



FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: Academic Board

SPONSOR: Sioban Nelson, Vice Provost, Academic Programs
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PRESENTER: Sioban Nelson, Vice Provost, Academic Programs
CONTACT INFO: (416) 978-2122, vpacademicprorgams@utoronto.ca

DATE: April 14, 2014 for May 1, 2014

AGENDA ITEM: 4b

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Follow-up Reports on Reviews:

- a) Department of Italian and its programs (Faculty of Arts & Science)
- b) Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations and its programs (Faculty of Arts & Science)
- c) Master of Management & Professional Accounting and Diploma in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (University of Toronto Mississauga)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Following review by the Committee on Academic Policy and Program, this report is forwarded, together with the record of the Committee's discussion, to the Agenda Committee of the Academic Board, which determines whether there are any issues of general academic significance warranting discussion at the Board level. The same documentation is sent to the Executive Committee and Governing Council for information.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (April 1, 2014)
2. Agenda Committee of the Academic Board (April 23, 2014)
3. **Academic Board (May 1, 2014)**
4. Executive Committee of the Governing Council [For Information] (May 12, 2014)
Governing Council [For Information] (May 22, 2014)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

a) Department of Italian and its programs (Faculty of Arts & Science)

The Department of Italian Studies and its programs were reviewed on November 19–20, 2012, and the report of the external reviewers was taken to the April 16, 2013 meeting of AP&P. AP&P asked for a one year follow-up report regarding faculty complement renewal.

b) Department Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations and its programs (Faculty of Arts & Science)

The Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations and its programs were reviewed on February 16–17, 2012, and the report of the external reviewers was taken to the October 29, 2012 meeting of AP&P. AP&P asked for a one year follow-up report regarding physical space. The Faculty of Arts & Science requested and received an extension to bring the follow-up report to Cycle 5 rather than Cycle 2, 2013-14.

c) Master of Management & Professional Accounting and Diploma in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (University of Toronto Mississauga)

The Master of Management & Professional Accounting and the Diploma in Forensic Accounting (MMPA and DIFA) were reviewed on December 3–4, 2012, and the report of the external reviewers was taken to the April 16, 2013 meeting of AP&P. AP&P asked for a one year follow-up report regarding the programs' structure.

HIGHLIGHTS:

a) Department of Italian and its programs (Faculty of Arts & Science)

In response to AP&P's request, the Faculty of Arts & Science prepared a follow-up report that addressed the issue of faculty complement renewal. Specifically, the report indicated that the Department requested and received approval for two searches in 2013-14, in the areas recommended by the reviewers (Medieval Literature and Culture, and Italian Cinema and Modern Literature). In addition, the Department held a series of meetings in 2013 to discuss matters related to the external review, including complement planning.

b) Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations (Faculty of Arts & Science)

In response to AP&P's request, the Faculty of Arts & Science prepared a follow-up report that addressed the issue of physical space. Specifically, the report indicated the Chair, in working with the Vice-Dean Research & Infrastructure, has identified key space improvement projects. The first such project in development is the expansion of meeting space, with other renovations still in the discussion phase.

c) Master of Management & Professional Accounting and Diploma in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (University of Toronto Mississauga)

In response to AP&P's request, UTM prepared a follow-up report focused on structure. Specifically, the report addressed concerns about the future organizational and functional structure of both programs. The programs have since been moved into the Institute for Management & Innovation (IMI), a new Extra-Departmental Unit: B (EDU: B), and UTM has created a Professional Accounting Centre within the IMI to support accounting research and academic programs. UTM is investigating the creation of a Masters in Investigative Forensic Accounting (MIFA). Planning is underway to bridge the retirement of the current director.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

n/a

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

Department of Italian Studies and its programs One Year Follow-Up Letter from Professor David Cameron, March 10, 2014

Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations and its programs One Year Follow-Up Letter from Professor David Cameron, March 10, 2014

MMPA and DIFA Programs One Year Follow-Up Letter from Professor Amy Mullin, February 21, 2014



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

10 March 2014

Professor Sioban Nelson
Vice-Provost Academic Programs
University of Toronto

Dear Sioban,

I am writing in response to the request by the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) in regards to the November 2012 external review of the Department of Italian Studies (Undergraduate and Graduate Programs). At its meeting of April 16, 2013, AP&P requested a one-year follow-up report addressing the issue of faculty complement renewal. The Faculty has taken the reviewers' recommendation seriously and we have worked with the Department to address the concerns of decline in the faculty complement.

The Department of Italian Studies requested and received approval to search for two positions in 2013-14. The first is a tenure-stream position in the field of Medieval Literature and Culture at the rank of Assistant Professor and the second is a CLTA, also at the rank of Assistant Professor in the field of Italian Cinema and Modern Literature. Both positions respond to the reviewers concerns: "From our perspective, the ideal number of tenure-stream faculty would be 9-10, which would include new hires in Medieval/Dante and in Contemporary/Cinema-Popular Culture." The Department has identified excellent candidates for both positions and is in the process of hiring.

The Department also held a series of meetings in July 2013 and a retreat in September 2013 to further discuss matters related to the external review and planning for their undergraduate and graduate programs, planning priorities and complement planning.

We are confident that with these new hires the Department will continue to provide excellent programs to its students.

Sincerely,

David Cameron
Dean and Professor of Political Science

cc: Professor Salvatore Bancheri, Chair and Graduate Chair, Department of Italian Studies



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

10 March 2014

Professor Sioban Nelson
Vice-Provost Academic Programs
University of Toronto

Dear Sioban,

Thank you for your letter of 6 December 2013, requesting a one-year follow-up report to the May 2012 external review of the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations (Undergraduate and Graduate Programs). Your letter requests information on the Department's current physical space.

In general, I can report that we have had very constructive discussions with the Department and progress has been made to address their space needs. The Faculty takes the reviewers' recommendation seriously and is working to ensure that resolutions are found quickly and efficiently.

The Vice Dean, Research & Infrastructure met with the Chair and visited the Department, touring the Bancroft Hall Building to gain a better understanding of the space issues. The Chair was requested to identify key projects that would have the most impact on the Department.

The first project currently being developed is the expansion of the 2nd floor meeting space. Plans for an expansion of the current meeting room to encompass an open concept, multi-function common room, meeting area and undergraduate/graduate lounge have been prepared. The re-purposing of this space will allow the Department to centralize large events, receptions and meetings. A physical investigation of the space by the Building Manager (to ensure construction can begin), will be undertaken shortly. The project is slated to be completed by June 2014.

Additional projects currently in discussion include the revision of the 3rd floor classroom and office space. The current configuration of storage/computer space, seminar room and classrooms does not address the needs of the Department and better use of the space can be found. The 4th floor, which houses the archaeology lab, is greatly used, but requires upgrades to maintain the quality of the archaeological collections. These renovations are currently in the discussion stage with hopes to move to the development phase in the near future.

Sincerely,

David Cameron
Dean and Professor of Political Science

cc: Professor Tim Harrison, Chair and Graduate Chair, Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations



February 21, 2014

Professor Sioban Nelson
Vice Provost, Academic Programs
Simcoe Hall
University of Toronto

Dear Sioban:

**Re: Master of Management and Professional Accounting and
Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting Review**

I am writing in response to the request by the Committee of Academic Policy and Programs in regards to the external review of the Master of Management & Professional Accounting (MMPA) and Diploma in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (DIFA) conducted in March of 2012. The Committee has requested a one-year follow-up report to focus on structure. Specifically, the reviewers raised concerns about the future organizational and functional structure of both programs. At the time, the plan was to move both the MMPA and the DIFA programs into the planned, but not yet approved, Institute for Management & Innovation (IMI). It was unclear how this movement would proceed and to what extent the new Institute would enhance the resources available to support the MMPA program. Lack of autonomy in terms of budget and hiring as well as excessive reliance on sessional faculty and faculty teaching on overload were identified as problematic structural issues by the reviewers. In addition, the reviewers highlighted the need to develop a sustainable administrative structure for the two programs given the likely retirement of their current Director.

At this time, I am pleased to note that IMI has received governance approval and started to operate as an effective EDU-B. We have appointed a Director with extensive administrative experience who is steering the Institute through its initial year. The MMPA and DIFA programs have both been moved organizationally from out of the Professional Graduate Program Centre into IMI with the goals of implementing improved organization oversight, enhanced financial management and greater reliance on full-time research faculty to teach in IMI-based graduate programs.

As a first step towards enhancing the long-term viability of the Professional Accounting Programs at UTM (MMPA, DIFA, and undergrad B.Com.), UTM has created a Professional Accounting Centre (PAC, an EDU-C) that is based at IMI. The Centre will enable the generation of significant donations for research, and the development of academic resources. Students will be able to participate in research endeavours spawned by PAC and the new knowledge created will flow into our accounting programs. It is the view of the IMI and the MMPA directors that the PAC will raise the visibility of our MMPA and DIFA programs, and will signal to domestic students and faculty that UTM is an excellent place to study professional accounting

We have also taken some initial yet concrete steps to reconceive of the DIFA Program as a Masters in Investigative Forensic Accounting (MIFA). A report has been prepared by the Director, with consultation from external stakeholders, which has been met with enthusiasm. It is quite innovative in design and will clearly require further discussions and market testing. The Dean and Vice-Dean Graduate plan to hold consultative meetings about the reconfigured program with your office, the School of Graduate Studies and related cognate Schools and Departments in the very near future.

Finally, discussions have commenced with regard to the suitable replacement of the current Director who is nearing retirement. The Dean and the Director of IMI are committed to hiring a Full Professor of Accounting who will take on the management of the MMPA program as well as hire a new director of the reconceived DIFA/MIFA program. The current term of the Director runs until June 30, 2016 and these hires will happen well before that date.

Sincerely,



Amy Mullin
Vice Principal Academic and Dean
University of Toronto Mississauga

cc: Amrita Danieri, Vice Dean Graduate, UTM
Lynn Snowden, Assistant Dean, UTM
Melissa Berger, Program and Planning Officer, UTM
Jane E. Harrison, Director, Academic Programs and Policy
Justine Garrett, Coordinator, Academic Programs and Planning