

University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: March 6, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

University of Toronto at Mississauga: Proposal to establish the Professional Graduate Program Centre as an Extra-Departmental Unit B.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Excerpt from the terms of reference for the Planning and Budget Committee:

4.4.1. The Committee advises the Academic Board on the planning and resource implications of plans and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic units. 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:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The growth of established professional master and diploma graduate programs and development of new interdisciplinary programs and research offers an exciting opportunity for University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM). A number of new professional masters programs are evolving that are cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary, and that are not optimally facilitated by a management and academic structure that is drawn from the departmental and faculty structures at the University.

The proposed Professional Graduate Program Centre (PGPC) will serve as an administrative and academic centre for new campus-based cross-disciplinary professional graduate master and diploma programs located at UTM. As an Extra-Departmental Unit B (EDU:B)¹, the PGPC may admit students to interdisciplinary programs, however, teaching staff appointments are made in established departments with faculty members to be cross-appointed to the EDU:B. The PGPC may also offer provision of services to departmentally-based and faculty-based professional graduate programs located at UTM. The Centre will facilitate professional graduate program matters related to administration of the programs, including:

¹ The Extra-Departmental structures are described within the Provostial Guidelines for Administrative Functions and Protocols of Extra-Departmental Units, http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/English/Interdisciplinarity.html

- Managing the process of appointments to establish suitable teaching staff complement for programs through cross-appointments, adjunct, visiting, and status-only appointments.
- Assisting programs with administrative matters, such as development of suitable space plans and support of student registration and awards.
- Fostering interdisciplinary research development between programs by provision of research incentives, interdisciplinary seminar series, and workshops/symposia.
- Development and offering of programming that bridges academic and research interests of students, faculty and other collaborators who are associated with professional graduate programs.

The Centre will be a responsibility of the UTM Dean or designate. This person will have responsibility for the Program Directors of new campus-based cross-disciplinary professional graduate programs, and will serve in the equivalent role of in terms of program administrative matters as the "Graduate Chair/Director" for such programs at UTM. The Dean will be responsible for the development of the overall plan for professional graduate programs that come under the Centre's jurisdiction. Curriculum-related work, student-related and graduate faculty matters of the graduate programs will continue to be governed as per the School of Graduate Studies and University policies.

There has been extensive consultation for this proposal including UTM Department Chairs, Directors of the UTM professional masters programs, Dean of SGS and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science. The proposal has been reviewed by the Tri-Campus Decanal Committee and the Council of Graduate Deans and has been approved by the UTM Academic Affairs Committee on January 23, 2007 and by the Erindale College Council on February 1, 2007. This document will be provided for information to the SGS Graduate Education Council.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

Financial resources and growth of the UTM professional graduate programs, as well as faculty, staff and student numbers generate resources for the proposed Centre. Each professional graduate program has an independent operating budget, which is adjusted to consider self-sufficiency, need, and revenue generating potential. The professional graduate programs share certain administrative needs and components of program budgets that will be pooled where it is deemed that sharing of logistical and technical resources provides advantage pedagogically, as well as financially.

The PGPC administrative office will be housed in the Office of the UTM Vice-Dean, Graduate. No new space is required for the proposed PGPC.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning and Budget Committee recommends for approval:

THAT the Professional Graduate Program Centre be established as an Extra-Departmental Unit B within the University of Toronto at Mississauga, effective July 1, 2007.