

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA CAMPUS COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 24 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

January 8, 2018

To the Campus Council,
University of Toronto Mississauga

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on January 8, 2018 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers, William G. Davis Building, at which the following were present:

Judith Poë, Chair
Laura Taylor, Vice-Chair
Ulli Krull, Vice-President & Principal
Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean
Bryan Stewart, Vice-Principal, Research
Gordon Anderson
Brett Beston
Liza Blake
Tracey Bowen
Laura Brown
Gary Crawford
Megan Evans
Elaine Goettler
Shelley Hawrychuk
Renu Kanga Fonseca
Yuhong He
Rosa Hong
Nathan Innocente
Abdelrahman Khater
Michael Lettieri
Teresa Lobalsamo
Heather Miller
Ashley Monks
Kent Moore
Lorretta Neebar
Emmanuel Nikiema
Jay Nirula
Manfred Schneider
Joan Simalchik
Alison Syme
Mihkel Tombak
Anthony Wensley
Daniel Zingaro

Non-Voting Assessors:
Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs
Yen Du, Program and Curriculum Officer

Regrets:
Kelly Akers
James Allen
Aurel Braun
Erika Colby
Marc Dryer
Miquel Faig
Salma Fakhry
Alexandra Gillespie
Claudiu Gradinaru
Sanja Hinic-Frlog
Kajri Jain
Abi Karunendiran
Konstantin Khanin
Jihan Khatib
Anna Korteweg
Pim Manaswiyoungkul
Andrea Olive
Diana Raffman
Nour Shell
Rebecca Wittman
Liye Xie
Doug Varty
Jose Wilson

In Attendance:

Fiona Rawle, Associate Dean, Undergraduate
Jeremy Packer, Associate Dean, Graduate

Secretariat:

Cindy Ferencz Hammond, Director of Governance, Assistant Secretary of the Governing Council

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and noted that the nominations for elected positions on Academic Affairs Committee opened on Thursday, January 4, 2018 and would close on Friday, January 12, 2018. She reviewed the available positions for each constituency on the Committee and encouraged those who were interested to submit nominations by the deadline. The Chair advised members to contact Ms Cindy Ferencz Hammond, Deputy Returning Officer if they had any inquiries about the available positions and the nominations and elections process.

2. Blackwood Gallery and City of Mississauga Partnership

The Chair invited Christine Shaw, Director & Curator, Blackwood Gallery to give her presentation on the Blackwood Gallery and City of Mississauga Project Partnership. Professor Shaw noted that *The Work of Wind: Air, Land, Sea* was a three-part exhibition, public education, and publication series, hosted by the Blackwood Gallery in partnership with the City of Mississauga. She explained that this massive project was an invitation to the community to create new encounters in the common struggle for a future. *The Work of Wind: Air, Land, Sea* explored the potential of contemporary art to visualize, observe, and promote understanding of contemporary environmental crisis. She noted that the project sought to bring a bold, innovative exhibition and public engagement model to Mississauga, which included the Mississauga community, local and international artists, policy makers, and researchers in a global conversation about the environment.

The project, which had recently received enthusiastic endorsement from the City of Mississauga Council, would include an exhibition and festival in the Southdown Industrial area of Mississauga, from September 14-23, 2018, a public engagement program, from June 2018 to February 2019, as well as a bimonthly publishing program, from June 2018 to February 2019.

Professor Daniere commended Professor Shaw on the plans and noted that the Canada Council for the Arts had recently awarded the Blackwood Gallery a grant of \$375,000 for this project.

3. Minor Undergraduate Curriculum Changes: Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences

The Chair invited Professor Heather Miller, Vice-Dean, Teaching & Learning and Chair of the Humanities Curriculum Committee to introduce this item. Professor Miller first explained the process by which curriculum reports and changes arrive to the Academic Affairs Committee. Each academic unit whose curricular changes were discussed by the committee was represented by the unit's chair or director, or designate, including the unit's undergraduate advisor. Representatives from the Office of the Registrar attended as did the Program and Curriculum Officer from the Office of the Dean. Consultation with students occurred at the level of the academic unit. Professor Miller thanked the curriculum committees, specifically their chairs: Professor Fiona Rawle, (Sciences), and Professor Jeremy Packer (Social Sciences), for their hard work and careful attention to detail in leading the work of the curriculum committees. Professor Miller also thanked Ms Yen Du, the Office of the Dean's Program and Curriculum Officer for her many contributions to the process.

Professor Miller referred members to the extensive documentation on the curriculum changes and noted that one item she would highlight for all the reports was the UTM Abroad new course designators. In order to help academic units plan for new and existing international options in their courses and to help students identify courses with international components and further develop their global perspective, new

course designators have been introduced in the Academic Calendar. Courses with required and optional international components will now feature the INTLR and INTLO designation, respectively.

Regarding changes proposed in the Humanities Curriculum Report, Professor Miller reported that 21 minor program changes were made, including the addition and deletion of course requirements to reflect current course offerings in the Departments, to add flexibility to course options, and to add further clarity to program requirements for students. A large number of new courses were also being proposed (76 half-courses; 2 full-year course,) which reflect two aspects of UTM teaching: first, the generally heightened level of attention to course offerings as a result of curriculum mapping initiatives being undertaken in all UTM units; and second, the continued hiring of new faculty members to improve student-faculty ratios and fill current gaps in teaching expertise. Professor Miller explained that of particular note was the proposed new course in Indigenous Education, the re-organization of the English programs of study (including the re-naming of a number of courses), re-numbering of a number of Philosophy and Historical Studies courses to help students understand course progression better, and the addition of many new courses in Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Persian, Spanish, and Urdu from Language Studies.

Professor Rawle, Associate Dean, Undergraduate and Chair of the Sciences Curriculum Committee reported that changes proposed in the Sciences Divisional Curriculum Report included 46 minor program changes (including the addition and deletion of course requirements), the addition of 23 half courses and one full course; and several general course changes. Changes proposed by the Department of Chemical & Physical Sciences (CPS) were in response to a recent University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) External Review and the curricular recommendations that resulted from the reviewers' report. These included new program admission requirements to streamline admissions across all departmental programs, the introduction of experiential learning opportunities (new internship course), and an early computational training course (Introduction to Scientific Computing). Additional changes from CPS stemmed from the Earth Science discipline where seven (7) new courses were proposed.

Professor Jeremy Packer, Associate Dean, Graduate, and Chair of the Social Sciences Curriculum Committee presented changes proposed in that report. In addition to minor changes that affected 23 programs, the most significant changes proposed in that report pertained to the minimum requirements necessary for entry into existing programs. Professor Packer explained that noteworthy admission changes were proposed by the Departments of Economics and Management and the Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology (ICCIT). In Economics, these changes would help to simplify their existing requirements for students and align their offerings more closely with cognate programs at UTM. Management changes were required as part of the implementation of a previously approved mathematics requirement addition to their programs and ICCIT changes were designed to better accommodate the competitive nature of their programs.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed Humanities undergraduate curriculum changes for the 2018-19 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum reports, be approved.

THAT the proposed Sciences undergraduate curriculum changes for the 2018-19 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum reports, be approved.

THAT the proposed Social Sciences undergraduate curriculum changes for the 2018-19 academic year, as detailed in the respective curriculum reports, be approved.

4. Other Business

There was no other business.

5. Assessors' Reports

At the Chair's invitation, Professor Michael Lettieri, Vice-Dean Academic Experience, provided the Committee with an overview of recent developments in experiential learning (EL.) Professor Lettieri noted that UTM was vigorously looking to expand these opportunities in both scale and type. UTM had identified EL as a key component of its current Academic Plan and recent changes in provincial government regulations and the University Fund for EL had also provided opportunities for the campus to enhance its current offerings in this area and to create new and innovative EL activities. Professor Lettieri reported that UTM had recently submitted two EL funding proposals to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD). The first proposal – UTM's request for support under the *University Fund for Experiential Learning* and the *Provincial Career Ready Fund* – had been approved in the amount of over \$700,000 for the next two years. These funds were for bursaries, staff, and marketing and communication. The second proposal, which had been submitted very recently to MAESD, was regarding a new funding program for Employer and Regional Partnerships. For this second competition, UTM had submitted three applications: two for a Career Ready Fund (Stream 2) for the Department of Management and ICCIT and one for Stream 3 of the Career Ready Fund for the Career Centre. Organizations could apply for two years of funding. There were \$6 million available for all projects in 2017-18, and \$11 million in 2018-19. Professor Lettieri noted that out of a total of 129 province-wide submissions, there had been 16 submissions from the University of Toronto. Out of the three U of T submissions that had been chosen to move to the next stage of the competition, Professor Lettieri was pleased to announce that two had been from UTM. Meetings between the University and the Province were ongoing, but Professor Lettieri noted that these were progressing positively. He added that UTM had committed operating funding to grow EL in all units as part of the Academic Plan and that there would be support for all units to develop and expand EL opportunities for our students.

Also at the invitation of the Chair, Professor Bryan Stewart, Vice-Principal Research provided an update from his office. He discussed the first annual research prize symposium established by his office to recognize outstanding contributions of early career researchers and scholars in the Humanities, Sciences and Social Sciences. The event, which was held on December 6, 2017, celebrated the contributions of Andrew Sepielli (Philosophy), Josh Milstein (Chemical and Physical Sciences) and Emily Impett (Psychology.) Professor Stewart also drew members' attention to the annual Research Excellence Awards lecture on January 30, 2018 (2:00 p.m., DV-3130), which would feature Professor Ronald Beiner from the Department of Political Science, who was the 2017 recipient of the award. Professor Stewart then spoke about his office's work with respect to the annual review of awards and external as well as internal funding for faculty members. He noted that results from the UTM Research Council on their review of the Outreach, Conference and Colloquia Fund as well as the Research and Scholarly Activity Fund would be available soon. He directed members to the Office of the VP Research website for more information on funding opportunities (www.utm.utoronto.ca/vp-research)

The Chair then invited Professor Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean to present her report to the Committee. Professor Daniere spoke about progress on the implementation on the recently approved UTM Academic Plan and noted that three working committees had been struck as follows: Literacy and Writing; Numeracy and Sustainability Pathways. She noted that an online dashboard was in the process of being developed to track progress on the implementation of the Academic Plan. Professor Daniere then spoke to another focus of her office, which was on the improvement of UTM's retention rate. She reported that her office was working on assessing best practices in student retention and would in due course develop a report with appropriate recommendations to address this important issue.

Professor Daniere concluded her report by listing some of the proposals that members would see at upcoming meetings of the Committee, including a new stream in the MBiotech program and the introduction of an advanced standing option in Forensics Accounting.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly moved, seconded, and carried

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted, and that Item 6 - Report of the Previous Meeting.

6. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 23 – October 30, 2018

Report number 23, from the meeting of October 30, 2018 was approved, as amended with the addition of a member who attended, but was not listed in the report.

7. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

There was no business arising from the report of the previous meeting.

8. Date of the Next Meeting – February 12, 2018 at 4:10 p.m.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair noted the date of the next meeting and the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

January 9, 2018