

Attendance

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

SOCIAL

Francesca Campos

SERVICES

Victoria Kourtis

ATHLETICS

Abbey Kachmar

SPIRIT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Sylvia Urbanik

Representatives

UPPER YEAR

Sameer Rai

Felipe Vicencio-Heap

MIDDLE YEAR

Paul Schweitzer

Michelle Beyn

Sara Mandia

Albert Hoang

Catherine Zhou

FIRST YEAR

Thomas Pender

Minli Chen

Danielle Stella

Martha Beach Bartel

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Tisha Hasan

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSIONER

Michelle Zhong

UTSU Directors

VOTING

Mira El Hussein

EX-OFFICIO NON-VOTING

Ryan Hume

Chimwemwe Alao

Staff

SPEAKER

Eric Schwenger

SECRETARY

Nicole Gumapac

Guests

Student Life Coordinator
Varsity Reporter
Spirit and Communications Deputy
UC Member

Meng Lim
Jack Denton
Delrina Nguyen
Matthew Fonte

Not in Attendance

OFF-CAMPUS
UPPER-YEAR REPRESENTATIVE
FIRST YEAR REPRESENTATIVE

Abby Godden
Jonathan Liang
Anushka Kuria

1. Call to Order

The meeting is called to order at 11:20 AM.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

Chimwemwe reads the land acknowledgment statement.

**3. BIRT the agenda be approved as amended (Singh/El Hussein).
BIFRT item 6 is moved down to take place to be the new item 9
(Urbanik/Vicencio-Heap).**

Due to the time-consuming nature of the agenda items, Sylvia would like to have items 8 (Orientation Deficit) and 9 (Budget Process) moved up to take place after reports. Daman states that it would make more sense to move item 6 (Gender Neutral Washrooms Discussion) down, as item 5 isn't a substantial item, and item 7 (Follies Deficit) is related. The original motion is friendly amended to reflect this change.

MOTION CARRIES.

MAIN MOTION CARRIES.

4. Reports

a. President

Ramsey reads his report.

Eric asks if Jack is recording this meeting; Jack responds affirmatively.

b. Vice-President

Daman reads his report.

c. Finance

Snow reads her report.

Mira clarifies that the Diabolos espresso machine has been fixed. Ramsey gives a shout out to Snow for all the work she has put into preparing the audit, as well as for her work as Finance Commissioner.

d. Equity and Outreach

Chimwemwe reads his report.

e. Literary and Creative Arts

Ryan reads his report.

f. Mental Health

Tisha reads her report.

g. Off-Campus

Paul delivers the report on Abby's behalf. Paul talks about the Skating and Nando's UCOC social in December. The WTFITSBOAT (Why is F is the Semester Beginning on a Thursday) party was a success given the short amount of advertising. UCOC is looking to hold a Smash tournament soon, as well as a Hart House Farm retreat, but is running into logistic problems re: the retreat.

h. Services

Victoria reads her report.

Abbey walks in at 11:38 AM.

i. Social

Francesca reads her report.

j. Athletics

Abbey reads her report.

k. Spirit and Communications

Sylvia reads her report.

l. Sustainability

Michelle reads her report.

m. University and Academic Affairs

Aidan reads his report. *Snow leaves the room at 11:43 AM.*

n. UC Review

Albert reads his report. *Snow re-enters the room at 11:45 AM.*

o. UTSU

Mira reads her report.

p. Student Life Coordinator

Meng apologizes for not submitting a report as she just came back from vacation. She also states that she is trying her best to get through emails as fast as possible. Meng encourages everyone to attend the UConnect: UC Leadership Conference on Saturday; the deadline to apply for UC CoCos and Residence Dons 2017-2018 is coming up this Thursday, and she also encourages everyone to consider applying for these positions. Ramsey asks where she was during the holidays. Meng replies that she was in Australia.

Daman apologizes for not having any minutes for approval sent out from last meeting, as Nicole was not present to take minutes. Daman will send the minutes to them for edits and will have the minutes ready for approval next meeting.

5. BIRT an amendment to Policy, Chapter 4, section II be added to read as follows: "Represent the Society on College Council".

(Swirsky/Andary)

MOTION CARRIES.

6. UC Follies Deficit

Ramsey says that the UC Follies need financial help because their production of Dogfight (December 2016) was not as successful as they anticipated, and resulted in a sizeable deficit. The Hart House theatre invoice is around \$12,000, and the exec of the UC Follies have already talked to Snow and Ramsey about steps moving forward. Remitting the invoice is not a pressing matter (the deficit can be paid off in installments, grants can help pay them off, as well as fundraisers) but because the UC Follies is an ancillary (meaning that they are mandated to receive a certain amount of levied funds from students) of the Lit, Daman clarifies that the deficit of the Follies is independent from the Lit. Thus, the Follies are financially independent from the Lit, although they are technically under the Lit umbrella. Albert asks how many shows the Follies have left in the year. Ramsey answers that they have two tiny shows in February for the U of T Drama Festival that are budgeted at around \$200 each show. Snow adds that they are also producing Myrmidons at the end of the year. Ramsey adds that they don't need to spend money on acquiring production rights for the drama festival, so costs are cut down; Snow says that they might even bring in a profit of \$500 based on past revenue projections. Felipe asks what will happen if the Lit doesn't extend financial help to the Follies, due to their financial independence. Ramsey and Daman respond that despite being financially independent from the Lit, it would be fiscally irresponsible and inconsiderate of the longevity of the ancillary to let them fall through the cracks. Felipe suggests that the Follies could wait on next year's levy installment to help pay off this year's deficit. Snow affirms that this was something that Core Exec and the Follies were looking into. Daman adds that they are taking active internal steps to ensure that they learn from this experience and that this does not happen again. *Matthew Fonte walks in at 12:01 PM. Albert leaves the room at 12:02 PM.* Ramsey states that although the Follies used the same projection numbers from Winter 2015's production, Dogfight was less mainstream than their other production (Legally Blonde), but prior to their showing, they thought that they could get the same number of people to come out.

7. Orientation Deficit

Ramsey reads an apology letter from Abby (Appendix B) in her absence.

During the Winter break, unpaid invoices of \$8,000 were discovered by Snow and Ramsey while they were closing the books for the Orientation account. Ramsey contacted Chef Michael (UC Food Services) and discovered an unpaid invoice of \$7,200 for UC Food Services from Orientation Week. A \$600 unpaid invoice was for website hosting, as well as honoraria for the web designer. A \$250 invoice (which has to be confirmed) has to be remitted to the Pharmacy Department, for providing First Aid Training for the execs. Altogether, there is a deficit of

approximately \$10,000 from Orientation that has to be taken away from Contingency. As the consequence of this financial mismanagement, the Orientation Co-Chairs have voluntarily stepped down from their involvement in hiring committee for the 2017 Orientation Co-Chairs. *Albert re-enters the room with Korean food at 12:10 PM, which he does not share with the rest of Council.* Snow states that as of current, Council's contingency fund is at 2% (\$2,000); she emphasizes that it's important to keep contingency at approximately 12% for Council to be in a financially healthy position. Ramsey clarifies that Contingency has to be increased by at least \$10,000 because a portion of Contingency from 2016-2017's Council is restricted by the Finance Commission for the following Council's summer budget, to ensure that they have sufficient funds for the mid-April to October period for activities such as MyJourney, UCADAN and others. Ideally, there would be at least \$15,000 for the summer budget.

Due to the instability of Orientation's finances this year, there's the possibility of further outstanding invoices, so Snow would like the Contingency fund to be replenished to at least \$12,000. Mira asks for clarification as to how this amount of money went unpaid without anyone noticing. Daman answers that UC Food Services and other facets of UC Administration have maintained good working relationships with the UC Lit, so administration was fairly lenient regarding invoices. Ramsey corroborates Daman's claim, stating that Chef Michael thought that all invoices were paid off ("Oh, you must've paid it off, for sure!" –Ramsey's imitation of Chef Michael) until they double-checked with UC Food Services' bookkeeping. Kelly asks what preventative measures can be taken in the future to avoid this from occurring in the future, as well as what accountability measures will be taken towards the Co-Chairs. Ramsey replies that currently, signing authorities for the Orientation account include the Lit Core Exec, Co-Chairs as well as Orientation Finance Execs; however, in the future, all Orientation cheques will have to be countersigned by a member of Core Exec in addition to members of their own party. In terms of a contract, Ramsey states that he will look into staggering stipend installments, such that the final two installments will only be released when the books for Orientation are officially closed.

Aidan points out that in Policy (Chapter 6, Section II, Sub-Section E), the release of honoraria after the books are closed is already in the Constitution, so why did the Co-Chairs get paid before expenses were sorted out? Snow responds that she asked them to hold off on last pay, but the Orientation Team signed off on their own; this could be solved with a stricter policy in the future. Daman adds that some changes were made a long time ago, but are only being implemented now. Ramsey states that Core Exec will be meeting with Spirit and Communications afterwards as to how this information will be presented to the Lit's constituents; there is nothing

to hide, but Core Exec wants to ensure that the mental well-being of past employees of the Lit are taken into account. Felipe asks how this disparity arose, given that the UC Orientation Budget was balanced back when it was ratified in the summer. Snow responds that with the Lit's budget, expenditures are always being tracked to ensure that they don't exceed what was budgeted, but revenue tracking is different. Debit and credit payments for the Orientation account go straight through the account as opposed to operating through a reimbursement system. Snow says that she provided a cash tracking sheet to keep track of revenue, but it was not used effectively.

Ramsey and Core Exec will be conducting an internal audit to see where mistakes arose, and Snow is asking for a breakdown of actual expenditures and receipts from Orientation. Felipe asks if there is the possibility of misappropriation of funds from the Orientation Team, as this happened in past years. Ramsey discourages speculation, as there has been no reason to assume that this has happened, but an internal audit will be conducted of the Orientation budget. In past years, Snow received the spreadsheet directly from Orientation, so it was easier to keep track of, but this year, these were not provided. Felipe asks when the internal audit would be released. Ramsey responds that it should be out by the next council meeting. *Matthew Fonte exits the meeting at 12:38 PM.* Felipe suggests that members of Core Exec should be kept separate from the Orientation Team. Ramsey adds that last year's president had a strong inclination to transition presidents to make sure that they're not on Orientation so that they could be held accountable to the Lit rather than to Orientation Executive. Daman states that this was reflected in Ramsey's decision to step down from Orientation Executive when he found out that he won the election to avoid conflict of interest. Felipe clarifies that Council is making cuts to the budget now to replenish Contingency as opposed to leaving the deficit to future council. Daman responds that Council isn't obligated to make cuts now, but it would be fiscally irresponsible not to do this. As Board of Directors for a corporation (the Lit), it is important to ensure the longevity of the organization by having a stable budget, even after their fiscal term ends. Felipe asks for clarification on what "stable" means. Daman responds that stable implies enough funding to last from May to October. He adds that the corporation will be here for years after they're gone, but as Board of Directors, they need to ensure the Corporation for more than one term.

Michelle B. asks if they could withhold the stipend if the co-chairs did not do their job properly. Daman responds that there are labour regulations regarding respecting past employees and withholding one's pay that have to be taken into consideration for corporations; thus a legal opinion would be needed. Michelle B. rephrases her question to focus on repercussions as opposed to legal aspects. Ramsey responds that for hired positions, if responsibilities aren't

filled, repercussions would be looked into. Mira asks for transparency and openness so that students know what's going on, given the track record of student governments in recent months over a lack of accountability and openness. She asks what would be included in a Facebook post or a listserv if an announcement were to go out. Ramsey responds that at the moment, they don't know how a post is going to go as they have not yet met with Sylvia (Spirit and Communications) to discuss it, but echoes the sentiment that while they have a responsibility to Society members, that they also have a responsibility to past hired staff members. Jack states that this story will probably run in the Varsity over the next few days; he asks for clarification as to whether all meetings are open, whether the budget is open, whether minutes are uploaded, etc. Eric responds that these questions can be clarified after the meeting, but that all documents and meetings are open. Sameer asks what the current contingency account is. Snow clarifies that funds from Contingency will be moved towards the UC Orientation deficit, and then will be replenished by cutting back on Council expenses. *Tisha leaves the room at 12:53 PM.* Kelly states that it is better to advertise and address this issue so that people know, but expresses frustration over having received this information late. She doesn't have enough information to make a proper decision over what will happen, and asks if other members of Council feel similarly. Ramsey responds that this information was only discovered a week ago, and there was a delay between having the information and providing it to Council because he wanted to figure out the full picture first. Information about the Orientation deficit was sent to Council Executive, not so much as to inform folks of the situation, but to ensure everyone was cognizant of their budgets to avoid overspending. He adds that due diligence needed to be carried out before providing everyone with information. *Tisha re-enters the room at 12:57 PM.* Jack asks about other financial mismanagement that has occurred with UC Orientation and whether they had a budget going into it. Ramsey responds that between the budgeting process and where Council is currently, there were multiple steps leading to where everyone is. Sameer states that there were a lot of internal issues and to be careful about presenting things as controversial. To clarify, he states that set-up has changed more than it has in previous years for UC Orientation. No money went missing, but rather, prices increased beyond what was budgeted for. He states that to book Fung for morning breakfast increased from approximately \$3,000 to \$6,500, so it's not that invoices were lost, but rather, things ended up being more expensive than what was budgeted for. Michelle B. agrees, stating that Fung breakfast did not increase with cost of inflation. There was no system for keeping track because everyone worked in different groups for different projects, so it was difficult financially. Eric asks everyone to be respectful throughout this discussion.

Abbey states discomfort with how the co-chairs removed themselves from hiring committee but still will be transitioning the new co-chairs, suggesting that they should either be in or out. Mira responds, stating that Abby should have had more financial oversight and that was a failure, but also adds that Orientation is a huge responsibility and that it would be naïve to place blame solely on Abby and Julia. They both have had the experience of things going hugely wrong, so for the future of Orientation, it would be good to have the incoming Co-Chairs transitioned since they are experienced with what repercussions can occur so that they can pass that knowledge on. Daman also responds, stating that Council is not looking for punitive damage and that this is not the correct way to go about this; rather, he re-centres the discussion to ensure that Orientation doesn't have this issue in the future rather than to punish people who have been previously involved with Orientation. He adds that transition would be horrendous for any co-chair, given that the people who are most experienced with the position were the last co-chairs. Abbey clarifies that she was not seeking any punitive damage. Ramsey agrees that Orientation involves things other than just financial aspects, and that nobody knows the position better than the other co-chairs. For any concerns regarding transitions for Finance Exec, Ramsey states that he will aid with transitioning those folks, also enlisting a few other people who have had experience with financial management.

Mira states that Council needs to control how this information gets out. She states that she likes the Varsity and what not, but it's going to look bad on Council if they are not the first to release the information. She understands that this has been a busy week (re: Winterfest) but in the future, to please keep this in mind before discussing things of this magnitude with Council. Chim agrees, stating it's better for Constituents to find out through the Lit rather than through the Varsity. Sameer states that he doesn't see the issue as controversial; he agrees that it is a big problem but doesn't understand the media publication for it. Daman clarifies that if a statement were to be release, it would be to clarify as to why Lit events would need to be cut in order to offset the deficit, rather than to talk about the Orientation deficit itself. Ramsey states that he did reach out to Sylvia both yesterday morning (Saturday) and last night (Saturday) regarding possibilities: if they met before the Council meeting, it would be exclusionary to everyone, but if they met after the Council meeting, information would not be released fast enough, so he is asking folks for a bit of empathy regarding the situation while still trying to do their due diligence to past hired employees. Mira also adds that Council doesn't get to establish what is or isn't controversial, but just don't want folks to misinterpret anything as a cover-up. Aidan agrees, stating that a juncture between speed and facts needs to be reached. Victoria states that Abby and Julia did a good job on Orientation as a whole, and asks what can be done on the Finance side, since Ramsey will

already take a role in transitioning the Co-chairs with the finances. She adds that us choosing the finance exec and helping keep track of their finances might be a good idea, since Snow does an amazing job with Council expenses. Ramsey agrees but adds that they need to be able to function independently as an ancillary and that the Lit still has to manage their own budget as well. Jack asks for a copy of Abby's resignation letter. Eric clarifies that it is not a resignation letter and that her consent will be asked first for it.

BIRT Council recesses for 15 minutes to review the budget (Andary/Hume).

Motion carries. Council recesses at 1:28 PM.

Tisha exits the meeting at 1:29 PM.

Recess lifted at 1:45 PM.

8. BIRT the budget be opened for amendments (Andary/Vicencio-Heap)

BIFRT the following reallocations be made:

\$8,046 from Contingency to Line 1504: Orientation Deficit.

MOTION CARRIES.

Snow states that in order to bring Contingency up to approximately 12%, a total of \$9,986 in cuts need to be made to the operating budget.

BIFRT the following decreases be made:

Decrease Line 106: All Night Fung by \$1,500.

Ramsey motivates for this, saying that Fung staff members were hired to sell food overnight, but after speaking with Colin and UCRC, All Night Fung can still be pulled together with less money because of UCRC's portion of money set aside. Felipe points out that in the last meeting, All Night Fung needed to be increased by \$1,000 and asks if this would be a problem; Ramsey replies that it will be okay.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 108: Rep Initiative Fund by \$400.

Felipe motivates, saying that it has been halfway through the year and no one has used it still.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 606: Poetry Slam by \$550.

Ryan originally budgeted for things like gift cards, food, etc.; he proposes a cut to everything except \$50 for gift cards since the UTSU will cover the rest. Abbey asks if he wants to give himself a bit of leeway in case unforeseen expenses arise. Ryan replies, "No".

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 805: Spring UCPC by \$250.

Francesca bases this decrease on last UCPC sales.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 806: Grad Pub Night by \$500.

Francesca bases this decrease on previous grad pub night events.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 909: Hart House Farm Retreat by \$1,050.

Paul states that realistically, they won't be able to book Hart House Farm, so he proposes a decrease. Daman responds, saying that the quote he gave Paul was just for the cabin, and if UCOC were to bus there, he would still need around \$600. Paul states that everyone will carpool. Daman proposes allocating \$170 for gas money. Paul agrees; this is friendly amended.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 914: Pursuit OCR revenue by \$300 and expenses by \$500.

Paul states that this was a hypothetical event that won't be carried forward. Snow asks if he is changing the name now. Paul responds that he will change the name to "Active Fun UCOC" or something like that.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 1102: Spiritwear and Promotions by \$2,350.

Sylvia states that unlike other commissions that need events to meet their mandate, SCC does not, so she would rather decrease spiritwear for second semester and focus on selling material from first semester. She says that SCC is on track of meeting their revenue projection as well.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 1103: Community Engagement by \$750.

Jack exits the meeting at 2:07 PM.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 1309: UC Waterbottles by \$500.

Michelle Z. states that this was originally a collab with SCC, but it is too late in the year to release them.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 404: Skyzone expenses by \$1,166, revenue by \$100.

Abbey was looking forward to this event, but the athletics commission has been meeting their mandate throughout the year. Victoria is against this decrease, stating that this trip is a good opportunity for non-athletic UC students or students who aren't involved with the athletic commission to still engage and have fun. Mira echoes this sentiment, adding that Abbey did a phenomenal job in revitalizing the commission portfolio from previous years, inadvertently throwing shade at Eric; Eric is taken aback.

MOTION FAILS.

Decrease Line 705: Awards Banquet by \$800.

Victoria states that given the amount of alcohol consumption during the night, you need carbs to absorb the alcohol, so there will be a sushi bar. Ramsey is okay with the decrease so as long as there is other food out when drinks are available. Victoria responds that yes, there will be food for the entire night. Felipe says that biologically, you need to eat before to absorb the alcohol. Mira responds, saying you can eat both before and after. Kelly proposes getting less expensive food. Sylvia states that Victoria covered all her bases, and that generally people will drink, eat dinner, have fun, and won't return for more food at the end of the night. Abbey says that it is budgeted for four pieces of sushi per person.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 804: Trivia Night by \$200.

Aidan has talked to Francesca, and is combining UAA's Trivia with the Profs with Social's Trivia Night so there is just one "Trivia Night with the Profs" event. The proposed reduction reflects this collaboration.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 1004: Commission Meetings by \$120

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 207: Miscellaneous by \$200.

Daman motivates, stating that there was originally \$400 budgeted for food, and since one semester has passed, it's unlikely that the entire \$400 will be used for food.

Ramsey agrees, but states that (Victoria, don't read the next part) the bouquet for the Services Commissioner after Fireball generally comes out of this fund.

MOTION CARRIES.

Decrease Line 406: Raptors Game expenses by \$385 and revenue by \$725.

MOTION CARRIES.

BIFRT \$9,710 be moved to Contingency (Andary/Kourtis).

MOTION CARRIES.

BIFRT the budget be closed (Andary/Kourtis).

MOTION CARRIES.

9. Gender Neutral JCR Bathrooms

Mira states that "gender is so 1984" and that in line with the rest of UC's residences, houses and facilities, the washrooms in the JCR should also be gender neutral. This is not only to ensure that all facilities are inclusive to non-binary, intersex and trans folks, but also ensures that hygiene products are available to all folks who need them. Gender neutral JCR washrooms have been in the works for a long time, but there was no follow through before. Daman also mentions that he talked to administration, stating that they are also looking into accessible washrooms for the JCR. He also states that there are technical requirements for being a gender neutral washroom, and it cannot be advertised as an official gender neutral washroom until these requirements are reviewed and met. One of the seats of the toilets also fell off in one of the washrooms, which

administration is aware of. Ryan responds that there are still gender neutral signs up on the JCR washrooms from the Winterfest Drag Show. Meng adds that anything can be done to the physical space that Council occupies as long as there is a consensus from Council. Before Paul leaves, he asks if there's a formal motion to be voted on; Daman says there isn't, but Mira says that a vote will be conducted for accountability. *Paul exits the meeting at 2:42 PM.* Daman states that the signage for gender neutral washrooms needs to be accessible for those outside the social justice discourse circle, as well as those with language barriers. Mira and Chim echo these sentiments. Mira ends motivating by saying that if any folks have any questions as to why gender neutral washrooms are important, she is more than willing to provide resources to read through so that everyone has a thorough understanding as to why this is important.

BIRT Council take on the process of making the JCR washrooms gender neutral (El Hussein/Singh).

MOTION CARRIES.

10. Other Business

Mira gives a shout out to Nicole for the work that they've been doing as Secretary. They type minutes awkwardly while folks claps for them. Ramsey tells Council about a feedback form that will be going around to make sure that everyone is well supported in terms of commission operations. Abbey advertises the Skyzone trip on February 3rd; advertising will begin on Monday. It costs \$3 per person and she encourages everyone to cost. Victoria will send a spreadsheet to everyone to sign up and help with Fireball. Aidan advertises UAA's events on the 23rd (Academic Success Jeopardy) and the 27th (Academic Minds: Mental Health in the University). For the latter, a therapist will be coming from CAMH as a speaker and Tisha has been working really hard on this event. Daman reminds everyone that office hours start tomorrow. Sylvia asks everyone to send her events for the listserv and the website, including anything for the AGM. Felipe offers to switch his office hours given his flexible schedule if anyone's current office hour doesn't work for them.

11. BIRT Council adopt the following as Quote of the Meeting (Andary/Singh).

Mira throwing shade at Eric regarding his role as Athletic Commissioner

MOTION CARRIES.

12. **BIRT the meeting be adjourned (Singh/Urbanik)**

MOTION CARRIES.

Meeting adjourns at 2:56 PM.

Reports (Appendix A)

President:

Hey Council!

I hope you all had a restful holiday break! Here are a few things to update you on from my end:

- Winterfest is now over! Thanks to everyone on council who contributed to the events last week.
- All Night Fung was a success overall! We took some good notes on the things to change/improve next semester.
- Hiring: We're currently in the middle of hiring the Orientation 2017 co-chairs. Coming up in the next few months will be positions such as UC Follies Execs, Speaker, and Secretary.

I also just want to remind everyone that with a new year and beginning of the second semester, it's often very easy to feel like our term as council is almost done and to lay back a little. This year is far from over and, just the same way things began for us back in April 2016, our experience on the Lit, as well as our contributions to students and to each other is what we make of it; this will be our legacy as the UC Lit council 2016-2017. There is always something to do, and always someone who needs a little extra help. Please do not lose sight of that and remember that after all, we are one team that can only function as a team who supports each other. Let's keep pushing through the rest of this semester together and give it our all!

Vice-President:

Hey friends,

Welcome back from the break, hope everyone had a nice holiday season. Not too much to update on, the AGM is coming up later this month so keep posted for updates on that. There is a Clubs Fair coming up on this Thursday in the JCR, if you have some time stop by. The new office hour schedule starts tomorrow, if you didn't fill out the Doodle you were assigned a spot that needed to be filled. If you can't make that time, please contact me and we'll try to find you someone to switch with.

Thanks friends

Finance:

The most stressful month by far...

- Met for Fireball Ticket Sales (Vic will talk about it more!! Yay Fireball!!)
- Looking into whether Diabolos is on the right track with revenue and costs
- Finished/submitted the audit
- We'll be working on replenishing contingency today due to the excess orientation expenses.

We can do it!

Athletics:

Greetings Sports Fans,

Winter Intramurals are starting Monday, YAY! The total number of people this year who have signed up for a UC sports team is a whopping 616! We have a total of 21 teams that have run or are currently running this year. It is amazing to be apart of getting so many students involved, and I just wanted to share it with all of you because that is what we are all here for at the end of the day: helping students find their avenue to get involved with UC. I feel tremendously lucky and humbled to have a commission that has such a great outreach.

A Captain's meeting happened on Thursday but I am writing this on Monday and I can't tell the future but I'm sure there was great pizza.

We have a very exciting event coming up: Friday, February 3rd Athletics will be having a field trip to Skyzone! But not just any trampoline park experience, this is the turntest of the turnt trampoline experiences featuring blacklights, lasers, live DJ, a free t-shirt and sky socks! It is going to be LIT AF and a total Fireball Pre. There are 40ish tickets and the price is \$3 and if you've never been to Skyzone I highly encourage you to come to this event. If you have gone to Skyzone, you haven't experienced it like this before! Tickets are on a first come first serve basis. This is an awesome event especially for people who aren't sports inclined, but want to just jump around and be a child and get a workout that is actually fun. I am going to start advertising for this event as well as send out an email on how to sell the spots during office hours on Monday so please help me thankz. Spread the word to all your friends and fellow commission members pls.

Execs: Please expect an email soonish from me asking your for the names of your commission award winners. I want these names early so we can get customized awards this year. Just warning ya to be ready with a name by February 18th. (Awards Gala is on March 25th).

That is all.

Equity and Outreach:

Literary and Creative Arts:

Mental Health:

Hello ☺

I hope everyone has a restful break and a super duper great start to the winter semester! Everything is going absolutely amazing for the Mental Health Commission. I couldn't think of anything running any smoother.

Back in December, we had an awesome JCR de-stressor. People seem to really like making gingerbread houses and cookies.

Peer 2 Peer is a new on campus support group that is collaborating with University College Mental Health Commission to provide weekly support groups run by peer facilitators. So far we have interviewed and secured 14 great Peer facilitators that are in the midst of being trained to facilitate a proper support group for mental health. We plan on having our first actual session by mid-end of January. So please come by to eat, chat and make friends!

UAA and Mental health Commission is collaborating with Woodsworth's Deans office DiversiTea to put on a Mental Health Conference called Academic Minds. This conference is dedicated to reducing stigma around campus and raising awareness. Please help promote it.

That is all <3

Off-Campus:

Services:

Good morning sunshines!

Okay so we are now 27 days away from Fireball!! Yes, much stress, much happiness, much much much of basically everything!

This coming week we will be starting in person tickets (date has not yet been determined when writing this report) where students (both UC and non-UC) and alumni can purchase a ticket to the event. These will be done during office hours but they will not be done by council members, unless you would like to help out. The finance commission has offered to help with ticket sales so there will be one member of Snow's commission at the front table in the JCR by the fireplace and they simply need access to a cash box that will be labelled in the drawer.

Also, since Fireball is coming up I feel the need to remind everyone of their responsibilities as a member of council. You were ratified to this council to be there for other members of council during their events because the student body believed that you could best represent them! Please help me best represent my commission and be efficient and helpful on FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. Fireball and the Room Heads are my children and I will have no problem telling you to pull yourself together and do the job you're supposed to be doing if you are taking away from my child.

Set up on Friday will begin at 2pm and will go until 10pm. Saturday will start at 10am and go until 5pm. Clean up on Sunday will start at 12pm and go until the building is back to its beautiful, undecorated self. With that 12pm being said, I do not want any of you saying "oh I had a really bad hang over" or "I was just so tired". I really don't care. Sleep in the JCR if you'll have a problem because that's not the way a team works.

27 days.

Bye, Vic

Social:

Happy New Year everyone!

Social had pretty good turnout for events last semester. Thanks everyone for promoting and sharing all the events. Trivia Night is set out for February 16th, we will be talking more about it on our meeting tomorrow (January 16th) so if you have any ideas or want to help out feel free to come!

Spirit and Communications:

Nothing to Report

Sustainability:

- The sustainability commission meeting will be on Jan 17th in the Alumni Lounge.
- I am in contact with Trinity sustainability commission to discuss more details about our collaboration event.
- The CSC wants to collaborate on a Bean Event. I will be meeting them this Tuesday (right after submitting this report) to talk more about it. I will update on this during the council meeting.
- I (will be) in contact with CSC about getting plants for common rooms before it gets too cold.

University and Academic Affairs:

UC Review:

Hey party people,

THE UC REVIEW Winter 2016 IS PRINTING!!

It's going to be dope and so so cool. It will be released at our launch party on Tuesday January 31, which starts at 1PM and runs until 4PM. The Facebook event page will be released next week, so please hype up everyone and invite people to the event so everyone can enjoy our lovely journal.

I've also created a separate website for the UC Review at ucreview.ca. Please check it out and let me know what you think. We're looking for feedback so we can improve it, so any comments (constructive) would be very appreciated ☺

Finally, the submission period for our Spring 2017 edition will be open until February 11th. Please encourage people to submit (or submit yourself!) and invite people to the Facebook event. This will also have UC alumni content (looking at your haikus Eric!). Lots of cool stuff happening.

Stay cool (or warm),

Albert

UC Follies:

1. The Follies are currently working on our two submissions to the U of T Drama Festival. The first play is "Just the Fax, Ma'am, Just the Fax" written by Lucas Loizou, and the second play is "Touch" written by Marium Raja. Both plays have been cast and rehearsals are well underway for the Festival coming up in February.

2. The Follies is currently casting for our final production of the year, the Greek fragmentary play "Myrmidons", directed by James Hyett.

That's it for now!

UTSU:

Matt Thomas was hired as the VP External for the rest of the year and Winterfest will be running this week

SLC:

Abby's Letter (Appendix B)

Dear UC Lit Council,

I'm writing this in lieu of my absence at today's meeting. Although I'm unable to be with you, I wanted to take the time to write to you all.

My Orientation journey has been a rocky one. I knew that in taking the position of cochair, I would be faced with challenges. My priority from the start has been (through direct and indirect interactions) to build a supportive and connected team. Not only within my executive team, but with each party we interacted with. I've always believed that

Orientation is critical not only because of its importance to the incoming class, but also because it sets the foundation of the college community. A community that has given me so much, and a community this council provides so much for beyond frosh.

This council has held a dear place in my heart since my first interaction with it at MyDef. I cannot explain how much of an honour it has been for me to serve as your UCOC – not for the reasons I suspected I would be honoured of at the start of my term. This council has been truly outstanding in its capacity for compassion for its students and passion for the work we provide for them. I have never seen a Lit so driven towards this community. I am so honoured to work with you all. I do not deserve the opportunity to work with a group of such wonderful people.

To think that my work with Orientation has had such a devastating effect on our council and our community, breaks my heart. My intention was to provide a positive and supportive experience to everyone involved in or with orientation – and in that, I failed. I'm truly devastated at the outcome of my cochair experience. The UCLit has done nothing to deserve the position we have placed you in.

I've tried writing this portion of the letter so many times and each sounds more hollow than the last. It is not enough to say I'm sorry. It is not enough to say I wish it were different, or that if I could turn back time I would change things. Nothing I can say or do will make up for the impact I have caused. I suppose that it is for that reason I am anguishing over the outcome of my orientation. What does my apology mean in the face of stripping away opportunities for this community to connect and grow? The very same kind of opportunities that led me to be the person I am, to have a home away from home.

The responsibility for this outcome lies with me, and lies with my team. I failed in my intention to build a supportive and connected team. I have let you all down, and this community down, and for that I am ashamed.

I've removed myself from the role of hiring the next cochairs, the responsibility of their hiring should be in the hands of the hiring committee following what's happened. I trust that they will perform their duties in hiring the leaders of orientation's next generation. As my last official duty as cochair, I will be putting my all into transitioning the next coordinators and doing the best I can to ensure they are set up for success and will not make the same mistakes I did.

I hope that I can in part make up for my failures through my future work with you all. I want you to know how much admiration and respect I have for you. I'm sorry is not enough, but there is little else to say. I truly am sorry.

Yours,
Abby Godden.