



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: January 10, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: **10**

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: School of Graduate Studies: Proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Science for a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Cinema Studies program

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 and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic programs. Implications might include significant planning and budgetary changes within the significant effects on other divisions, the University as a whole and the public.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Cinema Studies Institute was approved as an Extra-Departmental Unit type B (EDU:B) by Planning and Budget on December 5, 2006¹ and is proceeding through governing council committees.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Cinema Studies has been a part of the undergraduate curriculum at the University of Toronto for over 30 years. During this time, the discipline has experienced steady and marked growth, particularly in North America and Europe. A brief description of the proposed MA program is provided in the attached Executive Summary.

The program will be housed within the Cinema Studies Institute, the establishment of which is awaiting Governing Council approval. The proposed institute will be an EDU:B within the Faculty of Arts & Science, with its own budget and authority to offer academic programs, enrol students and administer research grants.

There has been extensive consultation with cognate units in the faculty and with other divisions in the University. The Vice-Deans from both the Faculty of Arts and Science (Graduate and Interdisciplinary), and the School of Graduate Studies (Programs) were consulted on an ongoing basis during proposal preparation. The MA proposal has been approved by the Three Campus Graduate Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Science (October 12, 2006) and by the Graduate Education Council (November 21, 2006).

The proposal will be presented to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs Committee on January 17, 2007.

¹ <http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/bac/details/pb/2006-07/pba20061205.pdf>

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The Faculty of Arts and Science will provide all the resources needed, including financial support for the students. There are no financial implications to the University's budget. For the near future, the available space at Innis College will accommodate the basic needs of the MA program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved that the Planning and Budget Committee concurs with the recommendation of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

THAT the proposal for a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Cinema Studies program, effective September 1, 2007, be approved.

Master of Arts Program in Cinema Studies

Executive Summary

This proposal is for a course-based Master of Arts Program in Cinema Studies. The program will be 12 months in duration.

In the time that Cinema Studies has been a part of the undergraduate curriculum at the University of Toronto (over 30 years), the discipline has experienced steady and marked growth, particularly in North America and Europe. Graduate programs in Cinema Studies are now a feature of most of the prominent universities in the United States, England, and France, to name but three countries. At the same time, Cinema Studies has developed its own canon, as evidenced in a variety of scholarly domains such as dedicated journals and press series. Spurred by successive external reviews that strongly supported introducing a graduate program, the Cinema Studies program at the University of Toronto is proposing a one-year MA that will combine academic rigour with innovative features, including an optional internship credit.

With the addition of two approved faculty hires scheduled to be in place for 2007/08 and 2008/09, respectively, the core faculty of Cinema Studies will be well-equipped to provide a strong array of core and topical courses. A large number of faculty members already teach graduate-level film courses out of their own departments; these courses will complement the curricular offerings of the proposed MA program.

Simultaneous with the proposal for the MA program going forward, a request will be made to have the EDU status of the current college-based undergraduate Cinema Studies Program altered, thereby enabling the renamed Cinema Studies Institute to admit its own graduate students.

The Faculty of Arts & Science has agreed that a cohort of up to twelve MA students in Cinema Studies (in the initial year) will be covered by the University of Toronto funding guarantee. Each of the students will be supported for the duration of the degree (one full academic year) at a guaranteed minimum level of \$13,000 plus tuition and incidental fees, according to the principles set out in the Guidelines for Graduate Funding and Enrolment Management in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Additional needs identified by the Program (including release time for a graduate coordinator, and a part-time graduate administrative assistant) will be funded by the Faculty of Arts & Science. For the near future, the available space at Innis College will accommodate the basic needs of the MA program. A capital campaign designed to provide new screening and office spaces will help to provide for expansion in the years to come.