



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Academic Board (revised from the P&B memo of Nov 2, 2011)

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AGENDA ITEM: RENEWAL AND PROPOSED REVISIONS OF HOSPITAL – UNIVERSITY FULL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT TEMPLATE

ITEM IDENTIFICATION

Renewals of the existing full affiliation agreements between the University of Toronto and the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN) full member hospitals and Revisions from the 2007 Template

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION

The Committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations concerning a broad range of planning issues and priorities. Matters within the Committee's scope have an impact on relationships amongst divisions and relationships between the University and the community at large. It has specific jurisdiction for approval, in principle, of the incorporation of associated organizations and research ancillaries. These areas of responsibility, as well as the more general functions of the Committee, include the intent and impact of affiliations with teaching hospitals.

Excerpt from the terms of reference for the Planning and Budget Committee:

4.5.2 The Committee recommends to the Academic Board for consideration templates for agreements with external bodies. Individual agreements that do not conform to the template are reviewed by the Committee for recommendation to the Academic Board and confirmation by the Executive Committee. [Agreements that conform to the template are approved by the Vice-President and Provost.]

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN

Between 1979 and 2002, full affiliation agreements were established with all of the current full member hospitals of the Toronto Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN). The following 9 hospitals are full members of TAHSN and are currently fully-affiliated with the University of Toronto:

- Baycrest
- Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Hospital for Sick Children
- Mount Sinai Hospital
- St. Michael's Hospital
- Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
- University Health Network (Toronto General Hospital, Toronto Western Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute)
- Women's College Hospital

In 2006 and earlier, although affiliation agreements were in effect, it was recognized that the template affiliation agreement itself needed to be updated to better reflect new policies at the University and practices in the University of Toronto's relationship with the TAHSN hospitals. With this in mind, an extensive consultation and negotiation process was begun within the University of Toronto and with the full member TAHSN hospitals. This process led to the development and finalizing of a revised full affiliation agreement template, which was approved by the University of Toronto Governing Council on February 1,

2007. This template agreement was customized for each of the full member TAHSN hospitals and, once signed in 2007, replaced the previous full affiliation agreements.

As these affiliation agreements were signed in 2007 with a 5-year renewal clause, a process to review and revise as appropriate the 2007 template started in early 2011. As with the 2007 template, a consultation and negotiation process occurred within the University of Toronto and with the full member TAHSN hospitals. Within the University of Toronto, the consultation process involved discussion with the Deans of the Health Science Faculties and relevant Faculty of Medicine Committees. Consultation with all TAHSN full member hospitals involved discussion with TAHSN hospital CEOs, with hospital legal counsels providing input. This process has resulted in the development of the recommended revised full affiliation template agreement (Appendix A). This agreement will be customized for each of the full member TAHSN hospitals and, once signed, will replace each of the current full affiliation agreements.

HIGHLIGHTS

Attached, committee members will find a clean copy of the original approved template, a track changes version showing the changes being brought forward, and a clean copy of the final, new agreement template.

Overall, the changes in the tabled revised template address changes in practice or in legislation, accreditation standards or university policy since 2007 and reflect the evolution of the relationship between the University of Toronto and the TAHSN hospitals. In summary, the revisions address the :

- strengthened commitment to work cooperatively with hospitals to enhance academic achievement, research and international reputation
- enhanced requirements for communication between the university and hospitals regarding human resources and related issues that affect both institutions
- revision to requirements for communication between the university and the hospital regarding teaching commitments to align with current practice
- references to new or revised policies, accreditation standards and legislation and provisions that implement them as required
- revision of provisions regarding research to reflect current practices and to emphasize reduction of redundancies in ethics review
- clarity regarding termination of the affiliation agreement

A number of specific changes are required to align the template agreement with mandated legislation and standards of accreditation of the MD program, as well to make it relevant and current. These changes include the revision or addition of language relating to:

- the exchange of information regarding disciplinary matters, performance evaluations for certain appointees and appointees ceasing to hold appointments
- the clarification of the teaching commitment section, including elimination of the related blank form that was not being used
- the role of and importance of Medical Academies, arising from the work of a Faculty Task Force
- the specification of responsibility for treatment of undergraduate medical students who are injured or exposed to a hazard
- Hospital recognition of accreditation standard requirements for student programs with respect to space and facilities
- communication regarding workplace violence
- revised grant administration language to reflect current practices; in particular to clarify that where research is conducted at the hospital, the university will administer the grant only if the hospital is ineligible to do so
- a commitment to set up a working group to reduce redundancies in ethical reviews of human subjects research
- recognition by the hospital that faculty members are expected to cite their university affiliation on their publications and agreement by the hospital to promote such citation
- the requirement that, generally, each hospital will have a University of Toronto representative on its Board

- additional termination provisions providing that, in the event of specified fundamental changes in circumstances such that the agreement cannot continue, either party may terminate the agreement immediately

Once the recommended and revised full affiliation template agreement is approved, it will be customized for each institution to reflect details relevant to each hospital. One of the terms that will be subject to customization is related to insurance. The terms of the template require maintenance of insurance policies to cover the clinical activities of students within the hospitals. We have been advised by some of our affiliated hospitals that their current practice is to self-insure those risks. The University's Office of Risk Management has confirmed that equivalent self-insurance is an acceptable practice in the context of the University's insurance coverage. Therefore in response to what we have been advised is current and accepted practice, there will be an option for customization by individual hospitals to reflect their choice of providing equivalent self-insurance in article XV.3 Insurance. Thereafter, each Hospital Chief Executive Officer and their team will be met with and each Board will then proceed to execute the customized agreements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no resource implications for the University's operating budget as a result of entering into a revised full affiliation agreement with each of the TAHSN full member hospitals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Be It Recommended to Academic Board

- (a) THAT the revised template for full affiliation agreements between the University of Toronto and the full member hospitals of the Toronto Academic Health Science Network be approved, effective immediately;
- (b) THAT the President, or designate, be authorized to sign such agreements on behalf of the Governing Council, provided that the agreements conform to the approved template; and
- (c) THAT the agreements signed under the provisions of this resolution be filed with the Secretary of Governing Council.