



University of Toronto Governing Council

Policy on Alumni Affairs

May 20, 1982

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POLICY ON ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Objectives¹

Alumni should:

1. Act as interpreters of the University to the Community.
2. Assist in the governance of the University.
3. Encourage students to enrol in the University.
4. Assist in raising funds for the University.

Terms of Reference

The following are the terms of reference for working towards the achievement of these goals:

1. That the University of Toronto Alumni Association and the constituent alumni associations take steps to encourage student involvement in alumni programs.
2. That ongoing liaison between alumni associations and student bodies be established in the various colleges, faculties and schools.
3. That the constituent alumni associations be encouraged to include among their activities programs that will interest other members of the university community—faculty, students, and administrators.
4. That alumni with special skills, knowledge, or prominence be invited to participate as special lecturers in their particular fields.
5. That continuing education opportunities be provided for graduates of all colleges, faculties, and schools within the university.
6. That alumni associations seek out university activities and facilities available to their members, and inform their members of these opportunities.
7. That the alumni estate be formally represented on the governing body of the university.
8. That alumni representatives on the top governing body be nominated by alumni at large and selected by an electoral college created by the University of Toronto Alumni Association and composed of members elected by the alumni of each constituency.
9. That the university retain the institution of Convocation as outlined in the present University of Toronto Act.
10. That there should continue to be a chancellor, who should be the head of Convocation and whose duties should include presiding over Convocation, conferring degrees, membership on the top governing body, and acting as the official representative of the University at ceremonials and functions.
11. That college, faculty, and school councils and committees include as members representatives of the alumni of the appropriate constituency, except in the case of a committee concerned exclusively with the affairs of one estate within its community (e.g., an all-student or all-faculty committee).
12. That alumni representatives be on all search and selection committees for senior academic-administrative appointments and for other appropriate senior administrative appointments.

¹ Approved by Governing Council February 27, 1975.

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13. That alumni be encouraged to make available alumni skills and knowledge for purposes such as professional advice, management expertise, research program advice, liaison with government, communications, recruitment of graduates, and career counselling.
14. That alumni associations initiate and support programs and activities that will bring the University into the life of the community, and that the other estates of the university be encouraged to seek the support of alumni associations when organizing such programs of their own.
15. That alumni associations initiate and support program and activities which would increase interest in, and understanding of, the university on the part of the general public.
16. That a new and broadened effort be undertaken to encourage the formation of branches and the development of programs of interest to alumni living in places other than Toronto.
17. That the University of Toronto Alumni Association facilitate the establishment of special-interest bodies or programs for groups of alumni.
18. That a senior officer be appointed at vice-presidential level to be responsible for the overall direction of the activities of the existing Departments of Alumni Affairs, Private Funding and Information Services, and such other activities as may touch upon the university's relations with the general community.
19. That two broad aims of the Department of Alumni Affairs be acknowledged—to serve individual alumni and assist in the operations of the alumni associations of the university, and to encourage alumni participation in the university by stimulating and developing the programs and activities of these associations and out-of-town branches—and that both these aspects of the department's work be adequately supported with sufficient staff and appropriate budget allocations.
20. That the Department of Alumni Affairs and the University of Toronto Alumni Association assist smaller and emerging alumni groups in the operation of their programs, by such means as the provision of secretarial facilities, counselling, and initial financial support.
21. That the alumni records system be the responsibility of the Department of Alumni Affairs and that it be updated as soon as possible, and that it be improved in accessibility and flexibility so as to provide speedy retrieval of information under both general and specific groupings.
22. That the constituent alumni associations develop greater information flow to their members, including class notes, college, faculty, or school news, and background reporting and commentary on university affairs.
23. That the Department of Alumni Affairs advise on and coordinate the efforts of the various alumni associations in the editing and production of their publications; and that a staff member be appointed in the department, with primary responsibility for this task.
24. That the alumni associations be encouraged to seek ways of employing various media to reach their members.
25. That the university administration develop a method of continuing feedback from alumni by such means as opinion sampling, in order to determine alumni views and expectations.

April 6, 1982

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