

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 197 OF THE COMMITTEE ON
ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS

May 8, 2019

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto

Your Committee reports that it met on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, with the following present:

Present:

Ernest Lam (Chair)
Markus Stock (Vice-Chair)
Susan McCahan
Catherine Amara
Aarthi Ashok
James Davis
Richard Levin
Jan Mahrt-Smith
Paul Malozewski
Mohan Matthen
Nicholas Moroz
Said Sidani
Rachel Zand

Regrets:

Donald Ainslie
Emily Chu
Zhong-Ping Feng
Jason Glover
Connie Guberman
Mallory Jackman
William Ju
Jeannie Kim
Shawn Medeiros
Sandhya Mylabathula
Emmanuel Nikiema
Richard Sommer

Secretariat

David Walders

In Attendance:

Ramona Alaggia, Professor, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
Larry Alford, University Chief Librarian, University of Toronto Libraries
Justine Garrett, Coordinator, Academic Planning & Reviews, Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs (VPAP)
Jennifer Francisco, Coordinator, Academic Change, VPAP
Nicole Harnett, Professor, Department of Radiation and Oncology
Jane E. Harrison, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty and Academic Life
Linda Johnston, Dean, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing
Glen Jones, Dean, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education
Emma del Junco, Assistant Coordinator, Academic Planning & Reviews, VPAP
Allan Kaplan, Vice Dean, Graduate and Academic Affairs, Faculty of Medicine
Rita Kandel, Chair, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, Faculty of Medicine
Daniella Mallinick, Director, Academic Programs, Planning and Quality Assurance, VPAP
Alexandra Varela, Assistant Coordinator, Academic Change, VPAP
Earl Woodruff, Chair, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development, OISE

ITEMS 3-6 ARE RECOMMENDED TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD FOR APPROVAL. ALL OTHER ITEMS ARE REPORTED TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD FOR INFORMATION.

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the final meeting of the governance year.

1. Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work: Guidelines for the Assessment of Effectiveness in Teaching in Promotion, Continuing Status and Tenure Decisions

Professor McCahan provided introductory comments to the proposed revisions.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

It was Resolved

THAT the “Guidelines for the Assessment of Effectiveness in Teaching in Promotion, Continuing Status and Tenure Decisions” approved by the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work Faculty Council on March 19, 2019, be approved, effective immediately.

2. Reviews:

a) University of Toronto Central Libraries

Professor McCahan noted that review of the University of Toronto Central Libraries (UTL), was commissioned by the Vice-President and Provost. The reviewers’ overall assessment of the quality of UTL was very high. The reviewers highlighted the libraries’ superlative collections and the expert services that the libraries offer. They praised the many notable accomplishments of the library leadership and staff over the past few years.

Mr. Alford expressed appreciation to the administration for their continued support of the UTL. He highlighted two initiatives currently being undertaken at the UTL: the replacement of the online discovery tools, including the online catalogue, and; improving student space via the new Robarts Common, which would add 1,200 new work and study spaces to Robarts Library.

In reply to a member's question about Indigenous space within the UTL, Mr. Alford noted that, at Gerstein Library, there was an Elder present on a weekly basis. As well, a librarian based at OISE specializes in Indigenous initiatives and works to grow the Indigenous collection as part of the University's commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) calls to action.

b) Semi-Annual Report on Graduate Collaborative Specializations Reviews: 2018-19

Professor McCahan provided an overview of the reviews, which had been commissioned by the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Professor McCahan noted that there was continued interest and commitment to the two Collaborative Specializations, that no significant challenges were identified and that both MOAs were recommended for renewal.

There were no questions or comments from members.

3. New program: Master of Health Science in Laboratory Medicine, Faculty of Medicine

Professor McCahan provided an overview of the proposed program. Vice-Dean Kaplan and Professor Kandel noted that the proposed program would meet a pressing societal need. Students in the program could choose either the Pathologists' Assistant or Clinical Embryology field and, in both cases, students would receive an academic foundation for their careers, which would be unmatched by other degrees in Canada.

Members asked questions regarding bioethics training for students, funding for the program and certification for program graduates. Vice-Dean Kaplan and Professor Kandel noted that it was appropriate that students in both fields would take the same bioethics course, as the principles around, for example, privacy and quality control were similar and there were significant implications for unethical handling of tissue in both fields. A member also asked whether students from a broad range of health science undergraduate programs would be eligible to apply. It was confirmed that this would be the case. Turning to funding, the program had modeled a budget based on tuition and WGU funding from the provincial government. The simulation lab could also be used to train practicing clinical embryologist which would be for fee. Finally, regarding certification, there was existing certification for pathologist assistants and, for clinical embryologists, there were voluntary examinations but efforts were being made to make this certification mandatory.

It was Recommended,

THAT the proposed degree program, Master of Health Science in Laboratory Medicine (MHSc) as described in the proposal from the Faculty of Medicine dated April 12, 2019 be approved effective September 1, 2020.

4. New program: Doctor of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing

Professor McCahan provided an introduction to the program and Dean Johnston noted that the professional doctorate program would be a ground-breaking program in Canada. The program would address the identified need for nurses with strong leadership skills who were academically prepared for executive-level roles in dynamic, technologically advanced and sophisticated health care environments and leadership roles in nursing education. Through the program graduates would gain the skills to improve health outcomes and transform research evidence into practice.

In reply to a question regarding student-faculty interaction, especially in light of the hybrid delivery model of the program and the implications for students completing a thesis, Professor Johnston noted that, while a portion of the program would be delivered online, student residencies and seminars would provide for ample student –faculty interaction. She also noted that Nursing had significant experience with online delivery and had developed mechanisms to support graduate students in this format.

It was Recommended,

THAT the proposed degree program, Doctor of Nursing (DN), as described in the proposal from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing dated April 9, 2019 be approved effective September 1, 2020.

5. New program: Doctor of Education in Child Education, OISE

Professor McCahan provided an introduction to the program. Dean Jones and Professor Woodruff noted that the program would focus largely on theory, practice and policy. A member asked why there were multiple Doctor of Education programs rather than a consolidated offering with a number of fields. Professor Woodruff responded that some of the existing EdD programs had content that was regulated by accreditation bodies so overlap between some academic areas was not possible (e.g., counselling psychology). The separate programs also reflected OISE’s departmentalized structure.”

It was Recommended,

THAT the proposed degree program, Doctor of Education in Child Study and Education (EdD) as described in the proposal from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education dated April 3, 2019 be approved effective September 1, 2020.

6. Program Closure: Master of Health Science in Medical Radiation Science, Faculty of Medicine

Professor McCahan provided an introduction to the program closure. Vice-Dean Kaplan and Professor Harnett noted that, since program opened in 2009, it had struggled to draw applicants from outside of Ontario. Professor Harnett explained that the program had been in alignment with a research project funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the original hope was for the program to appeal to potential applicants across Canada. Unfortunately, the research project's model of care had never been adopted outside of Ontario, and all graduates had been employed locally. Because of this, enrolment had remained low, making the program very difficult to sustain..

It was Recommended,

THAT the proposed closure of the Master of Health Science in Medical Radiation Sciences (MHSc), Faculty of Medicine dated February 15, 2019, to which admissions were administratively suspended in June 2018, be approved with an anticipated program closure date of August 31, 2019.

7. Revisions to the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP)

Professor McCahan reported that additional revisions to the UTQAP were needed to reflect the Framework's requirement of both a unit and a decanal administrative response for new program appraisals and cyclical reviews involving departmentalized Faculties/Divisions. The changes would be implemented once they had been ratified by the Quality Council.

8. Annual Major Modification Report, 2018-19

Professor McCahan reported that there were 42 major modifications listed in the report, as well as new pathways created for students in existing programs. A Minor Modification Report was also included, which included hundreds of minor changes to existing programs approved by the Divisions, including new graduate emphases. There were no changes to Transcript Notations to report.

9. Annual for-Credit and Not-for-Credit Certificate Report, 2018-19

Professor McCahan provided an overview of the Report, outlining both category 1 (stand-alone certificates) and category 2 (taken in combination with an undergraduate degree program) for-credit certificates. Professor McCahan also outlined not-for-credit certificates, which offered specific enhanced training and development in career competencies, as well as broader opportunities for lifelong learning.

In response to a member's question regarding certificate recipients, Professor McCahan confirmed that certificate recipients were not considered graduates of the University. Mr. Levin noted that there were oversight mechanisms in place to address cases in which individuals falsely claimed to be University of Toronto graduates.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

It was Resolved

THAT the consent agenda be approved

CONSENT AGENDA

10. Ontario Co-operative Education Tax Credit: Approved List of Programs, 2019-20

On motion duly made, seconded and carried

It was Resolved

THAT the 2019-2020 List of University of Toronto Programs Eligible for the Ontario Co-operative Education Tax Credit, dated May 8, 2019, be approved.

11. Report of the Previous Meeting

The report of the previous meeting was approved.

12. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

A member requested a minor amendment to the report of the previous meeting.

13. Date of Next Meeting – September 16, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be September 16, 2019.

14. Reports of the Administrative Assessors

Professor McCahan thanked members for their careful consideration of agenda items. She also offered her thanks to the Chair, Vice-Chair and the Secretary.

15. Other Business

The Chair thanked all members for their service on the Committee over the past year: for their careful review of agenda material and for their thoughtful and efficient participation in the Committee's business. He expressed special thanks to Professor Markus Stock for his work and support as Vice-Chair. The Chair also expressed thanks to the administrative assessors, for their contributions, and in particular to Professor McCahan for her excellent presentations of items of business and for her overall leadership. The Chair acknowledged the support of the staff: Dr. Mallinick, Ms. Francisco, Ms. Garrett, Ms. del Junco and Ms. Varela who had played a key role in the work of the Committee – coordinating the flow of business, advising the divisions on what was needed in terms of governance consideration of their proposals, drafting cover sheets, and much more.

Finally, the Chair thanked the Secretary who had supported the Committee over the past year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

May 10, 2019