



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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AGENDA ITEM: 5

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:** Proposal to establish a School of Public Policy and Governance as a modified EDU-2 unit.

## **JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

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

**4.4.1** The Committee recommends to the Academic Board on plans and proposals to establish, disestablish, or significantly restructure academic units, here defined as "faculties, schools, colleges, departments, centres and institutes with teaching, or teaching and research functions, undergraduate degree programs, and graduate degree programs", regardless of the source of funds.

## **PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

An initiative in public policy was identified as a priority in the University *Stepping Up* plan as well as in earlier planning cycles and resonates with the Provost's identification of public policy studies as one of five areas of academic priority within the University in the current planning cycle. Many Divisional plans showed support for such an initiative in their *Stepping Up* plans<sup>1</sup>. A Task Force on Public Policy proposed a model for a School of Public Policy.<sup>2</sup>

The attached document is a proposal to establish a School of Public Policy and Governance. The School will draw on the multiple clusters of policy-oriented research across the University's three campuses as outlined in the proposal. Participating units include faculties plus established interdisciplinary centres. The participating divisions have signed a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the governance and administration of the School (Faculties of Applied Science and Engineering, Arts and Science, Information Science, Law, Medicine, and Social Work, the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, OISE/UT, the University of Toronto at Mississauga and University of Toronto at Scarborough). The existence of the School will greatly enhance the profile of public policy teaching and research across the University of Toronto. In addition to offering a Master of Public Policy program, one of the priorities for the School will be to organize seminars and events that engage the School with the broader community and strengthen its influence on public policy.

The School for Public Policy and Governance is to be structured as an interdisciplinary, cross-faculty unit administratively housed in the Faculty of Arts and Science. The Director will report administratively and financially to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and academically to a Council of Deans, chaired by the Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science, and consisting of deans of

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<sup>1</sup> Stepping UP – Synthesis

[http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/userfiles/page\\_attachments/library/6/Stepping\\_Up\\_Synthesis\\_11704\\_3509506.pdf](http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/userfiles/page_attachments/library/6/Stepping_Up_Synthesis_11704_3509506.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Task Force on Public Policy Studies at the University of Toronto, January 2004

<http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/English/Task-Force-on-Public-Policy-Studies---July-2001.html>

## **HIGHLIGHTS (cont'd)**

divisions participating in a substantial way in the graduate program offered by the School. The Council will oversee all critical academic decisions, including major program changes. The Director will, in addition, establish a Program Committee to deal with admissions and curriculum development on an on-going basis. The Director of the School will perform the functions of a Graduate Chair/Director as outlined in the School of Graduate Studies constitution.

Under current criteria for the formation of Extra-Departmental Units (EDU)<sup>3</sup>, the School would be considered a modified EDU:2. In addition to having its own budget and authority to administer research grants, it will also have the authority to offer academic programs and enroll students. The School will register students in the planned Master of Public Policy Program (MPP) and provide them with financial support. The School will not make primary faculty appointments. It is crucial that all faculty have links through cross-appointment from disciplinary and professional units, and that standards for their primary appointments be at the level demanded by those units. It is equally critical that faculty have a real sense of commitment to the School and to nurturing its organizational development.

Funding to support the initial growth of the School has been provided through the Academic Initiatives Fund. A summary of the budget for the School is attached to this submission. The School will be actively involved in outreach programs. Additional sources of funding will be identified as the School developed. It is intended that the School will become self-sustaining over time, but it is recognized that it will take time for the School to achieve its complete revenue. An allocation from the Academic Initiative Fund has been made to provide bridge support during this period.

The Master of Public Policy program was approved by the Planning and Budget Committee on September 18, 2006. The proposal for the School was approved by the Faculty of Arts & Science Council on October 3, 2006.

## **FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

The financial plan has been reviewed by the Faculty of Arts and Science and by the Planning and Budget Office and the space needed has been arranged through the Office of the Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning. The participating divisions have signed a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the governance and administration of the School.

The Faculty of Arts and Science has committed to provide all the resources needed for this program. All revenues and costs associated with the School will be part of the budget of the Faculty of Arts and Science and will be subject to the budgetary procedures of that Faculty. The administrative complement of the School will be part of the complement of the Faculty of Arts and Science, and all administrative staff matters will be dealt with through the Faculty's human resource function. Faculty will be appointed to their relevant home units, with either budgetary or non-budgetary appointments to the School.

The School's revenues are projected to reach \$1.7M by 2008-09, as shown in the attached budget summary. These funds will be derived mostly from the revenues of the MPP program. This level of funding is sufficient to cover all projected operational costs, including academic and administrative costs and the School's share of the cost of central Faculty and university-wide services.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Be It Recommended to the Academic Board:

THAT the School of Public Policy and Governance be established as a new modified EDU:2 teaching and research entity, effective immediately.

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<sup>3</sup> Report of the Provostial Committee on Centres and Institutes, 1984,  
<http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/pap/policies/provoci.html>