



# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
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**College Council | Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 1:30-3:30pm | Hybrid: PCCC & Zoom**

## Present:

Markus Stock	Jennifer Jenkins	Emily Gilbert	Scott Rayter
Naeem Ordóñez	Alnoor Gowani	Yvonne MacNeil	Ryan Woolfrey
Therese Perucho	Michael Widener	Jerry Plotnick	Antje Budde
Isabelle Cochelin	Gabrielle Fournier	Siobhan O'Flynn	Vikki Visvis
Naveen Minai	Anjali Mookerjea	Sue Ropchan	Melissa Melvin
Scott Rayter	Siobhan O'Flynn	Vikki Visvis	Kathleen Gallagher

## Regrets:

Donald Ainslie	Suzanne Stevenson	Jane Wolff	Smaro Kamboureli
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## Officers:

Christina Kramer	Lily Lampros		
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## Guests:

Bharat Saini	Joanna Panayiotopoulos	Robert Gibbs	Marley Rosen
Neha Sultana			

*Quorum (1/3 of College Council Voting Members) – Met*

## **WELCOME**

### **College Council Zoom/Hybrid Protocol (By: Markus Stock)**

- If joining virtually via Zoom:
  - Please ensure microphone remains muted unless speaking
  - ‘Raise hand’ function for seconding motions, and signaling comment or question
  - Motions voted upon by using ‘yes’ and ‘no’ buttons, with ‘go slower’ as abstention
  - Chat comments monitored by the Secretary
- If joining in person:
  - Speak into microphone so those joining via Zoom can hear reports and questions

### **Motion to approve minutes of the meeting held on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Motion called by Christina Kramer

Motion seconded by Jennifer Jenkins

Motion Carries

### **Motion to approve change in presentation order**

Motion called by Markus Stock

Ryan Woolfrey seconds motion to change Nell’s presentation to beginning

Motion Carries

## **REPORTS**

**Update from UC Advancement, Nell Bent**

- The UC Advancement team is busy with event planning, closing gifts, and annual business planning.
- The team has been collaborating with the Faculty of Arts and Science to explore ways to share resources and learn best practices.
- The team is working on following up on existing gift conversations, major gift conversations, and leadership gift conversations.
- The team is also submitting grant proposals to close out the fiscal year.
- The team is placing emphasis on funding priorities for the Defy Gravity campaign.
- The team is focusing on communications and marketing collateral needs to speak to donors, prospects, and engaged volunteers.
- Upcoming events include the Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor Event, S.J. Stubbs Lecture in English Literature, UC Leadership Awards, W.J. Alexander Lecture in English Literature, and Defy Gravity event.
- The UC team is in talks with the Faculty of Arts and Science Advancement team to determine UC's role in the Defy Gravity event.
- The UC Arts Contest winners have been selected, and the new greeting cards will be designed by the winners.
- The UC Career Mentorship Program is wrapping up, and the recruitment for the next cycle of alumni, mentors and student mentees will start in July.
- New hire on the administrative side - Nia Morrison

Question from Jennifer Jenkins – Will professor Das be here in person? Yes and we will be hosting a masterclass as well with JHI

## **Update from the Principal, Markus Stock**

- Land Acknowledgement
- Emily Gilbert will be on leave for one year and Robert Gibbs has been appointed as acting Vice-Principal (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024)
- Felicity Oien is introduced as an advisor for additional priorities in the college.
- She will be working on the next report on Indigenous parties in the college due next fall.
- Georgia Laidlaw will be joining us for communications support, which will be very useful
- **Budget Presentation**
  - Faculty and staff compensation = biggest item on the expenditure side, which is up and will continue to increase.

- International revenue is growing slower than in recent years because of the high sticker price for international fees, Provincial funding is at 20 % now which is low compared to peers in Canada.
- Enrolment this year was almost at target for St. George. Lower at UTM, especially and just a little lower at UTSC.
- International enrolment was up at St. George, but down on the other campuses for a variety of reasons.
- Domestic enrollment is right on target for St. George, but a little bit lower at UTM and UTSC.
- International enrollment is at 28 % right now and is growing. We're right where the other Canadian institutions are, like McGill and UBC. Lower than universities in Australia and England, but higher than universities in the US.
- OSAP participation rate is down due to the fact that there are changes in the OSAP regulations with regard to families that this threshold around \$140,000.
- The university is working to ramp up student aid.
- The student debt load is down of those students who have OSAP.
- 57 % of direct entry undergrad students have no debt on graduation right now.
- Sticker price is at 59,320 international tuition. Which is an increase of 2%. The increase is lower than all of our other Canadian peers. We still have the highest percentage of international students, particularly for Canada.
- The university is trying to ramp up scholarship programs and diversify the countries of origin of our international students. 47 % of international students come from the Republic of China. There has been growth from Europe and Asia Pacific, except for China. There are efforts to ramp things up in Africa right now. India and Pakistan's rate remain unchanged.
- Grad employability is still great. First in North America, fifth out of all public funding institutions globally.
- U of T is investing 2.6 million into inclusivity in a broad sense, especially to new faculty hires for black and Indigenous people.
- Money also going into:
  - Mental Health Services
  - Student Advising Services
  - Classroom Renewal
  - Major Gift Offices for Defy Gravity

- Driving Scientific Discovery
- Deferred Maintenance

Question from Emily Gilbert – We see an increase in undergrad students, is this across all three campuses? And are these increases on target?

Answer from Markus Stock - UTSC might be increasing more, in particular with new Health and Medicine Centre.

Answer from Ryan Woolfrey - The international enrollment target for UC is consistent with the TriCampus average, and we are in line with domestic and international targets, at 18.5% of the Arts and Science population.

### **Update from the UC Literary & Athletics Society, Thérèse Perucho**

- Fireball dance was held with a great turnout, approximately 400-500 attendees.
- Diabolos coffee bar is open and its hours can be found by searching on Google.
- Smaller events such as a comedy show and a Valentine's Day Candygram event were held.
- Upcoming events include a drag show and the Ball Awards.
- Annual general meetings were delayed but will be held soon.
- Executive elections were held virtually and new council members will be ratified soon.
- Elections for representatives and other positions will be held soon.
- Hiring is ongoing for two positions of a speaker and an orientation chair.
- This may be the last college council meeting for Therese, she thanks everyone for their conversations and interactions throughout her role.

### **Update from the Chief Administrative Officer, Yvonne MacNeil**

- Administration will rehire students in the Summer program so Michelle Almazan will be on the front desk
- Susan Dick has moved to a full accounting position, so she's downstairs with Maricar Velasco
- The Laidlaw project is moving along with mobilizing construction people
- Landmark project is working on completing the west side of the circle with pavers and granite and they are pushing to get the access back from Scenario Conference Center

accessible entrance, which is difficult to accommodate. They will try to get the access back even for a week if they have to take it back.

- Budget Presentation
  - UC receives an operating budget from the Faculty of Arts and Science each year. To determine it the CAO meets with all the program directors and directors of each area to assess their needs; gaps are often filled with discretionary funds.
  - The ancillary operations across the country have been struggling to recover from the pandemic's financial impact, and the University College was no exception. The College Ancillary budget is recovering as students have returned to campus and food/catering business has picked up. Still some way to go.

Question from Isabelle Cochelin – Should we be worried?

Answer from Yvonne McNeil – No. Numbers are looking back up, very positive even compared to pre-pandemic.

### **Update from the Registrar, Ryan Woolfrey**

- Two new academic advisors have been hired, Stacey Upton and Caterina Carnovale
- Team has grown to 14 staff from only 8 in 2018
- New frontline office opened on March 6<sup>th</sup> in H-wing with advisors nearby and a student waiting room
- Program enrollment for students started on March 1, and summer enrollment is underway with approximately 30% of courses available online
- The admissions cycle for Fall 2023 is underway, with approximately 90% of the projected incoming class already admitted
- There has been an increase in online offerings to accommodate students returning home for the summer
- Several award competitions are currently open or in progress, including Leadership Award, Travel Award, and Graduating Year Award applications
- Emergency grant funding is available for students affected by natural disasters and political turmoil
- The final deadline to apply for grants is coming up on March 31<sup>st</sup>, applications being reviewed

## **Update from the Dean of Students, Naeem Ordóñez**

- The residence admission cycle for 2023-2024 has begun
- Deadline for resident student application process was March 10
- New students have until March 31 to confirm housing guarantee status
- Summer residence applications are open until early August
- We have seen an increased demand for student housing on campus, so we are anticipating busy summer season in residences.
- All three residence buildings will be used to support summer operations for the first time
- Offers for student staff leadership positions have been made, so focus is being pivoted to hiring for student porter positions
- Many successful events have been held or are being planned: UC Alumni Shauna Van Praagh's book talk around the theme of Building Justice, Karaoke event in the Commuter Student Center, Black Student Association coffee house on March 22, Art session Stress Buster on March 31, Wellness kits will be distributed on April 6<sup>th</sup>

## **Update from the Vice-Principal, Emily Gilbert**

- Ange Loft named Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor at University College
  - Ange Loft is an interdisciplinary performing artist from Kahnawà:ke, QC
  - Her collaborations use arts-based research, voice, wearable sculpture, theatrical co-creation, and Haudenosaunee history to facilitate workshops and community-engaged spectacle
- Suzette Mayr and Sheila Heti to join BFDV Thea Lim for a discussion on writing novels about labour
  - The authors will speak about work in their own lives and their books
  - They will discuss the ways stories capture parts of working life that don't quite fit economic or political analyses
- The next deadline for all UC Writing Awards is May 1, 2023
- UC program directors, staff, and students attended Program Information Days
- Cognitive Science is holding a retreat in about 10 days to discuss curriculum renewal and other initiatives
- Canadian Studies just held its undergraduate conference and launched two online versions of the student undergraduate journal, ImagiNATIONS
- Health Studies students are also working on their undergraduate journal, called Health Perspectives
- The program hosted a Backpacks to Briefcase event with students sharing their experiences with the practicum and independent research
- The HSSU is excited to host their spring social on March 31

- Many of the program's senior students are participating in UC Research & Practice Day on April 6
- Students in UC One also participate in UC R&P's day
- University College has 3 academic searches underway
- The Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility Committee hosted a virtual tour of the former Mohawk Institute residential school
- The committee is finalizing an online workshop on Truth and Reconciliation, which will be held in mid-April and will be open to all

**Motion to approve Appointments Committee Membership:**

Be it resolved that University College Council approve the proposed membership of the UC Appointments Committee

Vice-Principal  
 Registrar  
 1 Program Director  
 4 Teaching Staff

Emily Gilbert  
 Ryan Woolfrey  
 Michael Widener  
 Alan Bewell  
 Cynthia Goh  
 Giancarla Periti  
 Walid Saleh  
 Maya Javier  
 Gazinajnin (Neha) Sultana

2 Undergraduate Students (appointed by the UC Lit)

Motion seconded by Naeem Ordonez  
 Motion Carries

**Guest Presentation, Bharat Saini**

**Introduction of presenter by Markus Stock**

- **Bharat Saini**
  - Bharat Saini is the inaugural Director of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) with the Faculty of Arts & Science at the University of Toronto. The EDI office develops and implements initiatives aimed at advancing equity, diversity and inclusion within the learning and working environments across the Faculty of Arts & Science. In collaboration with staff and academic administrators in the Office of the Dean, Human Resources offices and various academic units, the EDI office builds professional development, educational and mentorship initiatives for all levels of the Arts & Science community. Bharat has previously served as the



Manager of the Centre for Human Rights, Equity & Inclusion at Humber College in addition to roles with Osgoode Hall Law School, OCAD University, and York University.

### **Presentation by Bharat Saini**

- Land Acknowledgement
- The University of Toronto has a long-standing commitment to advancing EDI and fostering an inclusive environment.
- Advancing EDI is a shared responsibility and ongoing process.
- The University of Toronto is committed to eliminating racism, hate, and discrimination in its learning and working environments and leverages its strengths to enrich the environment for its faculty, staff, and students.
- The University has several statements, policies, and guidelines that articulate the University's commitment and responsibility to foster an inclusive, working and learning environment.
- The responsibility is across all levels of the University, from the President, Vice President, Provost, Vice Presidents, all the other Vice Presidents, and Vice Provost, principals, unions, chairs, managers across the board.
- The University has several strategic tables that are mandated to review existing University processes and practices.
- Bharat Saini's role is to work collaboratively across the Faculty of Arts and Science to develop and implement initiatives aimed at advancing EDI within the learning and working environments.
- The University collects demographic information to identify and address equity gaps and systemic barriers within the community, and Saini is working on an annual training program focusing on systemic and cultural transformation.
- This kind of work takes courage and is beyond a one-off training, and there is a level of healing and restoration that is an integral aspect of it but it is ongoing, and there is a lot more to do.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- **Barker Fairley Distinguished Visitor Event 2022/23**
  - Sheila Heti, Thea Lim, Suzette Mayr
  - Title: Money's Too Tight to Mention: Writing Novels about Labour
  - Monday, March 27, 2023, 6pm (Clark Reading Room)
- **S.J. Stubbs Lecture in English Literature**
  - Prof. Santanu Das, All Souls College, University of Oxford

- Title: ‘A touch of soft yearning’: Shipboard intimacies from Herman Melville to E.M. Forster
- Wed. March 29, 2023, 4:30pm – Hybrid (Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House/Zoom)
- **W.J. Alexander Lecture in English Literature**
  - Prof. Hortense Spillers, Vanderbilt University
  - Title: TBA
  - Wed. April 19, 2023, 4:30pm – Hybrid (Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House/Zoom)
- **Please check back on our website for event details and registration:**
  - <https://www.uc.utoronto.ca/about-uc-connect-us-events>

**MEETING ADJOURNED (3:28pm)**