside the residences, so if students don't want to come to the quad party there'd be a rude interruption.

Kaitlyn: Schedule last year: UCOC pancakes, equity activity, UAA trivia, BBQ clubs fair, live music in JCR, and then Quad Party. If anyone doesn't want to do what's been done in the past, start thinking about new events. I'm looking at September 20th or the 27th. If anyone has

any objections to that @equity, please let me know. Last year we put it on an important religious holiday.

17. Internal Communication

Discussion Item

Paul: Someone suggested Slack. My personal opinion is sticking to Facebook. The thing is how do we hold ourselves accountable to things we say on Facebook?

Noah: I used Slack in the past because you can channel different things. With Messenger, if there's 50 messages, I don't look back to read them all.

Paul: There's a chain of importance for UC Lit business. If it's urgent and you really need people, you can post on the Facebook group, and also email if it's that important. My problem is that you already check Facebook and email. I feel like people don't want to check a third platform (Slack). I feel like Facebook being an established thing is its strength.

Felipe: With Slack you can just download the app. The channel option is really efficient; you can specifically look at what channels apply to you.

Sabrina B: I still would prefer Facebook. I'm someone who'd immediately turn off notifications for Slack and have a lack of space/storage on my phone for Slack.

Sabrina W: I'm worried that people won't know how to use the platform and there'd be miscommunication.

Albert: I think keeping it simple makes sense. Facebook is good for joking around, and email is more professional and for more important items.

Danielle: I'm neutral on this discussion item. Has anyone else used Slack? I've enjoyed Slack but I also know I'm on Facebook 24/7.

Alisa: Can you say a quick thing about Slack? Also for notifications, I also don't have notifications on because it's better for me.

Danielle: Slack could be downloaded on the computer and phone. I'm part of TEDxUofT and that's where I used it in the past. Each channel is separate and each channel has different things going on. Any announcement that execs for TEDx had to shoot out, they sent it to the announcement channel. There's a direct message option; I could message anyone. You can

add workspaces so you're only talking about UC Lit stuff. I found it efficient and I knew whenever I got a notification on Slack it was for TEDx stuff.

Alisa: I think Facebook has its problems. From what you said it's beneficial for something that's a newer organization like TEDx vs. if it's already established. I feel like there'd be issues for overlap (what to put on Facebook vs Slack) and forgetting to check it.

Danielle: TedxUofT used to use Facebook but then they switched over to doing everything on Slack.

Aster: Good thing about Facebook Messenger is that it takes on very little data. I don't know how much data Slack takes up.

Sabrina B: Even if we use it, the question is Facebook or Slack, not Facebook and Slack. There's so much overlap because we used Facebook up until now. We'd need rigid guidelines on where to post what.

Noah: If we were to do it, move UC Lit business over only. Then Slack would only be like how you answer email. You know it's more professional and focused.

Albert: Is the strawpoll really necessary?

Paul: You can according to Robarts Rules of Order. I would argue that it's useful because it's an issue we're divided on. If you guys feel like it's not necessary you can vote it down.

**BIRT council conducts strawpoll. (Schweitzer/Swirsky)
MOTION CARRIES.**

**Strawpoll: BIRT council moves to communicate via platform like Slack
(Schweitzer/Swirsky)**

MOTION FAILS.

(5 in favour, 9 opposed, 1 abstention)

18. Other Business

[no other business]

19. Quote of the Meeting

BIRT Danielle blaming Paul for the plastic straw be the Quote of the Meeting. (Stella/Petrie)

MOTION CARRIES.

20. BIRT the meeting be adjourned. (Stella/Schweitzer)

Meeting Adjourns at 1:34PM.

President:

Hey pals,

Hope exams went well, if you've still got one tomorrow then good luck!

First off, we have a few new faces on council, please welcome Artur and Sabrina, two of our UTSU reps (and our UCRC president), with the other being Kirsten! Please also give a warm welcome to Naeem, who is taking over for Meng as the new ADSL.

With exams happening, this month has been busy. Deputy interviews went smoothly from what I saw and will hopefully go smoothly today. Don't forget to email rejection emails to perspective candidates, we'll send you a template for those later today.

I met with SGRT and the Vice Provost twice this month, once as an introduction and once to discuss a number of issues, notably the mandatory leave policy. If it isn't up already, the policy will go up on U of T's website soon with an accompanying feedback form. I encourage you all to research the policy and post feedback. Feel free to meet with me after and I can give you more in depth information on what we talked about at the meeting.

Artur and I have been working with admin and food services to get more information on the the markup on bulk order form. We received a rough breakdown of the reason for the markup, consisting of taxes, increased chocolate price and labour. If you're interested in pursuing this and other fung issues in general, please contact myself, Artur, or Sabrina B.

Lastly, if you won't be here for the meetings in the summer please let Danielle or myself know ASAP. Thanks all!

Vice-President:

Good morning!

I hope exams went well for everyone! I would also like to welcome our UTSU reps, our new Diabolos' managers, and our new ADSL, Naeem! I am very excited to work with all of you <3

Yesterday, we went to the Represent Student Leadership Conference (which was a lot of fun!) and we had our exec deputy meeting to finalize all of the hiring decisions.

Summer is gonna be lit! Core-exec is planning a few workshops and a retreat (June 2-3) for the first half. We also have the UC Welcome Days coming up on June 9 and 16; everyone is expected to come to at least one of them. We have our budget meeting on May 27, so I suggest to start talking with other council members and coming up with collaborations. I am currently working with Kaitlyn and Olivia on UCADAN planning for the summer. I am also working with some of the ancillaries and soon the clubs deputy on how we can clean and reconfigure some of our spaces.

Lots of Lit Love, Danielle

Finance:

Hey everyone,

The financial documents are currently being prepared/completed for the previous year by Raye. Some of you may have recently experienced a delay in getting a reimbursement as a result of us waiting to receive our new cheque book.

In the coming weeks, core exec will be receiving signing authority on our accounts. This will also be completed for orientation and ancillaries.

Our Summer Budgeting Meeting will be held on May 27th and is coming up quickly. The summer budget includes any expenses from May to October. I will be holding a budgeting workshop for commissioners (date and time TBD) to get a better understanding of how the process works.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email. (finance@uclit.ca)

Noah

Athletics:

HEYOOO

Hope exams went well and whoever has an exam tomorrow (I feel the struggle), good luck mates J

At the beginning of May, I will meet with my deputies and discuss events for the year, summer budgeting and their responsibilities for summer intramurals & throughout the year. The intramurals team is supposed to contact me in May regarding the summer sports which will be happening. I will then release player sign-ups and captain sign-ups as soon as I have more information. Intramurals start late June and will go on till August. Once I have final teams, which will hopefully be by early June, I will start collecting deposits and distributing jerseys. As well as, I will be contacting selected captains to make Facebook groups and add players to IMLeagues. I ask all council members to help us advertise summer intramurals so that we have enough players to have legit teams. Please and thank you J

In June, I hope to clean out the athletics locker, record inventory and start ordering more jerseys and equipment as needed. I hope we can work with the council to clean out all spaces used by the Lit and make more room for sports equipment (as this is highly needed). I think if we organize specific days in June that are dedicated to cleaning out the office and other needed space, this will help us a ton in staying organized. Intramurals captain and player sign-ups will close in June as well, probably early June. Collaborate with SCC to advertise intramurals during Welcome Days, uclit website and on Facebook.

In July, we will launch captain applications for the school year. Finalize all events that my deputies and I want to organize throughout the year. As well as, start looking into Blue Jays games and times for September. I want to launch captain sign-ups in July this year.

In August, set 2 dates for the Fall captain's meeting and contact all selected captains to let them know. Open up player sign-ups as early as the first week of August and close the application for captains around the same time. Possibly might extend the captain applications if needed. Collaborate with SCC to bring promo videos + posters to advertise athletics to first years.

If you have any cool ideas or/and would like to be featured in any of the promo videos we plan on making, please let me know J

CHEERS

Aleksandra

Equity and Outreach:

Hello hello, Not much to report so far. By this meeting I will have chosen my deputies, which is very exciting. Over the next few weeks and months I'll be working with my deputies to create a general timeline of events and figure out a rough budget for those events. All very exciting and I am very excited for it!

Literary and Creative Arts:

Hey team! Hope all of your exams were sprinkled with fairy dust and you're now mostly free from the clutches of the institution we know and love. I don't have much to report on from the month of April besides completing my deputy interviews but I can tell you what's up next for the month of May! Once my deputy is hired we're going through the entire sound locker to figure out what works, what needs to be thrown out and what should be purchased/replaced. If you'd like to help with this I would be eternally grateful and a 4 hour job can become a 1 hour job. Next, we'll be budgeting for said sound locker items as well as our first few events coming up: the MyJourney Open Mic and most importantly, UCADAN! There's a discussion item on it so I won't go too in depth but the whole event is having a MAJOR overhaul.

Peace out,

Gossip Leech

Mental Health:

Hiya all! Not much to report for me. I finished my interviews and I am happy to announce that I have been able to narrow it down to two potential deputies. I hope to meet with them and other commissioners during the summer to plan for the year to come.

Off-Campus:

We're going to start to heavily work on MyJourney this month especially because this year we will be conducting the event a week earlier than usual. With the aid of my deputy and the execs I have recently hired I will complete the two main goals for this month:

1. First exec meeting

My deputy and I will carry out an alignment meeting with the execs. This will be a meeting where the execs will get to know each other, be assigned their roles and be assigned leader interviews.

2. Leader interviews and hiring

The execs will conduct all the interviews and we will have our hiring meeting done by the end of the month. We would like to get this done as early as possible so execs can begin to focus on their main roles and begin their planning. By the end of June we aim to have most of the important details sorted out, so that in July we can just iron everything out.

Felipe Santos

Services:

Hey everyone. So the main thing that services is going to be doing in the coming month is to get quotes for different things we're going to have for Red & White. I'm going to be sitting down with the orientation coordinators and execs assigned to the event to see where they're at, and to discuss any ideas that they may have. I'm also going to be asking the council to see who is in town to help clean out the fireball locker (once I have an idea of who's down to help, I'll figure out a date that works best for everyone). Finally, I'll be finalizing my choice for deputy after the exec meeting.

Social:

Hi everyone! Hope exams are going well for you all! Not much to report right now, but selecting a deputy is exciting! Other than that, I am currently in the process of brainstorming with Kaitlyn and Danielle ideas for the UCADAN quad party (which will be super super lit of course). Once again, if anyone has ideas for social events or wants to collaborate, please let me know!!

You know you love me, XOXO

- Olivia

Spirit and Communications:

"Hey everyone! It's been a productive first month for SCC, preliminarily pulling the commission together and getting the chance to do "trial runs" on a number of initiatives, to work out the kinks and set us up for the summer!

Highlights:

- Interviewed 9(!) deputy applicants, all of whom had unique skillsets that they could bring to the table. You'll find out on Sunday who I'll be asking you to ratify, with advice from core exec and last year's SCC team.
- Met with last year's team – Dan, Mahreen and AJ – a number of times to discuss transition and advice.
- Did spirit wear inventory and set up the online spirit wear system (thecanvas.com). Will work over the summer on how we would all be able to use it to input sales.
- Set up a structure for the commission. In addition to the returning Blog and Design teams (the latter of which will also assume responsibility for designing and helping choose Spirit Wear), we're starting a Social Media/Video team, and a Sponsorship team. In lieu of commission meetings, commission members and ratified Lit members can be part of any amount of these teams, which will ideally meet every 2 weeks to plan out and work on the month ahead. The Sponsorship team especially is, more than anything, an experiment – it could very well be a failure, but it's worth a try!
- Put out the Spirit Wear survey! This, as well as discussions I've had with community members, has helped to shape the brainstorming process for what Spirit Wear we are going to order, especially the orders we will be making this month for Welcome Days, MyJourney and/or Frosh. It's not a deadlined survey, but the feedback really helps so please send this out/give it to your friends :)
- Sent out the first newsletter to the UC community! Adrian from Student Life and I hope to meet over the summer to discuss staggering the Lit and Student Life newsletter timelines to maximize views/efficacy for both of us, and so things can be better cross-advertised in newsletters between the 2 departments if necessary.
- Met with core exec to discuss communications priorities for the year, including how we intend to communicate with admin/residence, clubs/ancillaries, and ourselves in relation to event planning and communications guidelines/deadlines (i.e. frequency of social media use, how the Lit will split the responsibility of advertising our events, which we hope to set in stone with the council as a unit during the summer/retreat).

- Talked with Colin from Student Life and Paul about the Residence Involvement Rep Initiative (RIRI). For those of you who don't know, RIRI is the mechanism Dan and Albert set up last year in which a rep is paired with a house council for the year, for two-way communication and ideally mentorship/advice about how to strengthen the house communities. We really want to get the structure finalized by June/July so that we are ready to greet and work with house councils even before they are elected – so over the next month (at a meeting, social or even at the retreat), I hope we and the reps will all get to assemble to come up with a vision for RIRI this year that works for all of us. We also want to loop the dons in on RIRI/Lit stuff more than was done last year, while recognizing that they are their own entity and not encroaching on them.
- Been working with the preliminary Social Media team (shoutout to Parnian, Hiba, Sabrina W., Nicole and Sarita) to get the Instagram really going again, vastly increasing our follower count and realizing some ideas the team has had for content, like affirmation graphics and especially the #ExamStudyHotSpots series on our story. We will surely be spending the summer doing more graphics/videos/things like that – with balance with the Frosh and MyJourney social media teams – about Toronto/UofT life hacks, and introducing the council and all of what UC has to offer! One piece of advice I've gotten from constituents, with which I agree, is that our social media needs an "identity" beyond just promoting events, and I'll work with the Social Media team over the summer to develop one that works for the UC Lit!
- Done housekeeping on the website – mostly on the Clubs, Commissions and Council pages, to make them more interactive, less clunky and to *always* have links to commission groups, emails and related pages, for ease of taking the next step to involvement! Thanks for submitting your facts, everyone :) The home page will also now have a slideshow graphic of upcoming event posters – during the year, that will ideally be updated weekly. A more concerted redesign of a lot of our pages will hopefully follow once we hire a Webmaster for 2018-19.
- Worked with Felipe to design advertising for the MyJourney exec applications. This was a good "trial by fire" to figure out how event advertising is going to work this year – devising more of a system for splitting the advertising amongst council, and pre-planning more shareable content involving UC community members/testimonials, tailored to the commission, are definitely goals!

Plans for this month, so far:

- I really hope you all look into our 4 sub-teams and join them! :)
- Working to develop whatever comes out of Sunday's discussion on internal communication
- Splitting responsibilities amongst myself and my deputies
- Budgeting and ordering, not just for spirit wear but for other promotional items that will help us (including but not limited to a full SurveyMonkey plan, social media ads, retractable banners and more letters for the office letter board)
- Setting up meetings with the Frosh and MyJourney social media teams about summer outreach (inc. Welcome Days)

- I'd love to meet with all the Commissioners and Reps to discuss preliminary event plans and devise possible promo strategies!
- Meet with the Social Media team especially to strategize for Facebook, Instagram and website, and plan out how we're going to get back into the Twitter and Snapchat game

Communication is central to all that we do, so I'm really looking forward to helping develop the Lit this year with all of you! :)"

Sustainability:

- had an informal meeting on April 25th to brainstorm some plans for next year
- will be holding another meeting sometime in June to discuss event/campaign ideas in more detail
- Would like to choose Tuhi as Sustainability Commission deputy based on a few points: she's attended commission meetings in the past, has prior experience on the UCRC, has worked toward incorporating sustainability on res, lots of connections with people within the UC community, prior leadership and planning experience

Best,

Kirsten Stevens

University and Academic Affairs:

Hello lovelies! Not much is happening for the month of May except for the brainstorm picnic that I'm hoping to host on the last Sunday of the month (yes there will be Krispy Kreme). My deputy is pending approval on today's council vote but I am very confident in the applicant that I picked and am so excited to start working with her!

Mid-Year Reps:

Hiya! We are starting to plan a get to know the reps/cotton candy event towards the start of the year, after the first year rep elections so we can include them in that process. We will start to budget and come up with more events during the summer. We're STILL repping

Upper-Year Reps:

Month: April

Completed this month: Did not die from exams, did SLC

What we're working on: How to best use the Rep initiative, how to outreach further into the UC community

Plans for next month: Generate event ideas, create a list of things we would like to do during the year (for example, start a "humans of UC" style exhibit in order to showcase and get to know the wider UC community not just those directly involved). See where we can help out with other councils over the summer

Proposals for the council: Hi mid year reps we would like to collaborate with you on some events or ideas, hit us up

Comments:

A Haiku about us:

Hello, we are here
We are your upper year reps
Ask us anything

Orientation:

Hey guys, April is our downtime month, we have been working on finalizing our programming red books for our executive team, meeting with Naeem to work on our vision for orientation and have had our first head leader team meeting. Next up we have our first orientation programming related meeting for our executive team, where we introduce them to their events in detail and brainstorm novel ones. Furthermore, we are looking at our retreat during the first weekend of May, followed by our first joint head leader and executive team meeting! Stay tuned xoxoxo Dan and Kaitlyn

UC Review:

None Submitted.

UC Follies:

None Submitted.

Diabolos:

Hi, my name is Emily and I'm going to be the Operations Manager at Diabolos this year along with my co-manager Ronak. I'm just finishing up my second year in a Political Science and History double major, and I'm a part of UC. I've most likely seen a bunch of you before if I don't already know you, because the JCR has always been my home base on campus and I also worked this past year at Diabolos as a barista under the reign of Ema and Snow. This past year was awesome for the coffee shop and everyone who worked there, and Ronak and I have some big shoes to fill. Diabs is looking forward to providing the students and staff of UofT their much needed caffeine fix for another year.

"Hey everyone!

My name is Ronak and I recently finished my second year at UofT. I am doing a double major in math and economics. My interest mostly lies in eating pizza but other than that I also keep a keen interest in current affairs.

I have always loved to do something in financial planning and budgeting. Working for diabolos is another chapter of taking a step ahead in doing what I love and I cannot wait to make the most out of it. :) "

UCRC:

None Submitted.

Gargoyle:

None Submitted.

UTSU:

None Submitted.

SLC:

"I am the current Assistant to the Dean of Students, Student Life at UC. Prior to this I worked at Chestnut Residence as Assistant Dean, Student Life and Leadership and before that at Ryerson University as the Student Life Coordinator for the Faculty of Arts. I am a graduate of McMaster University where I was heavily

involved in student government. I have also worked at the University of Guelph for 7 years and 2 years at the University of Calgary. My past work experience in the field includes working with students both in areas of Student Life as well as Residence Community Living. I am really interested in student leadership, student involvement and equity/diversity issues within student life. I am really excited to work with and support the various student led and student facilitated activities and organizations that add to the rich culture of student involvement at UC. I am looking forward to get to know each and every one of you and do know that should you ever have a question or concern I am available to chat with you and provide any support I can.”