

SPRING 2019

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE IN THE SPOTLIGHT PRINCIPAL AINSLIE'S LASTING IMPACT





CATHERINE TAIL CEO AND PRESIDENT OF CBC/RADIO CANADA

U of T ALUMN REUNION

May 29 – June 3, 2019

SO MANY BEGINNINGS FOR UC GRADS

Our university years are a time of new beginnings—the first professor to expand our minds, our first all-nighter, the first few moments of friendships that last a lifetime. This year at the U of T Alumni Reunion, we're planning special events for 2019's honoured alumni—anyone who graduated in a year ending in 4 or 9. But all alumni are welcome. With more than 130 events to choose from, including two UC-specific events, there's something for every UC grad at Alumni Reunion 2019.



UC Alumni Salon Talk Birth of the Blue Jays

From 1967 to 1977, Toronto avidly pursued a major league baseball team. Citing findings from primary and secondary source research and original interviews, Maxwell Kates (BA 2001 UC) will chronicle how Toronto's baseball dream became a reality. Maxwell's work forms a chapter to the book *Time for Expansion Baseball*.

Thursday, May 30, 2019 6 pm to 7:30 pm UC 140



UC Class of 1969 Reception

Reunite with your UC classmates to celebrate the 50th anniversary of your graduation before the U of T medal ceremony in Convocation Hall.

Friday, May 31, 2019 11:30 am to 12:30 pm University College, Bissell House



REGISTER ONLINE www.alumnireunion.utoronto.ca

For more information or if you require an accommodation in order to attend an event, please contact UC Alumni Relations at (416) 978-2968 or uc.rsvp@utoronto.ca.

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About the cover image:

The cover photo was taken at the 2018 Alumni of Influence awards gala by photographer Stephanie Coffey. The painting was completed by live painting artist Olga Pankova during the event and given to Principal Ainslie as a gift from the University College community.

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SUPPORT THE DONALD C. AINSLIE LEADERSHIP AWARDS AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(Please see inside back cover to contribute.)

UNIVERSITY OF

BOUNDLESS

ANNOUNCEMENT





Professor Markus Stock, Chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto, has been appointed the next Principal of University College. Professor Stock holds a Ph.D. from the University of Göttingen, has held visiting professorships at the University of Freiberg and Harvard University, and has amassed a notable record of service in academic leadership and

governance at U of T. He will begin his term on January 1, 2020. For more information, see www.uc.utoronto.ca

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

FOND MEMORIES OF LIVING ON CAMPUS



In the living room at Bissell House. Photo credit Stephanie Coffey

BY DONALD AINSLIE

THANK YOU FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF STEWARDING THIS GREAT COLLEGE

"WHEN I WAS AN UNDERGRAD,

we used to break into Bissell House!" So said David Naylor (1974 UC), past President of the University of Toronto, when, at the beginning of my Principalship, he heard that my then-partner (now-husband) Mike and I had decided to move into the UC Principal's residence.

Now that I am in the final months of my tenure and nearing the end of almost eight years on campus, I can say that living at UC provided a perfect vantage point for learning the day-to-day of the College – 24/7 – as well as a meaningful way to connect with students, alumni, faculty, and staff. An invitation into someone's home is always appreciated.

I have many wonderful memories of Bissell House, far too many to discuss in a single column, but one that I would like to especially note is the student-faculty dinners.

Each month during the academic year, 25 students and five UC professors come to Bissell for a lowkey buffet-style dinner. Every student from a certain cohort is invited (e.g., all first-years or all international students). Attendees are selected on a first-come, first-served basis.

Over the past eight years, it has become a UC tradition and many students have mentioned how much they've enjoyed these dinners. Faculty members, including the current U of T President and UC faculty member, Meric Gertler, also relish the opportunity to interact with students in a more casual setting, rather than through the lens of classes and grades.

I typically make a few remarks at these dinners, and one of the many stories I like to tell is how Bissell House got its name. Before he became the President of U of T (1958-71), Claude Bissell (BA 1936 UC) was the UC Dean of Men from 1946 to 1956. He lived in what was then the "Dean's House" with his wife, Christine. Their daughter, Deirdre (BA 1969 UC), was born while they were residents of the College. After he passed away, UC named the House in his honour.

One afternoon, early in my first term, I was walking home and noticed two people looking at the House from the front gate. To my surprise, it was Christine Bissell - then in her 90s, now deceased - and her daughter Deirdre Macdonald (née Bissell)! I invited them to tea and had the pleasure of hearing their stories of post-war life on campus and, from Deirdre, what it was like to grow up at UC.

Like the Bissells, Mike and I have enjoyed family life in the house and have hosted many events: Mike's mother's 70th; my parents' 60th anniversary party; several Christmas dinners (the largest had almost 30 guests); and much more. But most memorably, Mike and I got married while living at Bissell House, and hosted our families for a champagne toast before taking wedding photos on the College grounds. We have been very lucky to have it as our first home together.

However, one hot summer's night in 2013, I was awakened by some rustling outside our bedroom window. I got up to investigate and found several students—in the Naylor tradition had climbed on the roof! "What are you doing?" My shout startled them and they quickly scrambled away.

As Mike and I move into our new home this spring, we're expecting our only nocturnal visitors will be raccoons. We'll leave the UC students behind on campus and in the good hands of my successor. I'm sure they'll enjoy the privilege of stewarding this great college as much as I have.

CALENDAR

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 7 pm Hosted by UC Librarian Margaret Fulford, the book club will discuss *Little Sister* by Barbara Gowdy University College | Room 240 For info: (416) 978-2968



PRINCIPAL DONALD AINSLIE FAREWELL Thursday, May 23, 2019

University College will be hosting a farewell reception to celebrate Principal Donald Ainslie, who has served as Principal of UC since 2011. His last day will be June 30, 2019. Whitney Quad | 85 St. George Street, Toronto Rain location: Howard Ferguson Dining Hall | 75 St. George Street, Toronto For info: (416) 978-7416



R.K. TEETZEL LECTURE IN ARCHITECTURE

Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 4:30 pm Professor Alice T. Freidman Grace Slack McNeil Professor of American Art Wellesley College University College | Room 140 Reception to follow





BONHAM CENTRE AWARDS GALA Wednesday, April 24, 2019

The annual awards gala theme this year is Celebrating 50 Years of LGBTQ2+ Activism The Great Hall, Hart House 7 Hart House Circle, Toronto \$125 individual | \$1,000 group of 10 For info: (416) 978-6276

ALUMNI REUNION Thursday, May 30, 2019 at 6 pm

History of the Blue Jays Alumni Salon Talk with Maxwell Kates (BA 2001 UC) From 1967 to 1977, Toronto avidly pursued a major league baseball team. Citing finds from primary to secondary source research and original interviews, Maxwell Kates (BA 2001 UC) will chronicle how Toronto's baseball dream became a reality. Maxwell's work forms a chapter to the book *Time for Expansion Baseball*. UC 140

For info: (416) 978-2968



UC CLASS OF 1969 RECEPTION Friday, May 31, 2019 at 11:30 am

Reunite with your UC classmates to celebrate the 50th anniversary of your graduation before the U of T medal ceremony in Convocation Hall. Bissell House 15 King's College Circle, Toronto For info: (416) 978-2968

8TH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE AWARDS GALA Wednesday, November 13, 2019

The Carlu | 444 Yonge Street, Toronto

The University College Alumni of Influence Awards gala is an annual recognition and celebration of individuals whose life accomplishments have had tremendous influence locally, nationally, and internationally. Celebrating their success signals to alumni, students, and faculty that they are all part of a vibrant College. **More information to follow**

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE *in the* SPOTLIGHT



DONALD AINSLIE'S TERM AS PRINCIPAL COMES TO AN END

BY ELAINE SMITH



here's a buzz around University College (UC), and it's the hum of progress. The College's iconic main building and its courtyard are undergoing a major renovation; the student experience has clearly become central to the life of UC; there is a busy, growing alumni association and an annual alumni awards gala; stakeholders are

engaged; U of T's two downtown arts centres are now federated; the College's academic programs are thriving; and UC One, an initiative for firstyear students, provides a richer experience than ever before.

Naturally, changes of this nature require many hands, but most would agree the driving force behind these developments is Professor Donald Ainslie, who ends his second term as principal of UC at the end of June after eight successful years at its helm.

"He has energized the college," says Melinda Scott, UC's dean of students. "He has brought a sense of excitement and urgency to the work of UC."

Ainslie, former chair of the Department of Philosophy, joined U of T in 1996 and became a faculty member of University college six years later. The Toronto native has a proud family history with the University and the college. His grandfather, also named Donald Ainslie (BA 1915 UC), started his



physics degree there in 1911 – "exactly 100 years before I was named principal," his grandson says with pride – and returned for a PhD. Ainslie's parents were both U of T students in the 1950s, and two of his sisters also earned U of T degrees. In fact, Ainslie has made a donation to the University's Landmark Project—a campus landscape renewal initiative—that he co-chairs, to name the garden outside Bissell House, the principal's residence, after his paternal grandparents.

During Ainslie's tenure as principal, he has continuously demonstrated his passion for serving UC and the larger University community.

"I believe in the idea of the university as the heart of the city and an engine of opportunity," says Ainslie. "U of T has an important role to play, and UC embodies the values that make the University great: non-sectarian, accessible education."

It's a theme that resonates with Meric Gertler, president of U of T, who has identified city-building as one of the University's priorities.

"Professor Ainslie will leave a major legacy to the University and to the city of Toronto from his years as Principal of UC," says Gertler.

"Through the revitalization of one of our signature buildings, and through his leadership in the campaign underway to renew the landscapes at the heart of our historic St. George campus, he has been a key figure in realizing the potential of one of the city's most important public spaces."

In fact, one of Ainslie's first acts as principal was to create a vision statement for the college reflecting its values and UC's place within the city and beyond. The statement, developed by the College Council after consultations with the UC community, reads: "University College is a welcoming community built on a long history of nonsectarian education and research that challenges undergraduate students to excel intellectually and prepares them to engage in the wider world."

"It was a process of documenting what really mattered to us," says Ainslie. "We want to make sure everyone involved with the college has a meaningful experience and that UC puts undergraduates first, even while U of T remains a world-renowned research university. Our long tradition of valuing diversity has meant that our alumni have gone on to do great things in Canada and around the world."

The statement's focus on students is no surprise to anyone who has worked with Ainslie. "His interest in and respect for students is one of his outstanding characteristics," says Nishi Kumar (BA 2014 UC), Principal Ainslie giving students a construction tour of the Croft Chapter House. photo credit Horst Herget

an alumna who was the 2013-14 President of the University College Literary & Athletic Society (UC Lit), the UC student government.

"I worked with a lot of administrators. Not many made as much of an effort to work with students and really hear what they had to say as he did" says Kumar. "He was one of the few who took students seriously and treated us like colleagues who had a similar level of investment in the college."

Ainslie's actions have always spoken as loudly as his words. When he began his first term as principal, he and husband, Mike Twamley, decided to move into Bissell House, the principal's residence attached to the historic UC building. They have since made a point of opening the house up to students for monthly faculty-student dinners, and hosting annual events for the UC Lit Council, the orientation leaders, the residence dons, the Art Museum board and the book sale volunteers, among others.

"Not every principal would live on campus, and bring the college community into their home," says Scott. "Donald has made Bissell House a place to engage with students informally, in meaningful ways."

Paul Schweitzer, an archeology student and current president of UC Lit, finds Ainslie very approachable.

"He takes an interest in every person he talks to and is good at relating to them," says Schweitzer. "And, everyone I know loves going to Bissell House."

Yes, Ainslie has brought change to UC in intangible ways, but his tangible accomplishments are also evident, beginning with the revitalization of the historic University College building. The project broke ground in January 2018 after a number of years spent planning and fundraising. The revitalization comprises an update to the front of the building's interior and upgrades to the quad. The renovations include installing an elevator and adding new ramps to make the college far more accessible; establishing the Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House; moving the library to East Hall; and creating the Clark Reading Room, a quiet study space, in West Hall. The renovations will be completed while preserving the historic character of the building, which is one of Ainslie's passions.

None of these changes would have come about without Ainslie's vision and stewardship.

"Don has done an impeccable job bringing UC into the 21st century," says Paul Cadario, a U of T alumnus and donor whose gift has made the Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House possible. "He is central to the revitalization project and I see him as central to the college's academic and co-curricular goals. In addition, he has certainly made it possible for donors to be involved in the life of the college."

Alumni, too, have seen changes since Ainslie took on the principal's role. The alumni association has refocused its mandate and, with Ainslie, has found new ways to bring graduates back to campus: in addition to the longstanding book sale and mentorship program, there are now monthly alumni salons, a book club, and an annual Alumni of Influence gala to celebrate graduates who have had successes in their varied pursuits over the years.

"We're building the alumni association out as a public entity," says Ho K. Sung (BA 1980 UC), an architect who is the current chair. "We're setting up a framework so others can carry it on long term. It's quite exciting."

Naomi Handley, UC's director of advancement, says, "Donald has thrived at fundraising and alumni relations. He's dedicated and determined to build a community for both alumni and students."

"DURING HIS TIME AS PRINCIPAL, PROFESSOR AINSLIE HAS GUIDED UNIVERSITY COLLEGE THROUGH A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL REVITALIZATION PROCESS, HELPED TO SOLIDIFY THE COLLEGE'S FIRST YEAR FOUNDATIONS – UC ONE – AND HAS PROMOTED NEW COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN THE UC UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS AND SEVERAL GRADUATE UNITS" — PROFESSOR CHERYL REGEHR, VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST OF U OF T

Ainslie's rapport with students and alumni has had an enormous impact on the revitalization effort. The UC Lit held a referendum on supporting the project with an increase to annual student fees, voting to contribute almost \$2.1 million to renovating the college's student spaces. After the levy passed, the student funds, which will be collected over a 20-year period, were matched by UC alumni Edmund (BA 1969 UC) and Frances Clark (BA 1969 UC), whose second major Revitalization donation will enable the UC quad to be upgraded once the interior renovations are finished. Their earlier gift in support of the Clark Reading Room anchored UC's fundraising efforts for the Revitalization.

UC alumna, donor and artist, Diana Bennett (BA 1965 UC) points to the Revitalization as a demonstration of Ainslie's commitment to the college, but is also quick to note his guidance regarding the federation between the University of Toronto Art Centre (UTAC) at UC and the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery at Hart House, which took place during his tenure. The two galleries now operate under the umbrella of the Art Museum at U of T and share a common staff and programming strategy. The result has been a series of award-winning exhibitions, deeper academic links between the Art Museum and academic departments, record-breaking attendance, and a higher profile for both UTAC and the Barnicke Gallery. Bennett, chair of the UTAC Advisory Board during that time, saw firsthand how hard Ainslie worked to bring everyone together. "I view him as a marvelous administrator, with a foundation in his tremendous academic dedication," says Bennett.

His administrative abilities can also be seen as rooted in his belief in strong academic offerings, which have been exemplified by his work with Professor John Marshall, the UC vice-principal, to solidify the UC One courses (small class experiences for first-year students), and to strengthen the college's academic programs: Canadian Studies, Health Studies, and Cognitive Science. Ainslie, working with Marshall and the program directors, hired new faculty, including the Richard Charles Lee Chair in Chinese Canadian Studies, and broadened experiential learning opportunities.

"During his time as Principal, Professor Ainslie has guided University College through a highly successful revitalization process, helped to solidify the college's first year foundations – UC One – and has promoted new collaborations between the UC undergraduate programs and several graduate units," says Professor Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and Provost of U of T. "Professor Ainslie has a deep commitment to fostering an outstanding student experience at the University of Toronto, and preparing our graduates for lifelong success."

Ainslie is matter-of-fact and modest about all the accomplishments UC has seen during his tenure.

"You can't do anything as one person," he says. "It's definitely a team effort and we have all been working together throughout my term."

Nonetheless, his departure will leave large shoes to fill.

"I'm certain that UC will miss him," Cadario says. "It will be very difficult to equal that kind of passion and energy."



MEMORABLE EIGHT YEARS AT THE HELM OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Principal DONALD AINSLIE



Art Museum University of Toronto

9











1 2011: Professor Donald Ainslie is installed as the 16th Principal of University College, University of Toronto.

2 2011: UC One program for first-year students launches with a founding gift from James Mossman.

3 2012: The Alumni of Influence awards are established one year into Principal Ainslie's tenure.

4 2012: University College launches the Asian Canadian Studies minor offered by the Canadian Studies Program. In celebration of the launch, the Honourable Vivienne Poy, former Senator, and U of T Chancellor Emerita, delivers the inaugural lecture in the Asian Canadian Lecture Series. Thanks to an anonymous gift, UC later establishes the Richard Charles Lee Chair in Chinese Canadian Studies in 2013.

5 2013: Principal Ainslie with the 2012-13 UC Lit during a council meeting.

6 2013: The Cognitive Science program, under the guidance of Principal Ainslie, returns to the college.

7 2014: University College students gather to form a giant UC during orientation week.

8 2015: Principal Ainslie transformed into Dumbledore for the UC family and community Harry Potter event.

9 2016: The University of Toronto Art Centre (UTAC) at UC and the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery at Hart House, launch the Art Museum at U of T; the federation of the two galleries within this new identity is a result of the work and guidance of Principal Ainslie.

10 2017: UC hosts a groundbreaking event for the Revitalization Project. The revitalization increases the building's accessibility with new ramps and an elevator; returns the library to its original home in East Hall; transforms West Hall into the Clark Reading Room and creates the Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House.

11 2018: U of T President Meric Gertler attends a faculty-student dinner at Bissell House—a monthly dinner, which has become a UC tradition during Principal Ainslie's tenure.

12 2018: Principal Ainslie takes students on a construction tour. Students stop to sign the walls of Croft Chapter House before new panelling is installed.

13 2018: A final Alumni of Influence celebration as Principal of University College. Ainslie finishes his term on June 30, 2019.

REVITALIZATION







JPDATE



Croft Chapter House become a full-service conference centre, thanks to a generous donation from Paul Cadario.

Progress has been swift in the past few months. All major mechanical and electrical alterations are now in place, which will ensure proper cooling and heating. The first accessible ramp is finished, connecting the Croft Lobby to room 179. Structural reinforcement of the dome in the soon-to-be Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House is complete and awaiting the installation of a chandelier (now in production) that will span the dome and improve acoustics.

Millwork for the rooms is now in production and installation will begin during the spring and summer months. And the floor of the mezzanine in the new library is nearing completion.

Exciting developments will continue to unfold over the coming months as the college prepares to unveil the magnificent transformation and updating of this historic building.

Clockwise from top left: View through to the new café of what will be the Clark Reading Room in West Hall. Scaffolding around the dome in the new Paul Cadario Conference Centre at Croft Chapter House. The mezzanine nearing completion in the new library in East Hall. Original carving in East Hall. Photo credit Math Rosen

DISCUSSION

with ILANA LANDSBERG-LEWIS:

A PERSONAL REFLECTION ON SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL STRUGGLE FOR LGBTQ HUMAN RIGHTS

BY ILANA LANDSBERG-LEWIS

In the fall of 2018, Ilana Landsberg-Lewis (BA 1988 UC), recipient of a UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2016, returned to the college to participate in the *UC Salon Talk Series*. The series invites prominent alumni to speak about their work and experiences and provide opportunities for our community to attend and participate in thought-provoking discussions.

Landsberg-Lewis's talk, A Personal Reflection: The Disturbing History of the United Nations (UN) and LGBTQ Rights, offered an insightful reflection on her experience working at the UN. As a follow-up, she has written an equally illuminating article.

IN THE UN PROPER, A TITANIC BATTLE IS BEING WAGED AMONGST MEMBER STATES AROUND LGBTQ PEOPLE

am passionate about the human rights struggle of LGBTQQIP2SAA people. It is a theme that has woven throughout my working life; however, I cannot claim to be an LGBTQ activist. In fact, my work has been more behind the scenes, and focused more on the institutional dimensions and challenges of trying to move things forward.

My first foray into the struggle for LGBTQ rights was at the United Nations, which I joined in 1994 as an idealistic young lefty lesbian feminist, excitedly joining the staff of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). After a shocking and demoralizing experience of homophobia (really lesbophobia) from a senior colleague, I decided to seek assistance from the UN staff organization for LGBTQ employees; however, I was shocked to learn that none existed. I proceeded to meet with a couple of lesbian friends and decided to start one-we called it UN Globe.

We immediately ran into discrimination and censure from colleagues in the organization. We were not permitted to meet on UN grounds, and our flyers and posters were routinely defaced and torn down. From our LGBTQ colleagues, a group instantly appeared, all of them anxious to improve our working conditions—many of them too afraid to be open, and others who quietly exhorted me to cease and desist, certain that an employee advocacy group would cost me my job and threaten the jobs of others. I must say that the greatest anxiety and trepidation came from very senior staff—those located on the 13th floor of the UN Secretariat building who had worked for multiple Secretaries General. They were certain that discretion and invisibility were the only protections.

Happily, they were wrong. The situation was so intractable that UN Globe decided that, as President, I should go to meet with Kofi Annan (his death this year was a real loss for humanity). He was gracious, and thoughtful and, within a few days, the officials responsible for granting permission for group meetings at the UN agreed to let us meet on UN grounds. With a secure place to meet, we were able to turn our energies to the struggle to secure employment rights equal to those of our heterosexual counterparts. Aside from issues like the right to name our partners on our pension benefits, there were urgent issues for UN employees around working visas for our spouses (as we were posted to different countries and were being routinely separated from our partners-unlike heterosexual employees). While Kofi Annan was supportive, and did what he could, this wasn't the case for all UN leadership. When I met with Mary Robinson, the then - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, asking for her support, she informed me that, as far as she was concerned, international human rights law

protections did not apply to UN employees. She was not interested in taking up our cause.

Our small group of brave members from around the world never managed to secure rights beyond official group status. Now, however, UN Globe has grown hugely with representatives in different countries and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of members. They've made significant gains, but we are still by no means afforded fully equal status as heterosexual employees.

Of course, in the UN proper, a titanic battle is being waged amongst member states around recognizing the human rights of LGBTQ people ("SOGI" - sexual orientation and gender identity). The vitriol and hatred of some member states engulfs every discussion, and LGBTQ activists suffer the slings and arrows valiantly on our behalf. Without them, the Special Rapporteur on SOGI, and some of the other important gains that have been made, would never have come to pass. I like to think that at the end of each succeeding toxic debate, where gains have been made or lost, the presence of LGBTQ UN employees (made visible and, I hope, less threatened by UN Globe) is a potent reminder in the UN Secretariat corridors and agencies that we are everywhere and our rights matter.

Fast forward to today. In my work at the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF), we have launched an LGBTQ Africa Initiative, to support the life-enhancing HIV work of LGBTQ community-based organizations. In this context, I again learned the critical importance of supporting their institutional strength and survival, and bolstering the resilience of the activists and employees themselves.

LGBTQ communities across sub-Saharan Africa are too often living under threat, experiencing rampant stigma, often forced to live in secrecy and fear, subjected to violence, incarceration and even murder. In 34 countries their lives are criminalized, and state actors ignore, dismiss, and fail to protect even their most basic human rights. In this climate, HIV awareness, testing, counselling and treatment are dangerously compromised, and infection rates climb. Tenacious LGBTO leaders and organizations provide services and, with dignity and courage, put their lives on the line every day, working to change attitudes and laws. They do everything from providing safe locations for HIV information and testing, to working with local governments and health providers to supply services that are stigma-free and more. Our initiative supports elements of that vital work.

But it is not enough to support their programmatic service delivery and human rights lobbying. In order for activist leaders and groups to do this critical work, they must receive support that makes it possible for them to exist. They need salaries, and funds for rent, for an office that is safe and secure, for computers and bookkeepers, and for emergency reserves for use when offices are raided or leaders jailed. They also need funds for medical care when community members are assaulted, and for psychosocial care for staff. What I have learned from these remarkable groups is that, lamentably, this kind of funding is the hardest for them to raise. For this reason, the SLF is committed to providing institutional support alongside program support wherever possible.

If the current impasse at the international and national levels is to be overcome, and if the human rights of LBGTQ people everywhere are to be secured, then we need to ensure that activists and organization staff are strong and have the necessary resources (both human and institutional) to be able to claim their human rights. It is they who will push every boundary, and every shameful transgression of human rights. It is a battle that is being fought as I sit here and write. It is a matter of life and death, dignity, and the profound right to lead a life free from torture, fear, discrimination, and violence. Every one of us has a place in the struggle to insist that the world come to its senses and, in doing so, rescue the integrity of human rights for all, and improve the human condition for everyone in the process.

Ilana Landsberg-Lewis is the Executive Director of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Stephen Lewis (1959 UC) won an Alumnus of Influence Award in 2012.

See page 7 for an upcoming Salon Talk during Alumni Reunion. For additional Salon Talks, visit events at uc.utoronto.ca

Transforming the Public Broadcaster into a DIGITAL DOBUTAL DOBUTAL

CBC/RADIO-CANADA PRESIDENT AND CEO CATHERINE TAIT

BY SHELDON GORDON

n the age of streaming services, podcasts and social media, it is appropriate that Catherine Tait's (BA 1979 UC) first major announcement, since being appointed President and CEO of CBC/ Radio-Canada, was the pre-launch in September of *CBC Gem*, a new CBC streaming service available (since December 11, 2018) on the CBC TV app.

CBC Gem will offer films from Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board of Canada (NFB), as well as Canadian children's programming, news and

current affairs shows. The streaming of these "crown jewels of Canadian content," as Tait calls them, is one more step in transforming the corporation into a digital powerhouse.





That mission will dominate Tait's fiveyear term, which began in July when she became the first woman to lead the public broadcaster, as well as its first president with a background as a content creator. (Previous presidents were former civil servants, technocrats and lawyers.)

> Tait, 60, was born in Athens, Greece, but grew up in Ottawa. Her father was a diplomat; her mother worked as a secretary at the CBC. She followed in the footsteps of both parents by enrolling at University College (UC), where her grandfather had been a professor. Her undergraduate studies, however, did not get off to a roaring start.

> > "I started in science," she recalls, "but after a year, I realized I had no interest in math, so I quit. The Registrar of UC called me, said 'you mustn't quit, and offered to devise a study program for me. He introduced me to philosophy and literature. He picked all the courses. and I took Plato and Aristotle,

Shakespeare and Chaucer. I was off to the races. I was able to cast a wide net intellectually thanks to the Registrar. It gave me a big appetite for learning."

After earning her Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) at UC, Tait went on to do two degrees abroad, then returned to Ottawa to work as a policy analyst with the then - Federal Communications Department. At Telefilm Canada, she became Manager of Policy and Planning. Then she moved to New York City, where she ran the Independent Feature Project, a trade organization for independent filmmakers.

She next served two years as the cultural attaché with the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris. She returned to Canada to run Michael Donovan's Salter Street Films as President and Chief Operating Officer from 1997 to 2001. "That was the first hands-on film production company that I was part of," she says. The company produced *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* for the CBC and Michael Moore's Oscar-winning documentary *Bowling for Columbine.* "My main role was to take the company public and do business development."

In 2002, Tait co-founded New Yorkbased Duopoly Inc., primarily a media consulting firm with clients such as HBO, Telefilm Canada and the NFB. She served as President until her CBC appointment. She also co-founded iThentic, a digital content company based in Toronto, in 2006. The company partnered with the CBC in 2017 to create a 10-episode, online series, *Save Me*, a dramedy about people caught in emergency situations.

In 2010, she co-founded Hollywood Suite, a Toronto-based company that markets four Canada-wide, high-definition channels of vintage

"WE HAVE TO BE WHERE CANADIANS ARE AND THE MAJORITY OF YOUNG CANADIANS ARE ON THEIR SMARTPHONES."

"I WOULD ARGUE THAT ONLY BY REFLECTING CANADIANS IN ALL OF THEIR DIVERSITY DO WE DO OUR JOB WELL"

Hollywood movies on cable TV and digital platforms. "For the last 15 years, I've been living in New York with my family and commuting to Toronto for my job," she says.

Tait's CBC/Radio-Canada now performs the same balancing act as other media companies that have legacy assets, such as traditional TV and radio systems, but are trying to pivot to digital. Under *Strategy* 2020, a CBC plan issued in 2014, the corporation set a goal of doubling the number of Canadians using its digital platform to 18 million by 2020. It reached that monthly target two-anda-half years ahead of schedule in 2017.

CBC/Radio-Canada, though, still needs to deliver much of its content by TV and radio. "There are Canadians for whom that is the only information they receive in their communities, especially in the North, where broadband internet has not penetrated," says Tait. The public broadcaster's mandate, she notes, is to serve all Canadians in both official languages, regardless of location.

"Yet we have to be where Canadians are—and the majority of young Canadians are on their smartphones. They're not necessarily consuming news and entertainment by linear television or radio. The challenge is how do we manage to straddle the legacy assets and the future when our budget is not increasing?"

CBC/Radio-Canada received criticism for downgrading its TV coverage of local news, but Tait says it has more than offset that by boosting its online reportage. "Now you have 24/7 digital coverage in communities where, quite frankly, some of them didn't even have a supper-hour local newscast." During Ontario's municipal elections in October 2018, CBC did not provide TV coverage during prime time, but instead live-streamed reporting of the results on its YouTube channel and Facebook page.

The Trudeau government, in 2016, committed \$675-million in additional funding over five years to CBC/ Radio-Canada, thereby reversing the budget cuts imposed by the Harper government. The incremental funding has already been allocated for digital local news, programming for Indigenous Peoples, and CBC Films through the Breaking Barriers Film Fund—which supports independent feature-film projects by Canadian women, LGBTQ, Indigenous and diverse filmmakers.

Certainly, Tait wants CBC/ Radio-Canada to be an inclusive storyteller for those and other underrepresented groups. When asked whether programming aimed at specific audiences risks undermining its mandate to promote national consciousness and national identity, she replies: "That's an age-old question. I would argue that only by reflecting Canadians in all of their diversity do we do our job well."

That, in turn, has required more diversity in hiring and promotion at the public broadcaster, both in front of and behind the camera. "We're doing great on our hiring statistics," she says. Women are now half of CBC employees, "and if you look at our senior management team, there are more women than men. Where we can do better is in the senior management ranks of people from minority groups and disabled people." Tait is dubious about the idea of eliminating advertising on all CBC/Radio-Canada platforms – a proposal made by her predecessor, Hubert T. Lacroix. She notes that were the \$300-million in foregone yearly revenue not replaced by tax dollars, CBC/Radio-Canada would be unable to deliver arts or Indigenous programming or fulfill its other publicservice duties. "Would I like to have an ad-free environment? Yes. Is it realistic? Given the evidence, no."

The public broadcaster will, though, make proposals to Ottawa for its updating of the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Acts in 2019. The existing legislation refers to television and radio, but does not even mention digital. "We would like it to focus on service and content rather than a particular platform. We need maximum flexibility to manage digital's enormous disruption to our industry."

Tait also advocates that revisions would strengthen the independence of CBC/Radio-Canada. She hopes to see the Broadcasting Act amended to underline its role "as a custodian of Canadian values and democracy, including how we communicate those values internationally."

In an era of "fake news," Tait is determined that CBC/Radio-Canada maintain the credibility of its brand. "We're working on a system of traceability of our content. Every piece of content we issue will have an embedded code so that we can say to Google or Facebook, 'make sure you're verifying content that's claiming to be ours against the real content.' The best antidote to fake news is real news."

UC CAREER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

FORMING BONDS BEYOND CAMPUS

BY KIRK SIBBALD

rowing up the daughter of two university professors, Tian Wang (BA 2013 UC) felt certain she would, in some way, follow in their footsteps—get her PhD in a healthrelated discipline,

go into medicine or pursue a career in academia. However, her career trajectory changed once she decided to follow a desire to travel the world, globetrotting as a flight attendant or pilot. The possibility of this dream becoming a reality was helped along after meeting Carol Nash (BA 1980 UC) through UC's Career Mentorship Program.

Wang signed up for the program in 2011 and attended an event where she expected to be introduced to a mentor



Carol Nash and Tian Wang at the 2018 mentorship launch party. Photo credit Stephanie Coffey

in the health field. Nash was also at the event as a first-time mentor in the program. But when both of their matches were unable to attend, Nash introduced herself to Wang and the duo immediately hit it off.

"It was almost like fate," Wang says while recalling that day seven years later.

Nash, Scholar-in-Residence for the University of Toronto's History of Medicine program, could immediately tell Wang was weighing her options. Over the course of several meetings and multiple bowls of ramen—Nash began encouraging Wang to simply explore her passions.

"I had my doubts at first, because I wasn't sure (being a flight attendant) was a good long-term career choice. But Carol believed in me and helped me build enough confidence to take a risk I wouldn't have on my own," says Wang, who has now worked for several years as a flight attendant and is currently studying to become a pilot. "Now I'm living my dream, and it really is all thanks to her."

UC's Career Mentorship Program, established in 2007, pairs UC alumni with current third- and fourth-year undergraduate students. While there are few hard rules, the pairs are asked to meet at least three times throughout the academic year. What is discussed during the meetings is supposed to be student-directed.

"The program gives students an opportunity to meet with professionals who can provide career advice and help them build professional networks," explains Mike Henry, Alumni Relations Officer for UC.

Sponsored by Manulife, Henry says the program now averages about 80 matches per year. While some of the matches are predictable—lawyers



mentoring students interested in law, writers mentoring English students others are more unorthodox.

Carolyn MacLeod (BA 1974 UC), for example, is an alumna with a background in education. She was paired with Abdul Moiz Khatri (BSc 2018 UC), a student studying astronomy and astrophysics.

"On paper you wouldn't think that someone with my background and an astrophysicist would have much in common," says MacLeod. "But the thing we did have in common was that we were both interested in Abdul's next steps and ultimate success."

After a few emails and meetings at Diabolos (the student-run café in the Junior Common Room at University College), it became clear to MacLeod that while Khatri enjoyed studying astronomy and astrophysics, he wasn't interested in pursuing it as a career. But what he did have was a real passion for research. Following his graduation from UC in the spring of 2018, Khatri landed an entry-level research job and is now exploring several opportunities with continued support from MacLeod.

"Once he finds his footing, I know he is going to do brilliantly," says MacLeod, making note of Moiz Khatri's engaging personality and proclivity for deep examination. "I am always glad to hear from him, and I will certainly remain interested in how he's doing over time." MacLeod's continued communication with Moiz Khatri is hardly unique, according to University College Alumni Association member, Erika Bailey (BA 1997 UC), who leads an alumni-to-student support program through the University of Toronto's Career Exploration & Education office. Bailey—who has also mentored several students herself through the UC program—says relationships formed through mentorship programs often outlive the program itself.

"Students often give as much to the mentor as the mentor gives to them," says Bailey. "Whenever a mentor talks about their connection with a student, they really get excited. They get to hear really human questions from students, and share valuable personal experiences."

In other words, mentorship relationships often go much deeper than simple resume polishing or interview training. The students and alumni "challenge each other to think in different ways," says Bailey, and this can lead to lasting bonds.

Such was the case with Daniel Zhang (BSc 2016 UC), a computer science and economics student who signed up for the program in 2014. As an international student, Zhang says one of his main motivations for participating was to build a professional network. After being matched with Greg Wade (BA 1990 UC), he found that and more. Wade, who had been working with various startups and was previously an executive with companies such as BlackBerry and Samsung, spent most of his first meeting with Zhang simply getting to know him on a personal level.

"He took a lot of time to ask about my background, where I came from, my interests and things like that. He also shared with me some of our similarities, because he worked in Asia. So after that first meeting, it made me feel a lot closer to him," explains Zhang.

Once they began discussing Zhang's future plans, however, Wade wasn't shy about sharing some professional advice and recommendations.

"He was very clear to me that, as an international student, if I wanted to succeed in Canada I really needed to get out of my comfort zone," recalls Zhang. "To this day I am still very grateful for that advice, because even after the program, I have kept reminding myself to jump out of my comfort zone. And that has led me to where I am today."

After interning for a year at a startup owned by an acquaintance of Wade's, Zhang returned to U of T and enrolled in courses on entrepreneurship. This led to the inception of Chopin, a health-care data management startup that Zhang co-founded with U of T PhD student Carolina Gomes. And, Wade agreed to join Zhang's team as a strategic advisor.



2018 mentorship launch party. Photo credit Stephanie Coffey

"We meet over the internet with Greg every two weeks, as we do with all of our advisors. But we also have a personal connection and chat a lot more outside of that as well," says Zhang.

"One of my friends actually works with Greg's son now, so there have been all kinds of neat connections that have come from this."

The mentorship program, now in its 11th year, has witnessed a number of former mentees returning as mentors, Tian Wang being one. Hesitant at first, Wang returned to the program as a mentor this past fall.

"At first I thought mentors needed to have lots of experience and be really established in their fields," she explains, but it was Nash who once again gave her the boost to move forward. Just before returning, Nash met up with Wang on the latter's 30th birthday and presented her with a pin she had received from UC years earlier for acting as a mentor in the program. In addition to the gift, Nash told Wang the best mentors are ones who can relate to students and provide perspective on how the road to success and happiness is rarely straight and without potholes.

Wang, who attended the mentorship program's welcome event this past fall, says she hopes to impart the same guidance to her mentee that Nash gifted her with seven years ago.

"Through Carol, I was able to see that the world is a big place, with so many opportunities and so many ways to fit in," explains Wang in a letter written to Henry about her experience in the program. "I'm grateful for having her as a mentor and a friend. I hope to do the same for my mentee."



PROBLEM BODDE SCIENCE PROGRAM ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO TACKLE REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS

BY PETER BOISSEAU

S

Assistant Professor Yang Xu was interviewing candidates for a student work-study research project when Samin Khan walked into his office. "I knew right away Samin was the right fit," says Xu.

hortly after

becoming the

first joint faculty

appointment to

the Department

of Computer

Science and

University

College's

Cognitive

program,

Science

Khan was looking for research opportunities within the realm of psychology, cognitive neuroscience, and artificial intelligence. The Cognitive Science program piqued his interested. He was particularly looking to get involved in computational linguistics—how computers process language. The work-study project under the supervision of Rotman School of Management Professor Sridhar Moorthy and Xu seemed to be a perfect fit.

"I was impressed with the scope of the research projects available in Cognitive Science, and I saw the program integrated all my interests in a perfect way," says Khan, who is now completing a double major in Computer Science and Cognitive Science. "The moment I heard about it, I was sold."

It was an auspicious beginning. Within a few months, Khan was not only wowing Xu with his work-study research on sound symbolism, but garnering international acclaim for coinventing the smartARM, a prosthetic hand that uses AI technology.

The 3D-printed smartARM uses machine learning combined with a camera in its palm to assess and grip objects.

Khan and Hamayal Choudhry—his teammate from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology—won the 2018 Microsoft Imagine Cup for the smartARM, beating out 40,000 competitors and taking home more than \$130,000 in cash and grants.

For Khan, it was the perfect affirmation that he'd been right about Cognitive Science, an interdisciplinary program hosted by University College and supported by the four departments that intersect with it — Philosophy, Linguistics, Psychology and Computer Science. "In a way, both my majors are relevant to the smartARM project," he says.

"Cognitive science definitely influenced the thought process that went into this innovation. And computer science was where I first learned to use API and the software for developing the first prototypes for smartARM."

As the program description puts it: "Students learn how to program like computer scientists, analyze language like linguists, argue like philosophers and research like psychologists."

Khan says that's what he loves about cognitive science. "It helps you to appreciate cross-disciplinary intuition."

And that can help spark inspiration in all kinds of ways.

The idea for the smartARM was dreamt up at an all-night hackathon sponsored by Microsoft, where Samin happened to run into his old school chum, Choudhry.

"It was all about seeing the health-care implications of machine learning, and the philosophy of embodied cognition and psychology, and approaching this as a physical interaction problem."

The smartARM design manages to be both highly functional and



Samin Khan

inexpensive by making use of readily available techniques and software.

SmartArm finds the sweet spot between the two extremes of the prosthetic industry—inexpensive cosmetic arms that lack functionality and expensive robotic arms that are functional but not affordable.

Those expensive robotic arms rely on a brain-machine interface that includes a complex array of sensors working with neuromuscular tissue in order to perform.

Says Khan: "We thought: what if we got the arm to do more of the processing on its own?"

They came up with a design that imbues the arm itself with its own form of software-driven "intelligence" and computer vision.

"That's why we call it smartARM, because it offloads the intelligence from the human onto the arm."

The next steps include a simple offand-on switch the user can trigger with a subtle movement and an app that can train the hand to correct and adjust its grip for various objects.



Assistant Professor Yang Xu

Xu says the Cognitive Science program encourages students to stretch their minds and apply their skills to realworld problems, whether it's part of their course work or at brainstorming events like hackathons.

"Students like Samin are great role models for those who will come to the program down the road to think about how not only to optimize their study time at U of T but also how to explore potential research opportunities beyond the standard curriculum," he says.

"One aspect of this interdisciplinary training is that you can get this outof-the-box thinking, and you see that with the smartARM."

The interdisciplinary research that is part of the mindset at the Cognitive Science program is supported by independent study courses, allowing students to work on projects for credit under the guidance of academic supervisors.

It's also fertile ground for other U of T initiatives that fund student research, such as the Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA) and the University of Toronto Excellence Awards (UTEA).

For example, Khan's work-study program with Xu, in collaboration with Professor Sridhar Moorthy, focuses on predicting brand name gender.

"My role as a mentor for Samin has been stretching him to deal with big data sets and thinking about ways to apply machine learning tools to analyze and test hypotheses," says Xu.

The project was a spectacular success. Khan even got to present their findings at the prestigious 2018 Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) conference in Brussels, a rare honour for an undergraduate student.

A few days after the Brussels conference, he was in Paris to speak about the smartARM at a conference sponsored by Microsoft.

"It was an amazing experience. Through these work-study and independent study courses, there are definite research opportunities in the Cognitive Science program, and that's something students should know," says Khan.

While it's on the ascendency now and attracting star students like Khan, the Cognitive Science program has experienced some bumps in the road since it started in 1983. It even went through a period where University College could not support it, and it existed for a time as a stand-alone program within U of T's Faculty of Arts & Science.

Rejuvenated in 2013 by University College with new funding and courses, it continues to grow and diversify while allowing students the flexibility to enroll as either science or arts majors.

Two new teaching-stream professorial hires in 2014 – Jim John, crossappointed with Philosophy, and John



"THAT'S WHY WE CALL IT SMARTARM, BECAUSE IT OFFLOADS THE INTELLIGENCE FROM THE HUMAN ONTO THE ARM."

Vervaeke, cross-appointed with Psychology – helped to solidify the program. And Xu says his appointment in early 2018 as the first joint tenure-stream faculty member was another key moment. A search is currently underway for a second tenure-stream hire, this time crossappointed with Linguistics.

"In the near future," Xu notes, "there will be more research faculty joining us from other departments who will continue to cultivate this environment for students, working in various capacities to open windows to research-orientated study."

The word is obviously starting to get out. Xu notes enrollment has swollen to between 350 and 400 students – up about 80 percent since 2009 – along with a growing interest in science that examines the intersection between the human mind and AI.

"We expect there will be a lot more growth and demand for the program."

Khan says he's seen evidence of that at several packed events organized by his AI student group, where he was peppered with questions about the program and the research opportunities.

"I always tell them it's worth trying out, even if it's just to take the intro course, especially when you are starting out as an undergrad, when so many people are confused about what to do and pursue."

Not only will the students get an overarching understanding of the science of the mind, but new insights into the emerging relevance of AI across both arts and science, he adds.

"You get to understand philosophically what AI means to our culture, and also the computational challenges in its application."

NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR

ALICE WOOLLEY (BA 1991 UC), a professor at the University of Calgary, was appointed a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in Calgary.

Health-care, finance and legal executive **GARY MARGOLIS** (BSc 1998 UC), was appointed to the role of Chief Executive Officer of Notogen Inc., a biotechnology company developing regenerative therapeutics for conditions related to spinal degeneration, orthopedics and sports medicine.





Professor JEFFREY ROSENTHAL

(BSc 1988 UC), Department of Statistics, University of Toronto, published a new book with HarperCollins Canada titled *Knock on Wood: Luck, Chance, and the Meaning of Everything.* He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012, and recently received the Presidential Impact Award for his efforts to improve a variety of societal problems through application of statistical analysis.

1 Cover of Professor Jeffrey Rosenthal's new book, *Knock on Wood: Luck, Chance and the Meaning of Everything* 2 Michael Ondaatje 3 Carol Banducci 4 Linda Hutcheon 5 James Bird with U of T President Meric Gertler, accepting the 2018 President's Award MICHAEL ONDAATJE'S (BA 1965 UC) The English Patient, won the Golden Man Booker Prize for the "best work of fiction from the last five decades of the Man Booker Prize." He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

Lawyer **JOHN MURRAY** (BA 1984 UC) was appointed President & Chief Executive Officer of the Board of Directors of the Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC).

ES



CAROL BANDUCCI (BCom 1986 UC), executive vice president and Chief Financial Officer of IAMGOLD Corporation, was honoured with a 2018 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award by the Women's Executive Network. She received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2016.

Professor **JEFF WRANA** (BSc 1984 UC), Senior Investigator at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute (LTRI), part of Sinai Health System, was awarded the McLaughlin Medal by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), in recognition of his pivotal contributions to our understanding of biology, human diseases, and their treatment. The RSC also recognized his leadership in the promotion of "Canadian science through collaborative research facilities and international impact."



University Professor Emeritus, **LINDA HUTCHEON** (BA 1969 UC), Department of English and Centre for Comparative Literature, received an honorary degree from Victoria University in the University of Toronto. She received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.

TIM HENDRICKSON (BCom 1993 UC) was appointed to the role of Chief Financial Officer of HLS Therapeutics Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company. **MARK SCHAEFER** (BA 1988 UC) has been appointed Chief Human Resources Officer of Kiadis Pharma N.V., a clinicalstage biopharmaceutical company based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

JESSICA KIMMEL (BSc 1986 UC), partner at Goodmans LLP, was appointed a Judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in Toronto.

RACHEL BLUMENFELD (BA 1983 UC) was appointed to the Board of Directors of STEP Canada. STEP Canada's primary purpose is to improve public understanding of the issues families face in relation to inheritance and succession planning.

JAMES BIRD (BA 2018 UC) was awarded the University of Toronto President's Award for Outstanding Indigenous Student of the Year.



NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR

6

6 Cover of Thea Lim's novel, An Ocean of Minutes 7 Robert Bothwell 8 Professor Pekka Sinervo Photo credit Geoffrey Vendeville

Professors **ROBERT BOTHWELL** (BA 1966 UC), Department of History, University of Toronto, **PETER J. DILLON** (BSc 1968 UC), School of the Environment, Trent University, **ROBERT KORNELUK**, professor at the University of Ottawa and senior



scientist at the CHEO Research Institute, and **PEKKA SINERVO,** Department of Physics, University of Toronto, were each named as Members of the Order of Canada.

Author **THEA LIM'S** (BA 2004 UC) novel, *An Ocean of Minutes*, was shortlisted for the 2018 Giller Prize.

Professor **DONALD ABELSON** (BA 1985 UC) was appointed the founding Director of the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government, and the inaugural ECN Capital Chair in Canada-U.S. Relations at St. Francis Xavier University.

Mining executive and geologist, **NICK TINTOR** (BSc 1980 UC) was appointed President & Chief Financial Officer and Director of Avidian Gold Corp.

SOMANI NASEEM (BCom 1983 UC), chief executive officer of Dynacare, was awarded a 2018 RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award.

LORNE MICHAELS (BA 1966 UC), executive producer of Saturday Night Live, was promoted to Companion, Order of Canada. He received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2012.



NAV PERSAUD (BSc 2002 UC) was selected by the *Toronto Star* as one of 12 Canadians profiled for their series *Changemakers*. A family doctor at St. Michael's Hospital, Persaud was selected for his commitment to patient safety, social justice, transparency and pharmacare. Past President of the University of Toronto, **DAVID NAYLOR** (1974 UC), received the 2018 Henry G. Friesen International Prize in Health Research for his contributions to and influence on health service delivery, public health, and health research funding. Naylor also received the UC Alumni of Influence Award in 2013.

UC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



UCAA Executive team 2018-2019 Sharda Angl (BSc 2010 UC), Rae Gaouette (BA 1962 UC), Julie Jo (BA 2013 UC), Erika Bailey (BA 1997 UC), David Orenstein (BSc 1974 UC), Ho K. Sung (BSc 1980 UC) Dear UC Alumni,

It has been a wonderful year for UC alumni and the University College Alumni Association (UCAA). The well-established and popular UC Alumni Salon series, the UC Career Mentorship Program, and the Young Alumni of Influence recognition program continue to be successful in enhancing the lives of alumni, recognizing their extraordinary achievements, and helping to inspire students. Since enacting a new Terms of Reference in 2017, we have been active in pursuing a more outward-looking approach with improved communications to facilitate a dialogue with our alumni community. We continue to work on ways to keep you abreast of alumni events and opportunities and currently have communications tools and strategies in the works. We hope our new initiatives will offer you better accessibility to your alumni association and its ongoing efforts on vour behalf.

I would like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of former and current UCAA executive team members for their time, their expertise in a diversity of fields, and their unwavering enthusiasm and selfless dedication to UC and its community. The 2018-2019 Executive team members are Sharda Angl (BSc 2010 UC), Erika Bailey (BA 1997 UC), Rae Gaouette (BA 1962 UC), Julie Jo (BA 2013 UC), David Orenstein (BSc 1974 UC), and yours truly.

The UCAA continues to work to grow our community and offerings. I hope you will join us in the journey as we move forward together.

As always, we welcome your feedback. Contact us directly at ucaa@utoronto.ca.

Sincerely,

Ho K. Sung (BSc 1980 UC) Chair, University College Alumni Association

CAMPUS NEWS



NOTA BENE

Anthropology professor, and UC faculty member, TANIA LI received the prestigious 2018 Insight Award from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) in recognition of her research, which significantly contributes to the knowledge and understanding of people, societies and the world. For the past two decades, Li's work has focused on Indigenous highland communities in Indonesia. Li has also been appointed University Professor at the University of Toronto, the highest academic rank at U of T that is restricted to no more than two per cent of the tenured faculty. Tania Li also received the President's Impact Award in February 2019 for her research on development policies and proposed equitable alternatives.



University College Dean of Students, **MELINDA SCOTT**, received her PhD in higher education from U of T's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.



 Tania Li and Governor Genral Julie Payette photo credit Sgt. Johanie Maheum, Rideau Hall
 Dean of Students, Melinda Scott
 UC Principal Donald Ainslie guides donors on a tour of UC under construction photo credit
 Stephanie Coffey 4 Professor Christina Kramer photo credit Diana Tyszko
 Eva Mandrapilias photo credit Jenna Charlton



After nearly 39 years of service, **EVA MANDRAPILIAS**, assistant to the Registrar, retired from U of T. Mandrapilias joined the UC Registrar's office in 1980.



Principal **DONALD AINSLIE** treated alumni and donors to a behindthe-scenes tour of the construction underway in the East and West Halls of University College, and Croft Chapter House.

The Former Acting Vice-Principal of University College, **CHRISTINA KRAMER**, professor of Slavic Languages & Literatures, received a translation fellowship from the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The fellowship will allow Kramer to translate *Grandma Non-Oui*, by Macedonian writer Lidija Dimkovska.

University of Toronto Professor Emeritus **GEOFFREY HINTON** was awarded The Toronto Board of Trade award for Visionary Leadership.

NOTA BENE

The **7TH ANNUAL ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE AWARDS** honoured 21 UC alumni, recognizing their career and personal accomplishments. It was **PROFESSOR DONALD AINSLIE'S** final awards ceremony as Principal of University College. The event began in the first year of his first term, in 2012.



University College faculty members, **PROFESSOR ALAN ACKERMAN**, Department of English and the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, and **PROFESSOR MARK CHEETHAM**, Department of the History of Art, have been awarded Jackman Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellowships for 2019-20.

UC Alumni Relations launched **WORDS OF WISDOM**, a new program that engages alumni and firstyear students. Alumni submit notes offering advice to new students. The inaugural year was an enormous hit with 120 heartfelt messages submitted and shared with students during orientation week.



UC student and golfer, **ELLICE HONG**, won the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championships along with the women's Blues Golf Team for the 7th consecutive year. Hong was also named to the OUA All-Star First Team.



UC student, and Varsity swim team member, **ELIJAH WALL**, was celebrated as the U SPORTS top scholar athlete, at the 2017-2018 Top Student athletes Ninth Annual Academic Excellence Breakfast. 19 other UC students were recognized as studentathletes for earning an 80% average in their courses while competing on a Varsity team.



Former UC Principal and Professor, **SYLVIA BASHEVKIN**, Department of Political Science, published her new book, *Women as Foreign Policy Leaders: National Security and Gender Politics in Superpower America*. A book launch at U of T's faculty club celebrated the publication with a panel discussion titled, *Making a Difference in World Politics? Women as Foreign Policy Leaders*, which included Bashevkin, the Honourable Jean Augustine, and was moderated by the Honourable Bob Rae (BA 1969 UC).

Professor and UC faculty member, **BRIAN CANTWELL SMITH**, was appointed to the newly created Reid Hoffman Chair in Artificial Intelligence and the Human at the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto. The chair position was established to study how the new era of artificial intelligence will affect our lives.

UC faculty member, SEAN MILLS,

Department of History, was named to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars. He is also the Canada Research Chair in Canadian and Transnational History.

6 Paul Sun-Hyung Lee, award recipient, and nominator Jse-Che Lam at the 7th Annual Alumni of Influence gala photo credit Stephanie Coffey 7 UC student, Ismail Atadinc, with his Words of Wisdom note photo credit Jenna Charlton 8 Elijah Wall photo credit Martin Bazyl 9 The Honourable Bob Rae, Professor Sylvia Bashevkin, the Honourable Jean Augustine, and UC Principal Donal Ainslie photo credit Stephanie Coffey

The ART MUSEUM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

hosted the award-winning exhibition *Far and Near: the Distance(s) between Us* by Master of Visual Studies, Curatorial Studies student Henry Heng Lu. Lu received the Exhibition of the Year award for his curatorial project.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

IN MEMORIAM

Notices of death published in this issue were received between May 16, 2018 and November 30, 2018. Date of death, last known residence, and maiden name (if applicable) are noted where possible. Friends and family of the deceased can help by sending information to **address.update@utoronto.ca**.

1930s

Mrs. Mary E. (Code) Johnson (BA 1938 UC) of Mississauga ON; Jul. 12, 2018

1940s

Mrs. Ida D. Abrams (BA 1946 UC) of North York ON; May 20, 2018 Mrs. Heather (MacLachlan) Blount (BA 1949 UC) of Peterborough ON; Nov. 4, 2018 Mrs. Ruth S. Brooks (BA 1945 UC) of Bracebridge ON; Jul. 8, 2018 Dr. Mary C. Crichton (BA 1947 UC) of Ann Arbor MI; Aug. 11, 2018 Mr. Norman H. C. Deathe (1949 UC) of Oakville ON; Nov. 15, 2018 Mr. Richard D. Field (BA 1948 UC) of Toronto ON; Aug. 17, 2018 The Honourable Keith M. Gibson (BA 1949 UC) of Mississauga ON; Jun. 30, 2018 Mr. Benny C. Goldmintz (BCom 1945 UC) of Downsview ON; May 18, 2018 Dr. Ian Halliday (BA 1949 UC) of Ottawa ON; Jun. 18, 2018 Dr. Josef Kates (BA 1948 UC) of Toronto ON: Jun. 16, 2018 Mrs. Blanche (Freeman) Katz (BA 1945 UC) of Toronto ON; Nov. 12, 2018 Mr. Louis Litwin (UC 1948) of Toronto ON; Jun. 26, 2018 Mrs. Nancy I. (Baker) Lynn (1943 UC) of Roches Point ON; May 27, 2018 Mrs. Isabel M. (McDonald) Mauro (BA 1947 UC) of London ON; Aug. 22, 2018 Mr. James B. McLeod (1949 UC) of Toronto ON; Oct. 27, 2018 Mrs. Miriam J. (Loheed) Nixon (BA 1947 UC) of Toronto ON; Jun. 18, 2018 Mrs. Evelyn G. (McCormick) Northcote (BA 1947 UC) of Welland ON; Aug. 13, 2018 Mr. Benson Orenstein (BA 1945 UC) of Toronto ON; Nov. 22, 2018 Mr. William A. Parish (BA 1946 UC) of Ajax ON; Jun. 21, 2018

Mr. Philip Pinkus (BA 1949 UC)

of West Vancouver BC; Aug. 5, 2018 Dr. Martin Shubik (BA 1947 UC) of Branford CT; Aug. 22, 2018 Mr. Albert H. Silver (BA 1944 UC) of Toronto ON; Nov. 26, 2018 Dr. Frederick J. Thorpe (BA 1949 UC) of Ottawa ON; Nov. 8, 2018 Mr. Alfred O. Tucker (BCom 1942 UC) of Toronto ON; Oct. 14, 2018 Mrs. Evelyn M. (Cook) Waddell (BA 1940 UC) of Toronto ON; Jul. 14, 2018 Miss Janette H. White (BA 1942 UC) of Toronto ON; Nov. 27, 2018 Mrs. Mary J. Whitfield (BA 1945 UC) of Elmvale ON; May 26, 2018 Mr. Joseph L. Wileman (BCom 1949 UC) of Thornhill ON; Sept. 23, 2018 Mr. J. A. Wynn (BA 1947 UC) of Newcastle ON; Jun. 5, 2018

1950s

Mr. Murray Armel (BCom 1958 UC) of North York ON; Sept. 20, 2018 Mr. Donald R. Austin (BA 1950 UC) of Bowmanville ON; Jun. 12, 2018 Mrs. Corinne C. (Spring) Bremner (BA 1953 UC) of Orillia ON; Aug. 4, 2018 Mrs. Patricia (Jones) Dalton (BA 1954 UC) of Toronto ON; Aug. 9, 2018 The Rev. Lloyd N. Freel (BA 1952 UC) of Mississauga ON; Nov. 6, 2018 Mr. Charles T. P. Galloway (BA 1950 UC) of Thornhill ON; Nov. 15, 2018 Mrs. Sybil K. Gee (BA 1950 UC) of Gravenhurst ON; Sept. 25, 2018 The Hon. Mr. Justice Monte H. Harris (BA 1956 UC) of Toronto ON; Sept. 19, 2018 Dr. Irvine A. Korman (BA 1951 UC) of Willowdale ON; Aug. 23, 2018 Mr. Robin B. Leckie (1952 UC) of Toronto ON; Jul. 19, 2018 Mr. John D. McFarland (BA 1956 UC) of Toronto ON; Oct. 25, 2018

Mrs. Anne (Graydon) Moran (BA 1953 UC) of Orangeville ON; May 28, 2018 Mr. Peter H. Naylor (1955 UC) of Toronto ON; Aug. 16, 2018 Mr. Bernard J. Nisker (1958 UC) of Toronto ON; Sept. 10, 2018 Dr. Nancy (Reid) Ossenberg (BA 1955 UC) of Kingston ON; Jun. 23, 2018 Mrs. Anne (Gima) Owen (BA 1955 UC) of Barrie ON; Oct. 4, 2018 Mrs. Phyllis E. (Sandler) Platnick (BA 1954 UC) of North York ON; Aug. 28, 2018 Mrs. Catherine A. (Schade) Ray (BA 1951 UC) of Don Mills ON; Aug. 17, 2018 Mr. Allan G. Sangster (BA 1950 UC) of Toronto ON; Sept. 6, 2018 Mrs. Sally M. (Garratt) Vernon (BA 1955 UC) of Toronto ON; Oct. 23, 2018 Mrs. Gretchen (Ratz) Walker (BA 1950 UC) of Midland ON; Jul. 7, 2018 Mr. Harold Wargon (BA 1956 UC) of Thornhill ON; Oct. 5, 2018 Mr. Bohdan B. Zarowsky (BA 1954 UC) of Toronto ON; Jul. 27, 2018

1960s

Mr. Murray Axmith (BA 1962 UC) of Toronto ON; May 20, 2018 Mr. Lawrence G. Bossin (BCom 1966 UC) of Willowdale ON; Jul. 11, 2018 Mrs. Joyce B. (Libman) Fienberg (BA 1964 UC) of Pittsburgh PA; Oct. 27, 2018 Mr. Frederick B. Grafi (1961 UC) of Toronto ON; Aug. 28, 2018 Mrs. Myra Grosfield (BA 1963 UC) of Toronto ON; Sept. 9, 2018 Mr. David G. Helwig (BA 1960 UC) of Belfast PE; Oct. 16, 2018 Dr. Luther M. Hines (BA 1960 UC) of Mississauga ON; Sept. 15, 2018 Dr. Emerson Jones (BA 1965 UC) of Richmond Hill ON; Jun. 1, 2018 Dr. Sten Kjellberg (BA 1960 UC) of Toronto ON; Jun. 9, 2018

Dr. Ljubo Majhanovich (BA 1962 UC) of London ON; Aug. 16, 2018 Mr. Bodo A. Reichenbach (BA 1965 UC) of Arlington MA; Oct. 11, 2018 Mr. Thomas G. Schatzky (BA 1965 UC) of Ottawa ON; Oct. 11, 2018

1970s

Mr. Jonathan C. Barker (BA 1973 UC) of Toronto ON; Jul. 5, 2018 Mr. Sergio Marchionne (1978 UC) of London UK; Jul. 25, 2018 Mr. Walter Myrka (1973 UC) of Toronto ON; Oct. 9, 2018

1980s

Mr. Douglas B. Crosbie (BA 1987 UC) of Toronto ON; May 16, 2018

1990s

Mr. Marcus H. K. Anderson (BSc 1992 UC) of Collingwood ON; Sept. 27, 2018 Ms. Stephanie J. (Hryniuk) Wylie (BA1998 UC) of Toronto ON; Aug. 31, 2018

2010s

Mr. Alejandro Duque (BSc 2016 UC) of Toronto, ON; Sept. 9, 2018

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