



University of Toronto Faculty of Forestry

TO: Academic Board

SPONSOR: C Tattersall Smith, Dean
Faculty of Forestry of the University of Toronto

DATE: September 25, 2006

AGENDA ITEM: 9

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Faculty of Forestry of the University of Toronto: Revised Constitution

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Section 5.2.2 of the Academic Board's terms of reference calls for new or revised divisional constitutions to be considered by the Board, and confirmed by the Executive Committee. Amendments to By-laws are approved by divisional councils.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

This revised constitution of the Faculty of Forestry replaces the last revised version of the original constitution, approved by the Faculty Council on May 30, 1991, and by Governing Council on July 17, 1991.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The revised Faculty of Forestry Constitution is designed to accommodate the new responsibilities and authority inherited by the Faculty Council due to the reorganization of the School of Graduate Studies, most immediately the devolution of authority for graduate studies decisions to the Faculty Councils. Because such a long period had elapsed since the adoption of the previous constitution, the Faculty utilized this opportunity to adopt a range of best practices for governance not previously in place by adapting the template for constitutional reform provided to all divisions by the University. Provisions of the new constitution include:

- a) Election of a Faculty Council Chair and Vice-chair and Executive Committee,
- b) Increased student representation on Council and on Committees of Council. The Council will be a somewhat larger council with better representation from all constituencies.
- c) Migration of the sections devoted to Standing Committees to the newly created by-laws, which specify membership, election, and term of office as recommended by the Office of the Governing Council. The original Standing Committees (Admissions, Undergraduate Curriculum, Examinations and Awards and Petitions) have been replaced by the Executive, Graduate Education, Graduate Admissions and Awards and Undergraduate Committees.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Constitution of the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Toronto, approved by the Faculty Council on June 28, 2006, be approved by the Academic Board and confirmed by the Executive Committee.