1 Welcome & Introductions
Speaker Alexander Leggatt welcomed Council members and called the meeting to order. As this was the first meeting of the academic year Council members introduced themselves.

2. MINUTES
On a motion duly moved by Antoinette Handley and seconded by Alana Horton, it was resolved that the minutes of the April 27, 2012 meeting be approved as distributed to members. Approved nem.con.
3. **BUSINESS ARISING**

Principal Ainslie updated members on two items of business arising from the April 27, 2012 meeting.

The UC Constitution approved at the last meeting of Council was passed by the Agenda Committee of Governing Council on May 22, Academic Board on May 31, and then the Executive Committee of Governing Council on June 11. The Constitution has since been in force. Faculty elections went forward early in the summer as the previous Constitution allowed for such elections to take place. Elections for at-large staff members were held once the new Constitution was approved. Principal Ainslie welcomed the two new at-large staff representatives, Ellen Cunningham and Paul Morrison, to Council.

One of the elements of the motion passed at the last meeting of Council that saw the merger of the UC Drama Program with the graduate Centre for Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies was for the Centre Director and the Principal to create a Memorandum of Agreement. This MoA would explain how the two merged units would relate to the College. An Interim Memorandum of Agreement was signed on June 22 addressing the principles governing the interaction between the new Drama Centre and the College including finances, space, affiliation and governance as well as advancement. Some outstanding issues which still need to be addressed include staffing, budget and space. Principal Ainslie noted that a full MoA should be completed by the end of the academic year.

4. **REPORTS**

   **Update from the Principal**

The Principal noted that he has begun working with Professor David Rayside in preparing a Memorandum of Understanding between the College and the Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies. During its planning exercise in 2009-10, the Faculty of Arts and Science’s Planning Committee encouraged the College to clarify and formalize its relationship with the Bonham Centre. The Principal hopes to have a draft MoU by the end of the term that spells out more clearly how the two units work together.

The Principal noted that he will also be working to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding between the College and the University of Toronto Art Centre to clarify how UTAC relates to the College. UTAC is housed in the College and looks after the UC Collection but serves the entire St. George Campus.

The Principal invited Council members to drop by the Principal’s office to review the Proposed Master Plan report. Principal Ainslie noted that he presented the Master Plan to the Executive Committee on September 19, the UC Lit Council on September 30, to the FAS Dean and his leadership group on October 3, to the Provost and Vice-President University Operations on October 5 and the senior staff and faculty at the SCR lunch on October 15. The Principal will be presenting the Master Plan to President Naylor on October 30 and to UC staff on October 31. We are currently working through the UofT approvals process for fundraising. The Principal plans to have the first public presentation of the Master Plan at the Alumni of Influence Gala on November 15.
The Principal indicted that moving forward on the Master Plan project, we will be determining how much the University will contribute to the project. One element of this will involve renting space in the Laidlaw wing to the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design while their new building at 1 Spadina is being renovated. This will allow us to renovate space for the Writing Centre, have a temporary space for the Library, etc. details which we are just beginning to sort through.

Other next steps which will have to be determined include a possible UC Lit student contribution to the project. The Advancement office is working through the various UofT rules involved with naming opportunities for the various spaces of the proposed project. The UC Alumni community has always come through for the College at its time of need and Principal Ainslie indicated that he is optimistic that they will come through in support of these projects.

Discussion ensued.

Professor Reilly inquired as to when the move affecting the Laidlaw wing would occur. Principal Ainslie noted that the Laidlaw Wing is presently all but empty, only one faculty member would be affected and has already agreed to move his office. The Library and the Writing Centre move to the southeast part of the College would happen in the summer so that the Daniels Faculty could move in before the beginning of the next academic year.

Professor Sohm inquired about the integrity of the proposed plan in relation to the issue of the College being a heritage building. The Principal noted that the architect retained for the proposed plan is a specialist in heritage architecture with lots of experience in working with heritage buildings, including the library at Osgoode Hall, which is a Cumberland and Storm building (the architects responsible for UC). The Vision Statement helped guide the architect in his designs particularly in preserving and respecting the heritage of the building as well as having the building tell the story of the College being an education and research locus and one that puts undergraduates first.

Principal Ainslie encouraged members to read the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities’ report “Strengthening Ontario’s Centres of Creativity, Innovation and Knowledge”. The Principal noted that this report had three emphases: easing credit transfers between institutions, online courses, and three-year degrees. The report also required all Ontario higher education institutions to develop a “strategic mandate agreement,” describing how it’s going to increase innovation and knowledge transfer in Ontario. This report has united the U of T Student Union, Faculty Association and the Administration who are all in agreement that this report is terrible for the University and for higher education in the province. The Principal encouraged the Lit to let the Ministry know their thoughts on behalf of the UC student body, as the student voice is currently being heard by the Ministry. The Principal also encouraged members to read UofT’s response. The University is part of a consortium of Ontario Universities that are easing credit transfers between these institutions and will hopefully increase the University’s summer offerings. The University is the only Canadian university that is part of Coursera, an online education initiative. Where appropriate the University is already offering online courses. The University is considering a number of initiatives to move in the direction of a 3 year degree including a “fast track” 3 year program or
3 + 2 year joint degrees. The University does not plan on reverting back to the 3 year degree as we would not be at the level of other North American Universities. The Premier’s recent resignation has put everything on hold.

Discussion ensued, with one student noting that the difficulty for students transferring credits from other provinces would remain in place.

The Principal reminded members that this year’s endowed lectures were listed on the agenda. Principal Ainslie mentioned that we are in the process of sending out invitations for 2013-14 and that committees will be reconvening soon to begin the process for recommending lecturers for the 2014-15 academic year.

The Principal informed members that due to an unfortunate development, the Graham Lecture which was scheduled for this November has been postponed until next year.

The Principal reminded members that as per the new Constitution, Council will now be approving the membership of the College’s Standing Committees, which was circulated in advance. Council members approved the following motion which was duly moved by Principal Ainslie and seconded by Ben Dionne.

- Be it resolved that University College Council approves the proposed membership of the UC Standing Committees (Appointments, Curriculum and Scholarship). Approved nem.con.

**Update from the President, UC Lit**

Mr. Benjamin Dionne began his report by informing members that student leaders met with the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities to discuss the “Strengthening Ontario’s Centres of Creativity, Innovation and Knowledge” Report. The Minister indicated at that meeting that the report was a discussion paper not policy. The Minister indicated that not all Universities are opposed to the report, with U of T having the strongest opposition; the Minister criticized the University’s response stating that it was not constructive. Mr. Dionne noted that the meeting went well and that the Minister is open to meeting regularly with the students.

Mr. Dionne noted that the UC Lit has been very busy so far this term. There was an election at their first Council meeting and all reps are now in place. Everything is running smoothly. The President was pleased to share with members that Diablos now has an espresso machine.

Mr. Dionne concluded his report by informing members of an initiative that will see the Lit partnering with the UC Bookstore and will begin selling Spirit Wear regularly in room A102.

The Principal added that the Bookstore is moving to A102 to give it more space and to allow for this collaboration with the students as a joint UC Store.

Discussion ensued.
**Update from the Vice-Principal**

Vice Principal John Marshall indicated that in anticipation of the Committee memberships being approved, the Curriculum Committee had already met and is putting forth three new course proposals, which had been previously distributed to members.

Council members approved the following motion which was duly moved by Vice Principal John Marshall and seconded by Nishi Kumar.

- Be it resolved that University College Council approves the proposed new courses recommended by the Curriculum Committee (as distributed to members). Approved nem.con.

Vice Principal Marshall welcomed suggestions from Council members on ways that the Appointments Committee can integrate new types of appointments – other academic appointees and graduate students – to the College.

The Vice Principal concluded his report by sharing that year’s new model for the UC One program is working well and student numbers are strong.

**Update from the Registrar**

Shelley Cornack, UC Registrar began her report by informing members that Ryan Woolfrey has been hired as the Associate Registrar, Counseling and Petitions. Ryan replaces Michael Nicholson who has moved to the Central Student Life Office as an Academic Progress counselor.

The Registrar shared with members that the UC student population is slightly lower this year with approximately 4400 students.

The Registrar stated that the Admissions and Enrollments statistics as well as the Scholarship and Bursary reports will be brought forth for the November Council meeting.

The Registrar was pleased to share with Council that the Welcome events in June had approximately 850 in attendance; UC Day had approximately 500 students in attendance and the International students welcome and transition events during orientation week had about 150 in attendance. Course enrollment sessions in July had a lower turnout with approximately 315 students attending.

The Registrar was also pleased to share that, in partnership with the Dean’s Office, the UC sUCcess Centre was launched on October 1st. The Centre currently houses embedded advisors from the International Student Centre on Mondays; the Career Centre and Health and Well-Being on Tuesdays; and Advisors from the Masters of Social Work program on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Advisors offer both one-on-one sessions and group sessions.

The Registrar flagged for members that the UC Fall Convocation will be held at 10am on November 12th where we expect to see another 150 students graduate. The Registrar’s Office will be closed for the ceremony and reception.
The Registrar concluded her report by noting that her Office will also be closed on November 13th for an Interdivisional Registrar’s retreat.

Principal Ainslie encouraged faculty members to attend the convocation ceremony and join in the academic procession. The Principal also announced that there will be a reception in the JCR for the graduating students, their families and the UC Community immediately following the ceremony.

**Update from the Chief Administrative Officer**

Chief Administrative Officer Yvonne MacNeil noted that all budgets are now complete and meetings are being held with each unit/program head to report on their budgets which will then be submitted to the Principal. The CAO is also in the process of preparing the Ancillary budget which is a straight forward income driven budget.

The CAO was pleased to announce that Facilities and Services has provided the College with funds to help in maintaining the aesthetics of the College. Staring in the Cloisters wing, peeling paint around the College will be cleaned up and repainted and some flooring and ceiling tiles will be replaced; the JCR will be repainted; and we have received permission to add nine air conditioning units and three condensers in the Cloisters Wing.

The CAO was excited to share that a new Executive Chef has been hired and will join UC on October 22.

The CAO concluded her report by thanking all involved in the budget for their hard work. We now have a much more transparent budget process.

Principal Ainslie thanked the CAO for her efforts in obtaining the funds from Facilities and Services to upgrade the College.

**Update from the Director of UC Advancement**

Yvonne Palkowski provided an update on behalf of the Advancement Director, Naomi Hood, who was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Palkowski noted that the latest issue of UC magazine was published in September and work has already begun on the spring edition. The new website went live on September 10. There is still significant work to be completed prior to the official launch of the site and a UC style guideline is currently under development.

Ms. Palkowski flagged some upcoming events including the Priestly and Stubbs lecture, the Alumni of Influence Gala, and the Inaugural lecture for the Asian Canadian Minor in Canadian Studies which will be delivered by Vivienne Poy on November 28.

Ms. Palkowski noted that Alana Clarke, a 2008 UC grad and former UC Lit commissioner has been appointed to the newly created position of Alumni Relations Officer.

The Alumni Mentorship Opening Reception was held the previous evening. This year there are 65 alumni and student matches, the highest number of participants since the program began.
The Alumni of Influence event on November 15 will be the main focus for the entire Advancement office for the next four weeks. To date 329 tickets have been reserved and 60 of the 100 alumni recipients have confirmed their attendance. Tickets can still be purchased via the UC store on our website.

The UCAA will be holding a general meeting for all members on October 30 in the Underwood Lounge. The Underwood Lounge has been newly dedicated as the UC Alumni Room and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held in the New Year to unveil the new space to the UC community.

Ms. Palkowski noted that a transformative gift will be announced at the inaugural lecture for Asian Canadian Studies on November 28; work is ongoing for the UC building revitalization project and the annual Heritage Luncheon recognizing UC Planned Giving donors will be held on November 1.

Principal Ainslie flagged for students that when the Underwood Room opens it will also be available for students and will give students the opportunity to meet and socialize with College Alumni.

**Update from the Dean of Students**

Dean of Students, Melinda Scott noted that we had a successful summer residence operation again this year, with high occupancy and relatively few behavioural issues. The Residence Office welcomed Steve Masse to the office on a short term contract to assist with residence admissions and general office administration.

The Dean echoed the Registrar stating that along with the Registrar’s Office and central Student Life Office, the UC sUCcess Centre officially opened on October 1st. Designed to support students’ academic and personal success, the sUCcess centre provides easy access to essential campus services by bringing them directly into the College. UC students have the opportunity to speak with an International Student Advisor, participate in career development workshops, attend health & wellness programming or speak with an onsite social worker. The sUCcess Centre is located in UC 259.

The Dean noted that both residence and commuter mentor programs are running strongly, as are the commuter and residence don teams. Student life activities and programs are running very smoothly. The Dean noted that a minor fire had occurred in the basement of Morrison Hall earlier in the week. Thankfully no one was injured; however, the resulting flood did create significant damage. The Fire Prevention Officer is in the process of conducting an investigation into how the fire could have started as well as the challenges with the Toronto Fire Services’ response.

The Dean concluded her update by congratulating the Lit on an extremely successful My Definition and new student orientation which has received very positive participant feedback. The Dean’s Office conducted a survey of first year students and is in the process of analyzing the data and preparing a report which will be shared with the Lit and College Council when available.
Discussion ensued.

Professor Gilbert inquired if the sUCcess centre is open to the program students. The Dean confirmed that the centre is open to all UofT students and is not specific to UC students.

Alana Horton inquired if there was a cap to the number of sessions or hours that a student can access the centre. The Dean clarified that the counselors on site are Masters of Social Work interns, although there is no cap, this is more for short term, lower level issues and not for students who require on-going treatment.

5. INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT FACULTY- STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
Principal Ainslie stated that one of the things that we learned last year from working on the Vision Statement and the Constitution was a desire from UC students and faculty to find more ways to interact. The Principal noted that the Dean of Students would be sharing some data on this issue; members will split into break out groups and then would reconvene to share ideas and hopefully come up with ways that will help create initiatives that will allow us to achieve this goal.

The Dean of Students shared with members the NSSE results from the 2011 census – all UofT first and senior year students received the census. The University’s response rate was 40%. One of the benchmarks of the survey is Faculty-Student engagement. The Dean distributed a handout comparing UC with the other Colleges and well as the Faculty of Arts and Science, UofT excluding Arts and Science, other Ontario Universities and the U15 to set the stage for the breakout discussions.

Members separated into six groups to brainstorm on three main questions:

1. How do we define meaningful student-faculty interaction outside of the classroom?
2. What outcomes do we hope to achieve through enhancing faculty-student interaction across the College?
3. What ideas do you have for enhancing student-faculty interaction outside of the classroom at UC?

The following are some of the ideas discussed
- Faculty (alone or in groups) meet students in non-traditional spaces, such as residence common rooms or in Fung, to discuss academic matters in less formal ways.
- An SCR type weekly event involving students and faculty.
- Engaging with professors in a semi-formal, non-academic event. Outcomes: Sense of community; ability for students to navigate their university life more successfully; not only do students learn from faculty but faculty learn from students.
- One or more faculty associated with a floor in the Residence – “house mentor”
  - 6 or so times a year to agree to sit on question panel to interact better
- Upper year students advising incoming on the importance of engaging with faculty. Be mindful of students’ background (international students, English as a second language), lack of confidence or embarrassment in speaking with highly educated faculty – have
faculty coming into the residences, taking away the formality so that more introverted students have the opportunity to interact with faculty in a less formal way.

- Informal setting such as Coffee with the Profs – foster discussions between faculty and students, can be an organized topic and/or teams to discuss the topic of the day. Of concern is the physical location of faculty and students which makes it difficult for interaction so must make an effort to create these informal opportunities. There will be constant experimentation and ideas should come from students so that we have interest from them to participate. Tap into the faculty interests outside their teaching/research areas. Take advantage of faculty and senior student resources to share basic academic (research and writing) skills in an informal setting.

- Less intimidating faculty/student events such as Trinity’s High Table which would be held at Fung. Small rotating events

- Coffee with the Profs model, smaller events, program interest. Need to include commuter students. Downside – UC does not have life science profs. Event should be social not just academic. Invite faculty to Lit organized events. Informal faculty/student lunches with the Principal.

Next Steps: Take these ideas to Executive Committee and bring forth some more concrete ideas to Council.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of Stephen Johnson, Principal Ainslie informed Council of the John Cage event to be held on October 25. Details are available on the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies website.

Professor Christina Kramer invited all members to attend the International Conference on Heritage Languages and Language Acquisition which will be held from October 26-27, 2012 to be held at Victoria College. Further details on the conference can be found at http://individual.utoronto.ca/perezleroux/site/roadlesstravelled.html

8. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly moved by Aimee Quenneville and seconded by Benjamin Dionne, the meeting was adjourned.