



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: May 10, 2005  
AGENDA ITEM: 19

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Ibero-American Studies name change to “Latin American 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.*

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

Committee on Academic Policy and Programs – May 11, 2005

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The proposal for this name change comes out of the *Stepping Up* Plan to reinvigorate Latin American Studies at the University of Toronto. On the basis of wide consultation with faculty members in Latin American subjects on all three campuses, the Plan proposes redefining Ibero-American Studies (IAS) as a program in Latin American Studies. The new name will better represent the academic focus of the program and will bring our designation of this area in line with common practice at peer institutions. The *Stepping Up* Plan envisages a generous reformulation of Latin American Studies, through a revised undergraduate program, a range of research initiatives, enhanced linkages across departments, and collaboration with new and existing interdisciplinary programs and centres (such as Diaspora Studies and the Centre for the Study of the United States). The change of name is a necessary first step in the reinvigoration of Latin American Studies at the University of Toronto. This measure has the support of the current Director of IAS and of all the faculty members consulted during the *Stepping Up* process.

The name change has been approved by at the Faculty of Arts & Science Joint Meeting of the Faculty Council and General Committee on March 7, 2005.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no financial or resource implications.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Information.