



September 26, 2006

TO: Academic Board

SPONSOR: Gage Averill, Dean  
Faculty of Music

Academic Board  
October 4, 2006  
Agenda Item 10

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Faculty of Music, 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;**

The current Constitution of the Faculty of Music was approved by the Faculty of Music Faculty Council on May 30, 2006. This new document replaced a constitution approved on May 30, 1991, which was revised April 8, 1994.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The revised Faculty of Music Constitution accommodates 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, including the graduate teaching faculty whose primary appointments are at the Scarborough campus.
- c) Migration of the sections devoted to Standing Committees to the newly created by-laws, as with specifications concerning membership, election, and term of office as recommended by the Office of the Governing Council. The intended effect of the structural changes was to introduce democratic elections into the Faculty Council for the first time and to replace decanal committee appointments with a transparent system of committee membership.

The proposed changes to the Constitution were considered first by the Dean and Associate Deans and then by the Divisional Coordinators. Staff, student representatives, and faculty were polled for reactions and suggestions. A final draft was circulated to members of the Faculty Council 14 days before the May 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS: N/A**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Constitution of the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, approved by the Faculty Council on May 30, 2006, be approved.

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