Innis College Council  
Minutes of the 304th Meeting  
Wednesday 13 April 2016 at 3:00 pm  
Events Room, Innis Residence

Present: Elspeth Arbow, Kass Banning, Ennis Blentic (assessor), Donald Boere (assessor), Sarah Burley-Hollows, James Cahill, Jannie Chien, Cameron Clairmont (assessor), Jason Daye, Lorne Freeman, Hilary Hager, Brianne Katz-Griffin, Charlie Keil, Sherman Kwok, Varun Malik, Cynthia Messenger, Tony Pi, Roger Riendeau (Secretary), David Roberts, Sonja Smiljanic, Marta Switzer, Bart Testa, Nicole Thompson, Joanne Uyede, Maitri Vosko, Ben Weststrate, Tim Worgan (assessor), Khrystyna Zhuk


1. Speaker's remarks
Elspeth Arbow chaired the meeting, and Roger Riendeau recorded the Minutes.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting
A motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting of 10 February 2016 was moved (Katz-Griffin), seconded (Smiljanic), and carried.

3. Business arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting
None.

4. Principal's Report
Principal Charlie Keil reported on the latest personnel changes including Daniela Pirraglia moving into the Associate Registrar-Administrative position, taking over from Thomas Mackay, and Denise Ing becoming the new Undergraduate Program Assistant and Assistant to the Director at the Cinema Studies Institute, replacing Natalie Ostello, who has become a high school teacher much closer to her home. We welcome both Daniela and Denise to the Innis community. I also note the retirement of Len Ferstman, the Innis Librarian, in May of this year. Len has served in this capacity for nearly twenty-five years, and we all owe him a deep debt of gratitude.

Sadly, past Acting Principal Wendy Rolph passed away a week ago. Wendy served as Acting Principal in 1991-92 and also was a capable Director of Cinema Studies. After performing those duties she assumed the position of Vice-Dean in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Wendy had been a guest of the College as recently as this past fall, so her death comes as quite a shock. She will be remembered for her enthusiasm and vibrancy and her ongoing investment in the well-being of Innis.

The two searches for Cinema Studies positions have been completed, and one of the positions, a joint hire with the Italian Department, is now finalized. Alberto Zambenedetti will commence his duties on July 1. CSI Director Corinn Columpar continues to work away on the negotiations for
the second of the two positions, in Digital Media and Cinema, and an announcement on that front is in the offing.

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to announce that our own Cynthia Messenger has been elected as the University of Toronto Faculty Association’s new President. This is a signal accomplishment on multiple fronts: I believe that Cynthia is the first teaching-stream candidate to become President, and only the third woman. We wish her well in her new role, knowing she will continue to serve faculty and librarians well in her capacity as UTFA President.

One of my priorities as Principal has been to understand the experiences and challenges of both international students and commuter students better, and I have been aided immeasurably in that regard in my meetings with different groups of international students and commuters this past term. I have been conferring (and will continue to confer) with the Registrar’s Office, the Office of Student Life, and the Orientation Coordinators to see how we can develop systems and practices to better serve these student populations ever more effectively. And, needless to say, I will continue to meet with students, because only by hearing from them can I gain additional insight into the student experience.

Speaking of students, a group of graduating students met with Linda Schuyler, Degrassi creator, and an Innis alumna, who will receive an honorary doctorate from UofT during the June graduation ceremonies. Linda will be the speaker at the Innis convocation, which will make the ceremony all the more special for our graduating students.

5. Presentation of Board Reports

(a) Academic Affairs
James Cahill reported the Cinema Studies Institute has made an offer to hire a faculty member for Italian Cinema and the hiring process for a faculty member to teach Digital Cinema is currently in progress. Otherwise, the Institute plans no major changes in its academic program for 2016-17.

Principal Charlie Keil reported that the final report of the external reviewer of the Urban Studies Program conducted by urban specialists from University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University has finally been released, and it is largely favourable to the Program. It points out the obvious – that USP is a small program in need of more academic and administrative resources in order to grow.

Vice Principal Roger Riendeau added that USP enrolment consists of 5 Specialists, 94 Majors, and 95 Minors. The enrolment of 189 compares to an enrolment of 58 a decade ago. He also thanked David Roberts and Shauna Brail for their assistance this year during which he served as Acting Director. A new Director will need to be appointed for 2016-17.

On behalf of Cynthia Messenger, Roger Riendeau reported that the Writing and Rhetoric Program offered the equivalent of 15 half-credit courses in 2015-16. Program enrolment continues to be strong at 212. Roger Riendeau will be on leave in 2016-17. INI304H Critical Thinking and Inquiry
in Written Communication will not be offered while he is on leave, but INI204Y The Academic Writing Process will be offered by a sessional instructor hired from a CUPE Unit 3 posting. In the coming months, Cynthia Messenger will work with writing instructors in the W & R program and with Ben Weststrate to mount the Fine Writing Site.

The program will offer a summer course once again in 2016: INI301H Editing. This course was well enrolled last summer and was taught by Becky Vogan, a professional editor, who also teaches in the Innis Writing Centre.

Cynthia Messenger also reports that the Writing Centre employs five writing instructors: Sharon English, Cellan Jay, Thea Lim, Vikki Visvis, and Becky Vogan. The Centre teaches Innis students and students taking courses in all three of the academic programs housed at Innis. Sharon English has, once again this year, ably assisted the interim director with many administrative tasks.

Under the CUPE collective agreement for Unit 3, Thea Lim was advanced to Writing Instructor II in the fall term of 2015-2016. Cellan Jay is going up for advancement to that rank this spring. Vikki Visvis is going up for advancement at University College, and Cynthia Messenger will serve on her advancement committee. All other instructors in the Centre are at the Writing Instructor II rank. (Currently, no Writing Instructor III rank exists.) These advancements provide an increase in hourly pay.

The Writing Centre sees students one-on-one but will start seeing students in small groups (3 on 1 and 4 on 1) in the summer session as a pilot. The Writing Centre is as busy as ever, and its waiting lists continue to be long, but an increase in base funding three years ago has helped reduce those lists. The Writing Centre will apply for a renewal in provostial funding in June 2016. Usage stats for 2015-2016 are not yet available but will be reported in the fall meeting of Academic Affairs, with the approval of the Principal.

**Innis One Program**

Roger Riendeau reported that despite a relatively high level of applicants for Innis One, the course enrolments are not sustained during the academic year as indicated below:

INI100F = 20  
INI101S = 18  
INI102F = 15  
INI102S = 14

A reason for the declining enrolments is related to the fact that the courses are electives that do not count as a credit within any academic program. Perhaps the prospect of including Innis One offerings as a credit within the academic programs offered at Innis College should be explored. The low enrolment in both sessions of INI102H led to consideration of the possibility of offering this course only once and creating a fourth course relating to the theme of “creative Toronto” in the future. These are matters for the new Coordinator of Innis One to consider next year.
(b) Student Affairs
Hilary Hagar reported that the Taddle Creek Residence Life Award was awarded to Elspeth Arbow, Christian Ramirez, and Victoria Wilson.

Discussion at the Recruitment, Admissions, and Awards Committee focused on the possibility of changing the award, either in terms of advertising or changing the basis of the award. It could be opened up to first year students, but it is hard to judge their involvement after being at the university for only two months. Removing the aspect of financial need from the award was considered, but the award was initially made to help students with financial need. Financial need is also something that has been changing at U of T over the past few years. Of specific concern was the difficulty that international students have in applying for this award as a result of the difficulty to verifying their financial need. Ultimately, RAAC agreed to maintain the financial need aspect of the award, to keep it for residence students, and to try to increase accessibility to international students. The last part of the discussion was about communicating and advertising these awards to improve the number of applicant, and to strike a subcommittee for this.

A motion to convey summer authority to the Registrar’s Office to make the appropriate decisions about student awards was moved (Zhuk), seconded (Smiljanic), and carried.

(i) Office of Student Life
Sarah Burley-Hollows, Assistant Dean, Student Life reports:

Administration
• The hiring and appointment processes for 2016-17 are almost complete for the positions of Dons, Front Desk Staff, On-Call Maintenance/IT-Support, Summer Staff, Communications Team, and the Committee Chairs. All employed positions are funded through the Office of Student Life Budget and/or through Work-Study subsidies. Communications positions will now be coordinated jointly by the Office of Student Life and the Innis College Communications Officer, Ben Weststrate. A second Programming Assistant role has been added to the Student Life roster, with one focusing on Student Life (assisting Sarah/Donald with co-curricular events, STEP initiatives and the new International curriculum) and the other focusing on Events (assisting Ben/Ennis on College-wide events).
• This summer Sarah will continue to represent the Innis Office of Student Life on cross campus training initiatives such as Mentoring training, Orientation Coordinator Training, and RISE Sexual Assault Prevention training. Sonja will sit on the Residence Life Functional Group and Residence Life Staff Training committee along with the other RLCs and ADRLs on St George campus to do broad summer planning and to plan and implement Central Don Training.
• On the horizon: Arts and Science continues to deliberate about a Fall Orientation Week, with a tentative date set for as early as Fall 2017. Administration at Arts and Science has been working with ASSU, Registrars’, and has also now received feedback from Deans of Students and Residence. As noted by Dean Tim Worgan, the Deans have specifically given feedback regarding the impact to residence and student life – summer and fall dates, revenue, staff and student leader move in and orientation. We continue to keep this in our minds as we support our Orientation Coordinators this year and will report on future decisions.
Collaborative Programming

- This past semester has been very busy in the Residence lobby with multiple student groups and staff partners across campus setting up to provide service to Innis students! These include: Centre for International Engagement Advisor hours, Career Advisor Hours, Entrepreneurship Advisor hours from the Impact Centre, THINK PINK! Athletics, Student Life Mentorship, Outreach initiatives and student council, clubs and societies.
- Congratulations to Yolanda Alfaro and Donna Pan on their appointment as Innis Orientation Coordinators. Planning has already begun for 2016 Orientation and a first meeting between OSL and the Innis Orientation Coordinators has occurred with bi-weekly meetings occurring over the summer.
- Congratulations to the newly elected ICSS members! We are excited to continue collaborations in 2016-17! A big well done and thank you to all the council members on events held this year, and on events we partnered on – for example, the Commuter Reception with the Principal (Pie!).
- Planning for STEP UP International Orientation for the end of summer has commenced with CIE with the hope of further College integration into the week-long agenda to include meeting with Registrarial teams, OSL members, and key upper year students such as Innis International Ambassadors.

Innis Programming

- Innis Programming this year has been enthusiastic and broad! Examples of the Committees’ successful events include:
  - 3 IN2U Leadership Conferences
  - Resume, Interview workshops, Job Seekers Workshops
  - International/Canadian Conversations, and International Socials
  - iStudy sessions, and Mentorship Pop-Ups
  - How to Ace a Term Paper/An Exam, Skills for Success
  - Engineering workshops and socials
  - Yoga and Stressbusters
- Final exciting events coming up include First Aid Certification, Late Night Study Sessions and Yoga.
- The Innis OSL Committees for next year include:
  - Leadership (IN2UPathways/Perspectives/Transition)
  - Mentorship (Innis InSight & College Mentorship program)
  - International Transition and Education
  - Diversity & Service Learning
  - Health & Wellness
  - Academic Skills for Success
  - Career Exploration
  - Arts & Culture
- InSight Mentors have also been interviewed and are almost cemented. University of Toronto Mentorship training, which our mentors attend, will take place on April 9th.
- IN2U Transitions to Leadership will take place on Saturday April 2 and includes sessions on Equity, Communication and Collaboration, Environmental Program Planning, Transferrable Skills, Reflection and Transition Reporting. Approximately 80 students are registered. The keynote is Paula Greenwood-Primmett, former Residence Life Coordinator of Innis College
An end of year celebration and recognition event for college wide programmers (ICSS and Committee Chairs) will take place in April.

Sonja Smiljanic, Residence Life Coordinator reported:

- Residence Life is winding down for the year; programming by the Dons and IRC this year focused on community building (recently there was a building-wide Easter egg hunt, a flower pot painting party, and an Art Gala for Lifeline Syria) and this time of year things are wrapping up; the IRC held their end of year semi-formal at The Spoke Club a couple of weeks ago, and Dons have been doing end of year floor bonding - they also just wrapped up their last House Meetings of the year.
- Re-applications for upper year students are due April 1 with decisions being relayed to students in approximately mid-May. The Residence hopes to offer a 75:25 ratio of first-year to upper-year students.
- Staff transition will be taking place at IN2U (headed by Sarah) this Saturday
- Overall it has been a great year and I'm looking forward to taking feedback collected this year and applying it next year to things like Training, Recruitment & Hiring, and residence-wide community building and support.

(iii) Student Services Committee
Khrystyna Zhuk reports that the Student Services Committee met on April 4th to discuss both projects that have been accomplished this year as well as those that will be in the works over the summer months. This year the committee was able to fund and complete renovations of the student offices, commuter lounge and the accessible washroom near the café, as well as the installation of the ICSS trophy case in the front foyer. Throughout the summer months locker renovations will occur in the basement, as well as, an accessible water fountain will be installed near the Registrar’s Office. No new projects were suggested and the budget was approved.

(iv) ICSS
Khrystyna Zhuk reports that the ICSS held several successful events since the last meeting of council including our annual Formal, Athletics Banquet, Grad Gala and Innis Bang. All of this term’s event planning has now concluded and the ICSS is prepping itself for transition into the new term.
Since the last meeting the 2016-2017 ICSS council was elected:
President – Brianne Katz-Griffin
Executive Vice-President – Elspeth Arbow
Vice-President, Finance – Troy Peschke
Vice-President, Internal – Teodora Pasca
Social Directors – Alyssa Kerr & Vincy Lu
Athletics Directors – Leo Jiang & Johnny Mastromarco
Equity & Outreach Directors – Kristen Rachuk & (1 will be elected in the by-election)
Clubs & Merchandise Director – James Chapman
Off-Campus Representatives – Harrison Koo & Damon Kisson
Graduate Representatives – Lanxin Li & Alissa Mirochnitchenko

The ICSS also appointed the 2016-2017 Orientation Coordinators: Donna Pan and Yolanda
The new council will start their term on May 1, 2016. Several positions will be elected and appointed in the September By-Election: First Year Representatives (3), Equity & Outreach Director, Marketing Director, and Photographer. The ICSS will also run an election for the student representatives of ICC, who along with the ICSS Executive will sit on this council in the 2016-17 academic year.

(v) IRC
Christian Ramirez reports that the year has effectively wrapped-up; the last event was the Easter Egg Hunt, co-presented with OSL. Meetings are finished, and all the positions have been filled for next year, except for those that open up at the start of the Fall term. IRC had a successful year of events, with lots of suite events happening, specifically this semester. First House won House Olympics. The semi-formal event was amazing this year; it was hosted at a beautiful venue and with amazing food.

(c) College Affairs
Jason Daye reported that, as part of the accessibility subcommittee, Marta Switzer, with support from Ben Weststrate, has been working on a larger project with regard to accessibility at Innis College. This project is also connected with the final projects in two of her Equity Studies courses. She has identified three goals for this accessibility project:
- Explore the concept of “accessibility” beyond a legal understanding that also centres usability.
- Educate members of the Innis College community to foster a desire for accessibility and the presence of disability for both the present and future of Innis College.
- Thoroughly examine the built environment of Innis College from an “accessibility” framework using quantifiable standards.
As a starting point, the above goals will be focused on wheelchair access, that is to say, how wheelchair users engage with space at Innis College.

In February, Principal Charlie Keil, Ben Weststrate, and Marta Switzer met with Students for Barrier-free Access (SBA) UofT chapter about conducting a space audit of the college. SBA provided a template for the space audit which will be revised. There are also some projects in the works that will raise further awareness about accessibility at the college. These awareness projects will seek to foster an understanding of “accessibility” that goes beyond meeting legal standards.

The installation of a Bicycle Fixit Stand provided by Bikechain, a do-it-yourself bike shop on the U of T campus, was discussed. Possible locations considered were in front of the Innis Residence or on the Sussex side of Innis College. The latter location proved to be most feasible and popular. The installation of a Bicycle Fixit Stand was approved in principle by the Innis community. Bikechain will render a final decision about this project by the end of April.

(i) Facilities and Infrastructure
Cameron Clarmont reported on the following matters:
- Wayfinding directional signage in the College is progressing and should be completed by the
end of academic term.

- The renovation to the Principal’s Office is underway, and the plan is to resume office occupancy by March 28, even though some of the work will remain to be completed.
- The drinking fountain is about to be installed next to the elevator by the Registrar’s Office on the main floor.
- A new door for the front entrance of the College is on the way.
- The new trophy case has been installed in the lobby.
- A plan to move some College offices into an Innis Residence suite at the northwest corner of the building is under consideration.

(ii) Residence Operations
Tim Worgan reported on the following:

Administration:
- Jordan MacQuarrie successfully heads into his 3rd month as the new Assistant Dean, Admissions & Operations
- Hiring process for 2016-17 is almost complete. We have now issued contracts for next year’s Residence Dons, Front Desk staff, On-Call Maintenance/IT Support, and Summer Staff.
- Ben Weststrate as the new College Communications Officer has now finished interviewing for part-time casual students: Communications Assistant, Graphic Design, Photovideographer, and Webmaster. We have also posted for two additional casual positions Programming Assistant – Events (who will assist Ben/Ennis for College-wide events) and Programming Assistant – Student Life (who will assist Sarah/Donald with CoCurricular events, STEP initiatives, and the new International curriculum)
- All casual part-time student staffing is funded through the Office of Student Life budget and/or through Work-Study subsidies.

Residence:
- WiFi development & installation for the building will commence in the next month. Security cameras are being installed and routed to the servers in Suite #138
- North and south side towers are slated for renewal this summer, including painting all rooms, suites and common areas; kitchen countertops and cupboards; bathroom vanities as required.
- Applications are currently coming in for summer residence. We are hosting the University of California, Berkeley for July/August and therefore second-half summer applications are waitlisted.
- Need to plan for transition of Suite #127 into Faculty offices during the summer. Some beds cannot be removed from certain bedrooms without being totally demolished. Retrofitting for office operations will involve sourcing, pricing, purchasing and installation throughout the summer months which need to dovetail with current maintenance projects and timelines.

Admissions:
- A Reapplication Information session was held on March 3rd. Reapplication selection process includes peer-to-peer endorsement, Dons qualifying comments, and participation in community events, portfolios and committees this past year. We are aiming for 75:25 ratio of first-year to upper-year students, but we may still have to deal with potential overflow to a hotel.
• Admission cycle for 2016-17 has now begun, with rolling offers going out to National Scholars, and other high achieving students across Canada. Ontario and out-of-province offers begin mid-to-end of March.

(iii) Technical Facilities and Town Hall
Eyan Logan reported on the following:
• Spring/summer 2016 staffing summary
  Eyan Logan, Technical Facilities Officer
  Kathleen McCarthy, Audio Visual Coordinator
  Laura Brown, Audio Visual Coordinator
  Sean Rogers, Audio Visual Technician
  Max Hazen, Audio Visual Technician
  Vanessa Visheau, Audio Visual Technician
  David Ridge, Audio Visual Technician (events only)
  Ned Seager, Audio Visual Technician (events only)
  Daniela Rupolo, Audio Visual Technician (events only)
  Daniel Neuhaus, Audio Visual Technician (events only)
  Event Staff Assistants: Serena Yoon, Sarah Edo, Erika Leclerc
  Work Study Assistants: Kieran Stacy, Ninoshka D’Souza, Sophia Spina, Shuiyao Wang

• Budgetary and Planning for summer 2016 classroom upgrades
  We are currently in the midst of determining our budgetary parameters for 2016-17 and planning the priorities for Innis College classroom AV support upgrades. Current items we hope to look at summer 2016 are:
  • Replacement of damaged multi-region BluRay for IN223
  • Replacement of damaged multi-region BluRay for IN313
  • Replacement of aging video projector in IN204
  • Enhancement of IN204 with a video DA and secondary screens
  • Implementation of a fixed AV system in IN209
  • Planning for upgrades in future years to classrooms for 16x9 screens and full HDMI/digital connections

(iv) Innis Library
No report

(v) Innis Café
No report

(d) Community Affairs
Ben Weststrate reported on the following matters.

(i) Advancement and Alumni Development
Ennis Blentic reported that *Hyena Road* with Paul Gross (and moderator, Geoff Pevere) was well-attended event to cap off 40th anniversary celebrations for Cinema Studies for this academic year; more events are in the pipeline for the fall (and possibly one during the spring/summer). Approximately 90 guests attended the pre-screening reception with many alumni returning to the
College for the first time. Another 120 attended the screening. These large engagement events, with a more intimate informal component (receptions, etc.), have proven to be excellent outreach platforms for alumni, students, supporters and community members. We will aim to host 2-3 events per year of this scope and nature.

As part of the anniversary, the advancement office at the College will be conducting to a direct mail campaign to all contactable Cinema Studies grads across all degree posts (minor, major, specialist, grad) in the early spring. The mailer will reach approximately 2,000 graduates and will consist of an appeal letter co-signed by Director Corinn Columpar and Principal Charlie Keil. The appeal will be made in support of the newly created *Cinema Studies Fund*.

The focus of the 2016 Faculty and Staff Campaign will be the *Innis College Annual Fund*. Faculty and staff will be asked to give in support of the Annual Fund, but gifts made to any other funds/projects/initiatives will still count toward overall giving/participation totals (such as the Cinema Studies Fund).

**(ii) Innis Alumni Network**

Ben Weststrate reported that the UTAA Leadership Summit (22 March, 6-8:00PM, Simcoe Hall) brings together alumni association presidents, principals, deans, and alumni development officers for, “thoughtful conversations about how these groups can work together to enhance alumni engagement.” Innis will represented by Charlie Keil, Ennis Blentic, Webnesh Haile (INNIS ’09 and our Council of Presidents rep) and Shaanzeh Attaulahjan (INNIS ’13).

The alumni profiles website, fastforward.innis.utoronto.ca, has been developed in collaboration between the Registrar’s and Advancement Offices over the past year. This is a fully-indexed catalogue of concise alumni profiles: bulleted accounts of their involvement inside, outside, alongside and beyond the classroom. The catalogue is searchable through an interactive “facetted search” (akin to online shopping). The catalogue is now up to 115 profiles, and the site is almost ready for an official launch (pending its movement to a more secure and substantive web server). This site is simultaneously a good starting point to reconnect with, and gather cursory information on our alumni, when we invite them to fill out an intake questionnaire. A checkbox on the questionnaire asks whether the alum is open to being followed up with for an “extended profile.”

As reported at the last meeting, the next major communication to the alumni network will be a set of (3) e-newsletters. Delivery of these newsletters is partially pending the development, by DUA Digital Marketing, of an Innis-specific template for HTML emails. Each iteration of the newsletter will feature three alumni stories, who are doing notable/topical/interesting things. This will consistent of a thumbnail photo and extended profile, in some cases interview-style. For the Innis-specific one, we will feature Beverley Gordon (INNIS ’72), Quyen Ha (INNIS ’02), and Curt Jaimungal (INNIS ’13).

March 31 marks the official end of the mentorship program, at which point all participants will be issued feedback and reflection surveys, and will be thanked for their participation. Mentors will also receive a save-the-date for a Mentorship Appreciation Dinner, to be held in early May. This will be a private dinner for all mentors, affiliated staff, and corporate sponsors (Manulife).
This is both an opportunity to further cultivate the College’s connection to our alumni mentors, to generate program feedback through informal conversation, and to facilitate resource/strategy sharing among mentors. Looking ahead to 2016-17 cycle of the program, we are looking to broaden our mentor base, and transition coordination of the program out of the Communications Officer’s portfolio.

(iii) Report on Communications
Ben Weststrate reported that he is settling into the role by meeting with administrative staff to acquire a sense of the existing communications networks at the College, which is currently quite fragmented. These communications channels are being consolidated into a series of inventories, including an annual schedule of mass emails to students; existing and best-practice email templates (HTML and plain text); event invitation lists; and Innis-based listservs. The listserv inventory process has been valuable in identifying opportunities to purge and areas of need, and re-configuring administrative and posting privileges. Ultimately, a comprehensive inventory will be available as a resource for staff and facility. As Communication Officer, his intention is to act as the central manager of these channels. He also envision the role like switchboard or waypost, connecting faculty and staff to the most relevant and strategic communication channels in a more expeditious manner.

(iv) Later Life Learning Program
Marilyn Linton reported that LLL had a successful Week of Giving (the fundraising period during which we solicit funds for Innis College from LLL students). Principal Keil was kind enough to speak to our students and his presence at lectures in the Fall and this Winter have laid the foundation for a strong alliance between Innis and LLL. We thank him for taking the time to build these bridges and get to know more of our students. The focus this Winter was on LLL’s interest in contributing to an Annual Fund whose monies will be used at the discretion of the Principal’s office. At an upcoming LLL Board meeting, the AF plan will be explained in full and Ennis Blentic has agreed to attend part of the meeting to answer any questions. It is anticipated that some people will prefer to donate to scholarships rather than such a fund, but it is important for everyone to know exactly how the AF will work and what it might be used for.

Our Fourth course in September is an attempt to accommodate our growing wait list which is now over 600 people. A Fourth course is exciting news for LLL in terms of expansion, but it is our regret that we could not hold that course at the Town Hall and had to seek outside space. However, we understand the space crunch currently experienced at Innis. That Fourth course will be held only in the Fall (our busiest time) after which its success (or failure) will be assessed. A course on The Roaring Twenties, to be presented by Peter Harris, will be that course and we felt that Peter’s presentation style and the course’s content would appeal to a wide audience. The space at the Bloor Cinema would accommodate approximately 400, depending on whether only first floor or first floor and balcony were used.

The courses for Fall are The Music of Cole Porter (presented by Linda Beck, Monday mornings in the Town Hall); The Brain: An Amazing Time Travelling Machine (presented by Dr. Guy Proulx, Friday mornings in the Town Hall); Perils in Paradise – The Clash of Nature and Culture on Oceanic Islands (presented by Professor Tony Davis, U of T., Friday afternoons in the Town Hall.) The Fourth Course at the Bloor Cinema on The Roaring Twenties: New York City, Paris,
Berlin in the 1920s will be on Tuesday mornings. Monday afternoons, the small but extremely popular self-directed Discussion Group will return to the Innis Residence.)

The recent registration for Fall course was completed despite a computer glitch in which the system froze because of the number of people trying to log in. Still, we managed to fill almost all our courses for Fall by noon. And we have not yet opened our waiting list.

Our students have enjoyed working with Innis, giving feedback on the state of the College’s accessibility vis a vis various spaces. This project was spearheaded by Principal Keil and Mary Jane McKeen, LLL’s Chair of Facilities. We understand that the project is well on its way to changing some door designs so that accessibility may be improved.

After our AGM, April 20, Fraser Kelly will replace Marilyn Linton as the President of LLL. Fraser has already worked with Ennis Blentic and Principal Keil and will continue to build on the strong relationship between Innis College and the LLL community. Contact for Fraser Kelly: kellys@davkell.ca. Lorne Freeman will remain as a second LLL representative.

(v) Harold Innis Foundation

Ennis Blentic reported no significant developments with the HIF lecture series, but he offered George Elliot Clarke, Matt Galloway, and Andrew Coyne as possible speakers to be recruited.

6. Executive Committee

In accordance with the Constitution of Innis College Council, which requires the election of the Secretary to serve as the caretaker of Council until it reconvenes in the fall, Ben Weststrate was acclaimed to serve as Secretary for the 2016-17 academic year.

7. Other Business

Principal Charlie Keil and former Principal Janet Paterson paid tribute to Vice Principal Roger Riendeau upon the conclusion of seventeen years of service as Secretary of Innis College Council. Other Council members joined in celebration of his invaluable contribution to the development of governance at Innis College.

Vice Principal Riendeau, who begins his three-year phased retirement from the University of Toronto with a sabbatical year (to mark the end of his long tenure as Vice Principal), expressed the following reflection.

As I partake in my final Council meeting as Secretary, I am prompted to reflect upon the extraordinary nature and dynamics of our unique governance process. Innis College Council is not only unlike any other governance body at the University of Toronto but it is also a democratic rarity in Canadian higher education. To observe and to participate in this egalitarian community decision-making process over the past four decades has been a privilege and an inspiring learning experience.

I was motivated to assume the role of Secretary in 1999 when the College had interim leadership that had no understanding of the peculiar and special relationship between governance and administration at Innis College. I became aware of the critical role that the Secretary has to play to
facilitate the timely and effective convergence of minds that Council represents. I recall inquiring about the scheduling of a College Council in early October 1999 only to be asked: Why do we need a Council meeting? I had never thought about this question before; so, in response, I felt compelled to learn about the role of governance at the University of Toronto and never to take this vital function for granted. By the end of October, I had proclaimed myself Secretary of College Council and had arranged for our first meeting of the academic year to be convened.

The rest, as they say, is history; and here I am seventeen years later passing the torch to Ben Weststrate, confident that he will serve as an able custodian of our governance process. He will certainly be supported by a Principal who deeply appreciates the value of Council’s advice and the opportunity for community consultation and engagement that it encourages. Ben can also count on supportive faculty and staff members to encourage future generations of College students to keep the Innis parity tradition alive and active. Parity governance at Innis is a source of puzzlement and amazement to the rest of the University because it works so effectively and harmoniously.

8. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.