Present:

Donald Ainslie | Alexander Surgenor | Yvonne MacNeil
John Marshall | Krystal Thomson | Jerry Plotnick
Alana Clarke | Amanda Stojcevski | Ian Radforth
Scott Rayter | Edward (Ted) J. Wells | Melinda Scott
Jesse Berlin | Meng Lim | Eric Schwenger
Nikki Tavassoli | Alexander Leggatt | Lorissa Kinna
James Reilly | Andrea Williams | 
Jenny Purtle | Siobhan O’Flynn | 
Barbara Fischer | Munira Lila | 
Nelson Wiseman | Bob Boeckner | 
Sarah Wakefield | Isabelle Cochelin | 
Stephen Johnson | Alan Ackerman | 
Tania Li | Rick Salutin | 

Regrets:

Shelley Cornack
Nikki Cesare-Schotzko
Sean Xu
Ryan Woolfrey
Ana Perez-Leroux

Guests:

Jill Matus

1. **WELCOME**

Speaker Alexander Leggatt welcomed Council members and passed the word to Donald Ainslie for a memorial resolution on the recent passing of Professor Alan Denard. The resolution stated:
“Be it resolved that the University College Council deeply regrets the passing of Alan Denard a member of University College and the Department of French on December 19th, 2014. Alan was predeceased by his wife Norma of 45 years and younger brothers Gary, George, and Bill. Alan received his PHD in literature from the University of Alberta in 1967 and taught at the University of Toronto from 1968 to 1996. His research included collaboration on the five-volume edition of the correspondence of the great Lumiere Aldeus (sic) from 1968 to 2004. He was also the general editor of the letters of Françoise de Graffigny, the 18th century woman of letters. In 2005 he was named as a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Be it further resolved that the resolution be inscribed in the minutes of the University College Council and a copy be sent to his family as a token of the deep appreciation University College feels for the life and career of our valued colleague.”

A moment of silence ensued.

Before the minutes were addressed, Acting Librarian Larissa Kinna was welcomed to Council and introduced and Jessica Barnes was also introduced as the new Acting Secretary of Council now that Eris Asllani had completed her time as Council Secretary.

2. **MINUTES**
   On a motion duly moved by Marc Cheetham and seconded by James Reilly, it was resolved that the minutes of the November 14th, 2014 College Council meeting be approved as distributed to members. Sandy Leggatt alerted Council to some typos in the draft minutes and agreed to provide them to the Secretary. Subject to those corrections, the minutes were approved nem.con (unanimously).

3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
   The request was then put to Council from the Speaker for any new business arising from the minutes. No new business was submitted, and the Council moved to the next item on the agenda.

4. **PRESENTATION: JILL MATUS (VICE PROVOST OF STUDENTS AND FIRST ENTRY DIVISIONS)**
   Jill introduced her presentation with background information about the University’s process for developing an institutional mental health strategy by means of a committee and several working groups that met over the course of 2014. Jill’s presentation focused on strategy and implementation, and was a high level look at the institutional mental health strategy and framework. The presentation also addressed the proposals and strategies brought forward by the committees and working groups and the implementation of those strategies.
Jill completed her presentation and then a question and answer period followed. Rick Salutin asked to what degree a student’s high school experience could affect their mental health. Jill addressed that this was not part of the University’s mandate and that many causes could be attributed for mental health challenges, including: lack of coping skills, learned behaviours, and too much stress. Jill also stated that the University is more concerned about working with students in the present, and that the how and why of their situation is not the current focus.

Siobhan O’Flynn suggested including text in syllabi to let students know that these health resources exist to avoid students looking for help much later than they should have. Jill responded that it was difficult to make that kind of information required but that the committee felt it was important as a recommendation and they would explore creating a template or approved language that Faculty could use in their classes. Additionally, Jill suggested making references to the new website (http://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/), and to make students aware of resources and supports available to them. Siobhan O’Flynn then suggested that we could include the website and information about student support for mental health on class Blackboard sites.

Cognitive Science Student Representative Jesse Berlin then asked about communication with students, and Jill confirmed the importance about relaying this information in various ways, including multi-media, print, web, as well as talking about it in classrooms. All of these methods were a part of the recommendations that had been put forward to the University, and Jill went
on to say that the idea is to offer the training on supporting students’ mental health but that it would not be mandatory for staff and student representatives.

James O’Reilly followed up with a question about how to best handle a student that you identify as struggling, and at what point do Faculty intervene, if at all. Jill acknowledged that the implementation of Faculty action was still being worked out, but ensuring that Faculty takes a proactive approach with students they recognized as having a problem was in the working group recommendations.

Jill also suggested making use of Distressed Student cards that were handed out to the Chairs, Deans, and Principals that had the contact information of who to call if you notice that a student is in crisis.

Amanda Stojcevski then asked about a rough timeline for the implementation of the strategy and when the University would reach out with student groups. Jill confirmed that staff and Faculty should implement these measures and direct students and colleagues to the University’s resources as soon as possible. Amanda Stojcevski also suggested that it was important for Faculty and staff to liaise with the UCLit and the Dean of Students to engage with student groups.

Bob Boeckner then suggested that with over 30 mentoring programs at the university, ensuring that mentors are aware of these resources is very important. Jill responded that this was a valued suggestion and that she would discuss this idea with Student Life for further action.

Donald Ainslie then inquired as to whether there had been discussion surrounding ‘triggering’ issues and how as a professor you can approach sensitive subject matter in class. Donald then shared anecdotal information about covering suicide in his course and how it coincided with a stressful time of year for students. Jill presented a suggestion that a discussion about sensitive topics surrounding mental health could be prefaced by information for students on the “good to talk” initiative (http://www.good2talk.ca/) and then remind students about the supports on campus. Also, that incorporating information about those resources into the curriculum would be positive for students, and that some students could identify and benefit from discussions on sensitive topics.

There were no further questions. Jill reminded members to visit the website (http://mentalhealth.utoronto.ca/), and encouraged them to leave their comments and feedback.

The Speaker then moved to the next item in the agenda.
Update from the Principal
Principal Donald Ainslie addressed that the Latin American Studies move to University College would not be moving forward due to the challenges of our site for those with accessibility needs.

Donald then announced that he has taken on the new role of the Provostial Advisor for Humanities until the end of his term as Principal at University College. The university’s reputation was historically rooted in the Humanities, however the focus of his work will be on the notable decline in high school students choosing humanities, and how that drop could pose a challenge for the University. If students do not take Humanities programs it will prove difficult to continue investing in these fields at appropriate levels.

Donald shared that he had been consulting around 3 campuses, and collecting data to determine if students who declare an interest in Humanities continue on into the program once they begin their studies, and whether enrolment in the humanities is on the decline or admissions in general have gone down.

Donald then communicated his long term goals in this new role to work with the Provost to identify the challenges to enrollment numbers and how to bolster the strength of the Humanities departments at the University. Donald also communicated that Cheryl Regher also introduced a Vice-Provostial portfolio on innovation in undergraduate education, with Susan McCahan taking on that role.

Building Update
Donald informed Council that the project planning committee was still active and that the formation of that committee was the first step in getting official University approval for projects. The committee is aiming to get the report into the governance cycle on February 23rd, 2015 and that it will be drafted and revised in the coming weeks.

Donald confirmed the proposed phases of the report. Phase 1 is focused on West Hall, as well as the accessibility initiatives and other infrastructure upgrades (appropriate ramps, elevator, air handling, heating, etc.). They will also complete the plans for East Hall, but it cannot be approved until the finances are in place. The committee will seek approval in principal for Phase 2, which would move the library space into East Hall, and then on to phases 3 and 4 for the University College quad and Croft Chapter House revitalization.

In addition, Donald shared that the the School of Public Policy and Governance (SPPG) has expressed interest in occupying the vacated Library space once the library has moved into the East Hall. Their interest has opened up the possibility that FAS might offer financial supports to make the move happen, and the request could help to move along the process for the 2nd phase of the project plan. SPPG has academic affinity with what we do at
University College and it was noted that Ed Clark, the lead donor for West Hall, is also on the advisory of SPPG.

Donald then asked for any questions or comments, none were put forth and the Speaker moved to the next update from UCLit.

**UPDATE FROM THE LIT**

Amanda Stojcevski shared with Council that The Fireball was a success and has received positive feedback. Amanda then thanked Melinda Scott, Cameron McBurney and Yvonne MacNeil for their help and support of the event.

President of UCLit, Eric Schwenger confirmed that Diablos Coffee Bar is open 10-6PM and gave a special thanks to Yvonne for helping reopen the café. Eric also confirmed that once this year concludes, the Lit will be looking ahead to a more permanent operational plan for the café.

Eric also shared that the Lit is completing their audit, which had been delayed and that they will be rescheduling their Annual General Meeting in the coming weeks. Eric also informed Council that the applications for Orientation have been received and that the interviews for successful candidates will be taking place following Reading Week.

The Speaker then called for questions, and Donald Ainslie congratulated Amanda and her team on the success of Fireball. Donald communicated what a great job they had done transforming University College into the themed event, Game On! (Candyland in the Junior Common Room, Monopoly in the Rotunda, etc.) Donald then moved for a motion of congratulations, Melinda Scott seconded and the motion was carried nem.con (unanimously)

The Speaker asked if there were any additional questions; none were put forward, and the Speaker moved to the next update from the UC Registrar Office.

**UPDATE FROM REGISTRAR**

Linda Nauman presented on behalf of Shelley Cornack.

Linda presented a report that covered activities at the Registrar’s office from October up to the present. With respect to admissions, this past year (2014-2015) the Faculty of Arts and Science admitted and enrolled approximately 5800 first year students. 3600 were Ontario applicants, and approximately 2200 were out of province and international students. Of those applicants, University College enrolled 1043 new students comprised of 644 Ontario applicants and 379 out of province and international students. Linda also shared the international student numbers as of October 2014; which includes 215 1st year students, 179 2nd year students, 116 3rd year students, and 126 4th year students which brings the international student total currently at University College to 636.

Admission for all applicants for 2015-2016 had already begun and the first round of
admission offers for Ontario applicants had gone out on Tuesday, February 4th. The second round of admissions will happen in mid to late March, with the final round of admissions taking place in April.

Linda also brought forward information about the Registrar’s advisory activities including hosting drop-in sessions on specific topics that were a part of their general advising. One of their sessions was on transfer credits for newly admitted students, another session focused on graduation which had a positive turnout, and as a result the Registrar will continue to offer these kinds of sessions. Linda also informed Council about the late withdrawals drop-ins over 8 days in late November and early December. During that time 225 students came in, and since December the Registrar has had 151 petitions to the Faculty of Arts and Science and another 20 in progress, with most of petitions being for deferred exams.

Linda then moved on to scholarships and bursaries. On behalf of the scholarship committee, the Registrar prepared a detailed list of 2013-2014 bursary expenditures for the fiscal year (May 1st, 2013-April 1st, 2014), please refer to the report prepared by Shelley Cornack which is included as a reference document. Linda also offered if anyone would like to know the names of scholarship names for the allocated awards, that they can contact the Registrar’s office for that information.

Linda then moved that the University College Council approve the list of scholarship and bursary expenditures for the 2013-2014 year as proposed in the report. The motion was seconded by James Reilly. The motion was then carried nem.con (unanimously)

Linda submitted a second motion for the University College Council to approve the following scholarships:

**Cloister Educational Foundation of Toronto Awards**
This award has been established by the estate of Marjorie Moore (UC’47) to provide grants for University College students to assist with travel and living abroad for periods of up to one year. Students from the fields of Art, Archeology, Classics, History and Modern Languages will be eligible. Such students may be at any level of study. Special consideration will be given to students for whom a period abroad is important and an integral part of their education. Awards will vary in number and value; approximately $17,000 will be available annually.

Linda also submitted the following to Council for Amendment:

**Dorothy F.P. Pratt Scholarship**
To provide an award for a Canadian female University College student pursuing financial studies at the graduate level (e.g. Financial Economics, MBA etc.) Approximately $1000 will be available annually.
The motion was seconded by Andrea Williams, and the motion carried nem.com (unanimously).

Linda also shared information on this year’s Annual Awards Reception. Linda thanked UC Registrar Office staff members Julia Rodriguez and Eva Mandrapilias along with Advancement staff Siobhan Angus and Lori MacIntyre for their great work together on the second annual Awards Reception for students who were awarded in-course awards in 2013-2014 and for newly admitted students who received admission awards in 2014.

The Registrar’s office awarded 610 course awards to students and 249 admission awards to newly admitted students. 230 students and guests attended the event along with several of our donors. The UC food staff provided refreshments, and the event had a very popular photographer’s booth for students and guests to enjoy, as well as an impromptu soloist who performed for guests towards the end of the reception. The event received positive feedback from all involved, and Linda also gave thanks to everyone’s efforts to make the reception such a success and that they will be looking ahead to next year’s event.

Linda also informed Council that the Registrar’s office would be closed on February 19th for a personal development day organized by the University Registrar.

The Speaker then called for questions from Council. Alan Ackerman had two questions regarding admissions: the first question being admissions rate acceptance versus overall admissions, and the second was in regard to international student breakdowns by their countries of origin.

Linda did not have the figures of applications versus admissions available but encouraged anyone who was curious about those figures to contact the Registrar for that information. Linda also confirmed that the UC Registrar does not track the data on international students, but the International Student Centre does retain that information.

Donald Ainslie then offered contextual information regarding international students; in 1996 the international student population was at 2%, and this incoming class is 22% international, demonstrating that internationalization has been increasing at the University. Donald also informed Council that there is a concern that changes in economy or political climate in our emerging student pools in Asia could leave the University vulnerable. However, there are currently strategies being developed by the University to diversify our efforts in international student outreach and make it more multi-national.

There were no further questions, and the Speaker moved to the next update from the Chief Administrative Office.

**UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

CAO Yvonne MacNeil shared with Council that she had begun the budget process for 2015-2016. Yvonne communicated to Council that the target budget has been supplied by Arts and
Science, and individual meetings with the different program and administrative heads have been set. Yvonne shared that these meetings are an opportunity to discuss the year-end figures and to plan for the year ahead.

Yvonne stated that in the upcoming Council meeting in March she would be presenting a more in-depth presentation on the budget for University College expenses and spending. She asked Council member for requests for data that they would like presented in the next meeting.

She announced that we have hired Lisa Lomax as the new Facilities and Services Coordinator for the UC residences. Lisa will report to Melinda Scott and Yvonne and coordinate between caretaking, property managers, and the office of the Dean of Students to ensure communication between departments.

Yvonne then shared with Council that she was currently working on a proposal for the Canadian Cultural Restoration Fund; this offers to match up to $100,000 to start a major project that must be completed within a year. Yvonne informed Council that she will be submitting an application for the Junior Common Room (floors, windows, electrical) for the fund and asked Council members to forward any information about the JCR’s historical or cultural value to include in the submission before the due date of March 20th, 2014.

Yvonne shared that the JCR also has a connection to the Air Force, as well as significance during WW1 and WWII.

Donald Ainslie then clarified that because it was a matched donation the success of the application would require that we work with the Lit to find matching funds.

Eric Schwenger from UCLit asked for clarification about the deadline for the project, and Yvonne confirmed that the project would have to be completed within 1 year (April 2015-May 2016). Eric commented that he would meet with Yvonne later if the application was a success and Yvonne agreed that it was very important that they discuss the matter in the future.

Yvonne also wanted to look at the Lit’s files to look for information about the historical value of the site. Scott Shank had researched the archives and found that the JCR had connections to individuals such as Amelia Erheart, prominent Air Force members, and writer William Faulkner. Yvonne then encouraged all Council members to contact her with information that might help the application succeed.

There were no further questions, and the Speaker moved to the next report from Naomi Handley and UC Advancement.

**UPDATE FROM ADVANCEMENT**

Naomi Handley, Director of UC Advancement shared with Council that the UC Magazine is
currently in progress and will be released in March along with U of T magazine. This month’s issue focuses on the history of the Jewish student body, a history of the Quad, an article on why history is important, an update on Boundless campaign, and an article about UC Donors.

Naomi also provided an update on Fundraising, a gift agreement for $100000 to fund the library move into East Hall was finalized.

Naomi also shared information on recent events at UC, including:

The Canadian Studies event with Anne Michaels, A Midwinter Dialogue: New Work by Anne Michaels with Songs by David Seria. The event was a success with 80 Alumni and friends in attendance.

On February 12th, a Student Life event is scheduled on Alumni Mentorship. Students will participate in ‘speed mentoring’, with 6 Alumni to speak with them about their degree and career transition.

On April 23rd the SDS Annual Bonham Centre Award Gala will be held and this year’s gala will focus on diversity in sports.

In May, UC Advancement will host Spring Reunion Time. Advancement will be hosting a series of events which Naomi encourage staff and faculty to attend. UC events will take place on May 29th with a screening of the 1965 film Winter Kept Us Warm, by UC Alum David Secter. The film was shot at U of T with an all University College cast, and the screening will be followed by a Q&A with David. There will also be a BBQ in the quad on May 29th for everyone, giving Alumni a chance to reconnect with classmates.

Naomi then shared with Council that Donald will be giving a historical walking tour of UC on May 30th and there will also be a lecture from a graduate of 1965, Alan Bowker, who will be presenting his new book, A Time Such as There Never Was Before (https://www.dundurn.com/books/time_such_there_never_was).

Naomi then shared that the Alumni of Influence Gala preparations are under way. The gala will be held on November 19th. Naomi shared that they are currently working on student tables for the event to facilitate communication with Alumni and to let students experience the event. Naomi also reminded Council members that nominations are due by April 2nd, 2015.

Naomi then asked for student volunteers for April 15th who are comfortable talking about the building restoration and mingling with Alumni to speak about the project for an upcoming event. Dinner will be provided by Nathan Isbert from The Atlantic (www.atlanticondundas.com), who will be planning a special meal.

Naomi then updated Council members on current Staff and Faculty campaigns. There was 10
staff donations comprised of two one-time gifts and 8 ongoing gifts. The total was $1775. The Faculty donations were one-time gifts totaling $5800. The totals will be matched by University College and Naomi reminded Council members that any donation to the Library restoration campaign from January 1st to the end of this year, December 31st, 2015 will be matched by University College.

The Speaker opened the floor to questions, and Donald Ainslie encouraged Council members to see the film which was noted as the first Anglo-Canadian film to premiere at the Cannes Film Festival. Isabelle Cochelin asked if Council members could be reminded when the screening will take place, and Naomi confirmed that a reminder will be published on the website, and in our regular announcements.

There were no more questions from the Council, and the Speaker moved to the next update from the Dean of Students.

UPDATE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS
Dean of Students, Melinda Scott provided an update to council about the Paths beyond Your Post event – a collaborative initiative by all seven FAS colleges through a STEP Forward grant. The program was specifically designed to help students in 2nd year plan ahead for life after graduation by considering co-curricular opportunities at U of T. There were a series of events including Career fairs and workshops; at UC we hosted a mentorship fair and some activities to help students better understand how to get involved with co-curricular activities. The event received positive feedback and was noted as a success, though with uneven attendance during the week. As a result, the Colleges are already planning for next year’s event.

The hiring process for new Dons is underway for both the residence and the commuter dons. The applications have closed and the interviews were scheduled to begin on the 7th, of February. Melinda invited anyone with questions about the hiring process to contact her for more information.

Melinda shared with Council that the applications for residence have begun for the coming academic year. This year’s applications will go through the MyRez system online.

Melinda also reminded Council members that the nominations for the Merit Awards are available on February 23rd to recognize graduation UC students who have made a difference to the UC community at large. The deadline for submissions is March 9th, 2015, and the event will be held on March 24th.

Melinda also provided an update to Council on the STEP Forward proposals for the coming year, and that they had plans for 3 proposals for 2015/2016. Melinda shared that they were applying for continued funding of the Thrive Orientation program, which had received funding for one year in 2014/2015. Melinda also informed Council that they had submitted two new proposals. Pre U of T, a shared initiative between the seven colleges and FAS, is a
program designed to orient new students to their academic stream. Piloted in September 2014, with significant input from the UCLit, the application requests funding for the project for this coming year and next. The second proposal submitted was for a collaborative mentorship program with the Big Brothers and Sisters of Canada, whereby 1st year students can mentor high school students.

The Speaker opened the floor to questions, and when there were none from Council, the Speaker moved to the next update from the Vice Principal.

**UPDATE FROM THE VICE-PRINCIPAL**

UC Vice Principal, John Marshall, shared the following updates with Council on the various program events at UC:

**Step Forward**
John communicated that the Step Forward proposals included program orientation events for Health Studies, Canadian Studies, and Cognitive Science. These events are designed for students who are about to begin their second year to introduce them to their new POSt.

**Research and Practice Day**
The event is scheduled for March 13th in West and perhaps East Hall, and will have posters from each college program as well as from UC One students and UC students in other programs.

John informed Council that the goal of the event is to provide an occasion to bring research out of the private transaction between professor and student, and to bring the private experience of community placements back to an academic community for processing and reflection. On the basis of the program directors endorsement of this event, participation in the event will be an option or requirement of several upper year courses in Health Studies, Canadian Studies, Sexual Diversity Studies, and Cognitive Science. They are expecting approximately 20 students per program, plus another 20 UC One and other students will be able to participate in the poster session. They are also exploring integrating undergraduates from Drama. Others will participate as "audience" to the posters. John expects that between two and three hundred students will be at the event as presenting participants and/or audience members.

**UC One**
John noted that the UCOne speaker for January 23rd was Judith Thompson, and announced their upcoming speaker: playwright and artist Donna Michelle St. Bernard on February 13th. John also confirmed that they are planning for next year with a focus on improving enrollment which was down in 2014-2015. John informed Council that UCOne has a revised timetable for classes and a new enrollment procedure which is in the process of being finalized.
Health Studies
John announced the Symposium for Health Studies on 13 March in conjunction with Research and practice day; the Symposium theme is bioethics. John also shared with Council that there was going to be a HSSU (Health Studies Student Union), HealthX seminar on Wednesday, February 26th from 1:30-2:30 with Melanie Jeffrey about the intersection of indigenous and Western scientific knowledge in health.

The Health Perspectives journal launch, reception, and unveiling of the new student union leadership will be on Thursday, March 26, with a timeline that was still being confirmed.

Canadian Studies
The Canadian Studies Conference will take place on March 9th from 9:00AM-17:00 and ImagiNations, the CS undergrad journal, will be released shortly. The journal is currently in progress under the supervision of Emily Gilbert with help from a work/study student.

John also provided updates from Canadian Studies Director, Nelson Wiseman, to inform council that Canadian Studies is co-presenting the “Family Ties Tour” sometime in the first two weeks of March. The event will feature two short films, Holy Mother My Mother and My Father, Francis by Vivek Shraya and Casey Mecija. The films explore the complex relationships between queer diaspora children and their parents. Vivek Shraya and Casey Mecija are both musicians, and their presentation involves screening the films and songs, to be followed by a Q&A, and the plan is to showcase the films on all three campuses.

Cognitive Science
John shared the success of a recent event from Cognitive Science on January 21st which was the dialogic lecture “Mutual Relevance Lecture Series: Is Consciousness Representational?” with Brian Cantwell Smith and John Vervaeke. The point was to have two professors from different disciplines discussing a chosen topic.

John also provided notice of an upcoming event proposed for March 25th, which would be another mutual relevance lecture with Linguistics and Computer Science. The Cognitive Science student union (CASA) continues films, discussion groups and workshops throughout March.

The speaker opened the floor to questions, and Siobhan O’Flynn asked for the technical dimensions for the UC Research day posters. John confirmed that he will send along that information after the meeting.

Donald Ainslie shared with the group that the Barker Fairley Scholar had been selected for next year, and that the author Miriam Toews would be taking residence for 2015. Donald reminded Council members that University College will be calling for nominations for 2016 in the near future, so he encouraged members to submit any cultural or artistic figures for consideration. Donald also clarified that while the last two scholars have been writers, the position is open to different disciplines.
Jerry Plotnick from the University College Writing Centre also confirmed that other artists can engage with the Writing Centre, and John Marshall suggested that we have also confirmed that we have had journalists in the position in the past, so we can think of writers in a larger sense.

The Speaker asked for any more questions, none were forthcoming, so the Speaker moved to the next item on the agenda.

6. LANDMARK PRESENTATION
Donald Ainslie presented the latest information on the Landmark Committee Project.

Donald shared with the Council that this group can take credit for how the university now thinks about spaces on campus. There was a meeting of College Council a few years ago where the back campus project was presented for information, but various Council members expressed concern about the project and that the university had not sufficiently consulted about such an important change to our campus. Following that, a small committee formed to think about how to integrate the new field into the campus, and that group soon realized that it could not be separated from the rest of the green space at the centre of the historic campus. A broad committee was formed to create a project planning report. The Report has been presented to the various boards of governing council, and in addition it will be presented at Governing Council itself in a few weeks. Normally, the financial supports have to be in place for a project like this to be taken through
the governance process, but in this case, it makes more sense to bring forward the plan for input before the project is funded.

Donald identified the 4 green spaces around University College for the purposes of the plan: Front campus, Sir Daniel Wilson quad, and the area surrounding the new athletic field and Hart House Circle.

The committee, — one of the largest project planning committees the University had seen, with representation from Trinity College, Massey College, Knox College, Advancement, Hart House, Medicine, Simcoe Hall, The Library, UTSU and Soldier’s Tower Committee – took these 4 spaces into consideration as the main focus of the project.

The goal of that committee was then to understand the locations on campus and what they mean to the University community as a whole. A survey was then conducted to discover what spaces on this area of the campus resonated with the community. The results were that the UC quad was noted as a favourite place on campus, with some of the least favourite spots being the underpass from Wellesley Street, the area outside of Convocation Hall, the Galbraith Roadway, and the connectors from campus to Queens Park.

The focus was narrowed to 4 themes of what we wanted to see at the University, including:

- Spaces that embodied a sense of place,
- Important university wide events for example, for example; Convocation, Orientation, sports and recreation, and public events
- Circulation; getting people to and from classes, meetings, and the like.
- Access and servicing especially in relation to accessibility.

Once the themes had been presented, Donald shared with the Council that 8 principles were put forward by the committee to guide the implementation of future projects.

1. Improving the pedestrian experience
2. Creating animated public spaces
3. Support for events, especially student events
4. Enhance (natural) green space
5. Remove parking from King’s College Circle, Hart House Circle, and Tower Road
6. Limit traffic to drop-off, accessibility, and servicing
7. Enhance wayfinding
8. Allow for discreet servicing and access to buildings.

Note that a city By-Law requires that the University maintain more-or-less the same number of parking spots as currently exist and thus any removal of parking from the core campus district would require replacement somewhere else. Donald reminded Council that the parking is well used and currently serves parts of the community.
The next step in the process is to engage a consultant for a detailed plan that would be developed only after significant consultation with the University community as a whole.

Donald then presented a possible re-visioning of the Convocation Hall space as an example of what could be accomplished, making the space more student-focused. The desire is for a realistic timeline to accomplish the committee’s goals, and for the consultant teams to engage in an unprecedented process of discussion at all three campuses in the development of the project, to ensure that the result addresses the University’s needs as a whole. The choice of consultant will depend not only on design skill but on evidence of the capacity to engage the entire University in the development of a plan.

Donald then shared that the committee would select 5 consultants as finalists, who will then develop a more in-depth proposal. One of these will then be given the contract. Donald then asked for questions and comments from Council members.

The Speaker opened the floor to questions, and Siobhan O’Flynn raised the issue of considering the position of the University in the downtown core and the need for support for cyclists and pedestrians. Also, that the committee could look at providing more bike locks to encourage the shift to foot travel and cycling versus vehicle traffic. Donald confirmed that the consultants will consider that when developing a proposal. Also, he noted that the City Planner met with the committee and discussed a 2 way bike lane on Hoskin (ultimately not implemented in that form).

Andrea Williams added that it would be positive to connect with parking services and environmental groups, and that there were currently no incentives to not park on campus. Andrea also suggested coordinating the project with incentives to get people out of their cars and encourage a greener commute for students, staff, and Faculty.

Donald clarified that the strategy in regards to parking was to use the space we have as efficiently as possible and to encourage everyone to travel in different ways, be it the TTC, walking or cycling. Donald also reminded Council that it was important to have balance in our travel options that addresses the varied needs of the University community. Donald also shared that issues regarding safety and traffic flow on campus were also being considered in the planning process.

The next question came from Jerry Plotnick of the UC Writing Centre who asked if there was a way to have a discussion with the City of Toronto to reduce the amount of parking we currently have on campus. Donald shared that the city had been informed of the committee’s work, but the revision of a By-Law ultimately is in the hands of City Council. Donald emphasized that this is not an easy process and that the local community also had reservations about reducing parking on campus, and that many different factors were at play before a decision could be made.

Alana Clarke from University College Advancement added that it was important to consider
the amount of money that comes into the University through parking, and that before a decision is made on reducing parking on campus, the financial consideration should be made as well. Donald responded that the Head of Ancillaries was on the Project Planning Committee and would be a part of the discussions, and while there as income coming in from parking, it was important to weigh the income against the student’s experience to come up with a thoughtful and strategic approach.

Bob Boeckner reminded the Council members on the importance of considering accessibility when developing the plan. Donald agreed, and stated that one of the overarching themes to the initial plan was accessibility and it is also one of the principles that would inform any proposals.

Donald shared with the Council the importance of this project and how it would be one of the most substantial changes to the physical properties of the campus in a significant period of time.

The Speaker asked for any other comments; no more questions were put forward and the Speaker moved to the next item in the agenda.

7. OTHER BUSINESS
Jerry Plotnick of the UC Writing Centre proposed a change to the creative writing committee. Jerry wished to provide a notice of motion to increase the size of the committee with two additional members to keep up with the growing number of entries that are being received.

Isabelle Cochelin asked if they members needed to be UC members, and Donald confirmed that it was required by the bylaws

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS
Donald Ainslie announced to Council the Public Lectures for the upcoming year:

- The Alexander Lecture: Susan Stewart
- The Teetzel Lecture: Mark Jarjombek
- The Priestley Lecture: Anthony Grafton
- The Graham Lecture: Alison Gopnik
- The Stubbs Lecture: Robert Osborne

Donald also reminded Council that the end of the year party for University College would be taking place in Croft Chapter House on April 1st and encouraged everyone to attend.

There were no further questions or announcements from Council, and the Speaker moved to the next item on the agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT
The Speaker called for a motion to adjourn, Andrea Williams motioned to adjourn and was seconded by John Marshall. The motion carried nem.com (unanimously).

Next College Council Meeting – Friday, March 27, 1:30-3:30 pm
NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION: UC 314 (Laidlaw Wing)