

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA CAMPUS COUNCIL  
REPORT NUMBER 30 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 15, 2019**

To the Campus Council,  
University of Toronto Mississauga

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on January 15, 2019 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers, William G. Davis Building, at which the following were present:

Steven Short, Chair  
Laura Taylor, Vice-Chair  
Ulli Krull, Vice-President & Principal  
Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal,  
Academic & Dean  
Andrew Petersen, Acting Vice-Dean,  
Teaching & Learning  
Ronald Beiner  
Brett Beston  
Melinda Ann Callahan  
Jill Caskey  
Marc Dryer  
Salma Fakhry  
Miquel Faig  
Ulrich Fekl  
Monika Havelka  
Shelley Hawrychuk  
Sanja Hinic-Frlog  
Rosa Hong  
Momin Kashif  
Michael Lettieri  
Yan Li  
Teresa Lobalsamo  
Rhonda McEwen  
Ashley Monks  
Lorretta Neebar  
Andrew Nicholson  
Emmanuel Nikiema  
Jay Nirula  
Andreas Park  
Chester Scoville  
Steve Szigeti  
Mohamad Tavakoli-Targhi  
Maya Tomkiewicz

Samra Zafar  
Daniel Zingaro  
Xiaodong Zhu

**Non-Voting Assessors:**

Rosa Ciantar, Acting Program and  
Curriculum Officer  
Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs

**Regrets:**

James Allen  
Laura Brown  
Jessica Duggan  
Alexandra Gillespie  
Simon Gilmartin  
Claudiu Gradinaru  
Ria Haque  
Advait Hasabnis  
Sara Hughes  
Nathan Innocente  
Kajri Jain  
Abi Karunendiran  
Konstantin Khanin  
Anna Korteweg  
Diane Matias  
Kent Moore, Vice-Principal, Research  
Esteban Parra  
Diana Raffman  
Mihkel Tombak  
Rebecca Wittmann  
Liye Xie

**In Attendance:**

Saher Fazilat, Chief Administrative Officer

Anne Gaiger, Assistant Director, Employer Relations & Marketing, Career Centre

Jackie Goodman, Manager, Orientation, Transition & Engagement, Centre for Student Engagement

Shashi Kant, Chair, Sustainability Pathways Working Group and Director, Master of Science and Sustainability Management

Anuar Rodrigues, Director, Academic Planning, Policy & Research

**Secretariat:**

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

Alexandra Di Blasio, Governance Coordinator, UTM

**1. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of the year and noted that the nominations for elected positions on Academic Affairs Committee opened on Monday, January 7, 2019 and would close on Friday, January 18, 2019. The Chair 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. Sociology Through Study Abroad**

The Chair invited the Professor Erik Schneiderhan and Ms Jasmine Marie Anthony to present<sup>1</sup>. The presentation emphasized the importance of the global competency of youth, which aligned with the University's priority of producing global citizens. Professor Schneiderhan discussed two study abroad courses, SOC485 and SOC382, in which students engaged in research-based international experiences in Germany, Poland and Cambodia. The international component of the courses allowed students to make connections between theoretical learning in the classroom to lived experiences. Professor Schneiderhan detailed the international experience in Cambodia, in which students learned of the present-day effects of the 1970s genocide through interaction with residents of a rural village, and experienced a day in court that covered trials of major war criminals. Ms Anthony discussed how the international experience created a complete timeline of the history of WWII in a way that could not be accomplished through books and internet research. She described the impact of the visit to a concentration camp site in Poland, as well as the building in Berlin that served as the SS headquarters in WWII. Professor Schneiderhan noted that student evaluations of the courses emphasized the value of the international component of each course with respect to the quality of learning that was achieved. Ms Anthony noted that only 11% of Canadian youth take advantage of such opportunities and offered encouragement to those in attendance to explore available options. She also emphasized that receiving a bursary made it possible for her to participate in this experience.

---

<sup>1</sup> A copy of the presentation is attached as Attachment A.

**Major Modification: New Freestanding Minor in Sustainability**

The Chair invited Professor Barbara Murck, to present this item. Professor Murck explained that the proposed Minor would focus on sustainability and sustainable development through engagement with theory in course-based learning, and practical application through experiential learning opportunities. She indicated that the program would draw student interest from various disciplines, as the course requirements drew from multiple areas, such as Environment, Political Science, and Sociology. The introduction of the program in the undergraduate curriculum would lead to career opportunities in the area of sustainability, which she noted were highly valued across Canada. She noted that the development of the Minor aligned with recommendations made by the Sustainability Pathways Working Group regarding the need to enhance efforts towards sustainability on campus.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed new freestanding Minor in Sustainability, offered by the Department of Geography – Programs in Environment, recommended by Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, Professor Amrita Daniere, and described in the proposal dated December 3, 2018, be approved, effective September 1, 2019.

**3. Major Modification: New Freestanding Minor in Environmental Law & Policy**

The Chair invited Professor Barbara Murck to present the item. Professor Murck explained that, with a specific focus on environmental law and policy, the Minor would explore environmental issues, ethical principals and practices related to legal, political and social spheres. The minor would be interdisciplinary in scope, and open to students of any background. She indicated that undergraduate-level environmental law programs were uncommon across Canada and the U.S., and this offering would therefore provide a competitive advantage to students interested in the pursuit of graduate programs in this subject area. She noted that the program would lead to a broad scope of career opportunities across various fields.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed new freestanding Minor in Environmental Law & Policy, offered by the Department of Geography – Programs in Environment, recommended by Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, Professor Amrita Daniere, and described in the proposal dated December 3, 2018, be approved, effective September 1, 2019.

#### **4. Major Modification: New Freestanding Minor in Creative Writing**

The Chair invited Professor Lawrence Switzky to present the item. Professor Switzky indicated that the Minor had been created in response to a UTQAP external review, and that need for the Minor was further supported by high demand for offerings in the subject area of Creative Writing. He described the Minor as unique, as it would provide students the opportunity to focus their studies in the literary or dramatic arts. Entry into the Minor would occur in second year or higher, and would require completion of 4.0 credits. Required courses would build a firm understanding of print and new media publishing. As students progressed through the Minor, they would develop the necessary skillset for participation in workshop-style classes in advanced-level courses.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOU COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed new freestanding Minor in Creative Writing, offered by the Department of English and Drama, recommended by Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, Professor Amrita Daniere, and described in the proposal dated December 4, 2018, be approved effective September 1, 2019.

#### **5. Minor Modification: Certificate in Global Perspectives**

The Chair invited Professor Emmanuel Nikiema, Chair, Department of Language Studies, to present the item. Professor Nikiema indicated that the Global Perspectives Certificate had been created with the goal to aid in the development of globally-minded citizens. The Certificate would strengthen students' abilities to critically investigate matters through the lenses of various economic, cultural, and socio-political perspectives. Through this comprehensive approach to the consideration of issues, students would develop the skillset to aid in their interpretation and evaluation of global matters. Professor Nikiema made note of the Certificate requirements, which included 2.0 credits from existing courses in Area Studies and Global Perspectives.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOU COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed Certificate in Global Perspectives, offered by the Department of Language Studies, recommended by Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, Professor Amrita Daniere, and described in the proposal dated December 4, 2018, be approved, effective September 1, 2019.

#### **6. Minor Modification: Certificate in Advanced Economics**

The Chair invited Professor Miquel Faig to present this item. Professor Faig explained that the Certificate would provide students the opportunity to engage in deeper analysis of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics through participation in advanced courses. Certificate requirements included completion of 2.0 credits in ECO325H5, ECO3265,

ECO375H5, and ECO475H5, which would incorporate an experiential learning opportunity. He noted that the Certificate would prepare students for graduate studies in this subject area.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOU COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed Certificate in Advanced Economics, offered by the Department of Economics, recommended by Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, Professor Amrita Daniere, and described in the proposal dated November 30, 2018, be approved, effective September 1, 2019.

## **7. Update on the Sustainability Pathways Working Group Report**

The Chair invited Professor Shashi Kant, Chair, Sustainability Pathways Working Group, to present<sup>2</sup> the item. Professor Kant reminded members that the Sustainability Pathways Working Group (SPWG) was constituted by the Dean to operationalize goals set within the *Academic Plan*. The group recommended practices to foster a culture of sustainability on campus to aid in UTM's goal of becoming a global leader in sustainability. He provided an update on the progress of the recommendations made within the SPWG Report, which included an international conference in sustainability that would be hosted by UTM in October 2019, which would draw scholars from the Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities. Other progress included the introduction of the undergraduate Minor in Sustainability, and civic engagement efforts such as Let's Talk Science and Let's Talk Sustainability for high school students.

## **8. Other Business**

### **a) Forensic Science Winter Term Offerings**

The Chair invited Professor Andrew Petersen, Vice-Dean, Teaching & Learning, to present one additional item of business to members for information. Professor Peterson indicated that the course codes FSC307H5 and FSC320H5, which were approved by the Committee in November of 2018 would be used in Winter 2019, which would allow students to register in courses that were initially labelled as separate sections of one Special Topics course. The Special Topics sections offered contained the same content as the authorized course codes, and the separation of the Special Topics sections under different course codes would provide enough course offerings that students in the program would meet graduation requirements.

## **9. Reports of the Presidential Assessors**

The Chair invited Professor Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal, Academic & Dean, to present her report.

## **10. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 29 – November 12, 2018**

Report number 29, from the meeting of November 12, 2018 was approved.

---

<sup>2</sup> A copy of the presentation is attached as Attachment B

**11. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting**

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

**12. Date of the Next Meeting** – Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

---

Secretary

---

Chair

January 22, 2019

# THREE PRIORITIES

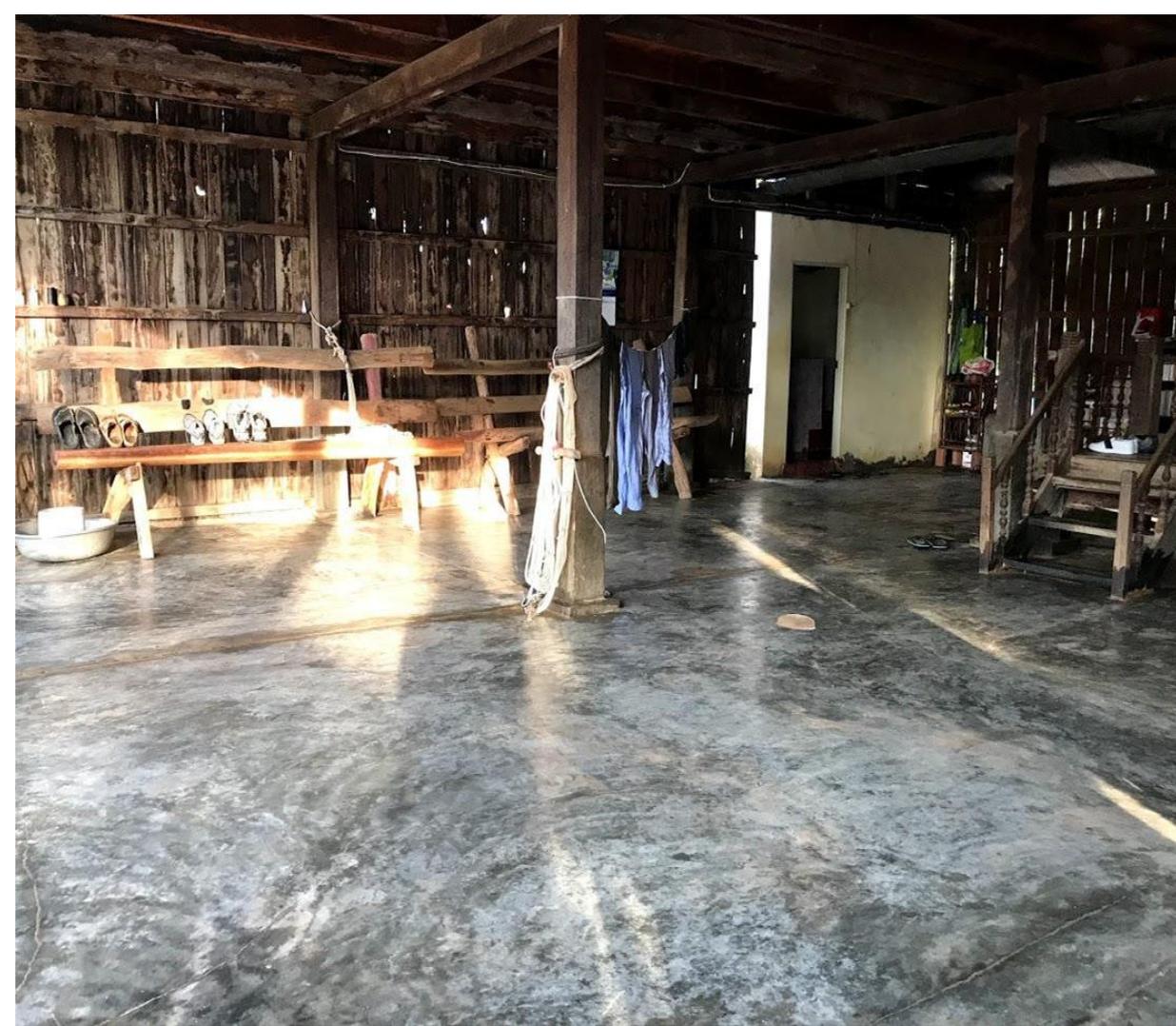
- *“In keeping with our institutional goal of producing global citizens, we should encourage more of our students to undertake an international experience, in whatever form possible. Accordingly, our portfolio of Study Abroad and Summer Abroad opportunities should be maintained and expanded where appropriate. At the same time, we should explore other creative forms of international experience that meet the particular needs of our students.”*
- --U of T President Meric Gertler



# SOCIOLOGY IN THE FIELD

- Taught through Sociology 485 and Sociology 382
  - Germany & Poland (Sociology and Memory)
  - Cambodia (Contemporary Cambodian Politics and Society)
- Research-based learning experiences
- Embedded in department curriculum
- Ask students to connect ideas to on-the-ground experience
- Close contact with tenure-stream faculty and UTM Staff
- International engagement, not tourism.
- Personal empowerment through travel









ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា  
UNITED NATIONS  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា  
KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
ROYAUME DU CAMBODGE







# STUDENT EVALUATIONS (12/2018)

- “There really is no better way of learning the content of a course than to be able to apply it in the real world with real examples.”
- “The course provided a lot of practical experience as well as challenged us to think critically about genocide and its effects on the world.”
- “Due to the abroad nature of this course, it was so much of a different level of instruction than other courses. There was so much hands-on learning that greatly improved the quality of how the course was instructed. Amazing quality of instruction.”



Sustainability Pathway Working Group  
(SPWG) Report  
Progress  
January 15, 2019

**Professor Shashi Kant**  
**Director, MScSM, IMI**  
**University of Toronto Mississauga**  
[Shashi.kant@utoronto.ca](mailto:Shashi.kant@utoronto.ca)

# SPWG Report

**Sustainability Vision:** *UTM strives to become a global leader in sustainability by fostering a culture of sustainability.*

1. Sustainability Strategic Plan of UTM
2. Academic Programs
3. Research
4. Campus Engagement
5. Community/Civic Engagement
6. Work Environment and Wellbeing

# Progress

1. Status of the Report
2. International Conference – Oct 16, 17, & 18, 2019 - Sustainability: Transdisciplinary Theory, Practice, and Action
3. Sustainability Certificate
4. Civic Engagement –
  - a. Let's Talk Science
  - b. Let's Talk Sustainability
  - c. Summer Camp