



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

SPONSOR: Safwat Zaky, Vice-Provost Planning & Budget

CONTACT INFO: 416 978-7116, Safwat.zaky@utoronto.ca

DATE: May 10, 2005

AGENDA ITEM: 14

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to Establish a Joint SGS/Arts and Science Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

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

4.4.2. The Committee advises the Academic Board on the planning and resource implications of plans and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic programs. Those implications might include significant planning and budgetary changes within the division or significant effects on other divisions, the University as a whole and the public.

HIGHLIGHTS:

As a result of the *Stepping UP* planning process, it is proposed that the Centre for Russian and East European Studies be merged with the undergraduate program in European Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Science to create a new unit, the Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CERES). The Joint Centre shall operate as an EDU-2 from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2010 and the Director will report to the Deans of SGS and Arts and Science. The geopolitical environment of Eastern Europe and Russia have changed so that the once clear division has blurred. There is an ever-increasing need for students and researchers to extend their activity across the traditional boundary.

The mandate of CERES will be to: i) to provide education to graduate and undergraduate students in Russian, European and Eurasian studies; ii) to provide a platform for research on these regions, including interdisciplinary and applied research; and, iii) to offer comprehensive, accessible and authoritative information and analysis to the world outside of the University.

The proposal was approved by SGS Council on April 26, 2005 and the Faculty of Arts & Science Council and General Committee on March 7, 2005.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The base operating budget of the Centre for Russian and East European Studies will be moved from the School of Graduate Studies to the Faculty of Arts and Science. No new space, staff or budgetary allocations are required to establish to the new Centre.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended to the Academic Board:

1. THAT the Centre for Russian and East European Studies be merged with the undergraduate program in European Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Science to create a new unit, the Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, and
2. THAT the Joint Centre operate as an EDU-2 from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2010.