**FOR INFORMATION** **Public** **OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** Planning & Budget Committee

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**PRESENTER:** Gail Milgrom, Director, Campus and Facilities Planning
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**DATE:** April 29, 2014 for May 14, 2014

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7

## ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Design Review Committee: Annual Report, 2013

## JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Planning and Budget Committee receives reports for information.

## GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **Planning and Budget [for information] (May 14, 2014)**
2. Academic Board [for information] (June 2, 2014)
3. Business Board [for information] (June 12, 2014)
4. Governing Council [for information] (June 25, 2014)

## HIGHLIGHTS:

During the period of January 2013 to December 2013, the Design Review Committee met a total six times to review a total of seven different projects on the three University of Toronto campuses. Three follow-up meetings were held with the Chair, Co-Chair and project team for three individual projects to review progress. These follow-up meetings were further supported by mailings to the full DRC membership for review and comments. The projects included new construction, renovations and additions and exterior sports facilities.

Membership of the Design Review Committee:

Vice-President and Provost Designate: Dean Richard Sommer, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (Chair)
Presidential appointee: Associate Professor Brigitte Shim, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design
Governing Council representative: TBA
Presidential appointee: Mr. Ron Soskolne, Soskolne Associates
Presidential appointee: Professor Lisa Steele, Department of Art
Presidential appointee: Associate Professor Rob Wright, Associate Dean, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design
Governing Council representative: Ms. Kim McLean, CAO, Faculty of Arts & Science
Governing Council representative: Professor Joe Desloges, Principal, Woodsworth College
Ms. Gail Milgrom, Director, Campus and Facilities Planning (Co-Chair)
Ms. Jennifer Adams Peffer, Senior Planner, Campus and Facilities Planning (Executive Secretary)
UTM representative: Mr. Paul Donoghue, Chief Administrative Officer, UTM
UTSC representative: Mr. Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief of Strategy and Planning, UTSC

The Design Review Committee (DRC) has contributed in the consideration and review of all developments on the three campuses of the University since 2001. Throughout this period of time, the DRC has contributed extensively to ensure that high quality design and construction occurs at this University to create an enriched and inspiring environment. Projects are scrutinized individually and within the context of the University campus through debate and peer review. Such review contributes to the strength of ideas proposed and provides guidance to explore options that otherwise might not have developed. In its deliberations the DRC is mindful of the difficult trade-off between expectations and budgetary reality seeking a balanced approach to the resolution of design concerns.

These efforts have been successful as evidenced by the numerous awards and recognition, municipal, national and international, of our capital projects and open space initiatives on all three campuses of the University. However, most significant is the very positive influence on the campus experience for students, faculty and staff.

Projects are also reviewed with respect to sustainability and environmental concerns as these continue to be more important in our built environment and impact the ongoing operating costs of our buildings.

Review of projects occurs at many levels and is often lengthy. First, to establish that the planned building is contextually appropriate to the site and campus and addresses urban design criteria and massing as delineated by the University's master plans. Any anticipated municipal approvals or variances are also discussed at this point as well as campus wide issues of parking, loading, traffic impact, accessibility and servicing.

Second, follow-up discussions between consultants and the DRC occur when the project is in design development phase where details of the building have been determined and may be better refined.

Finally the palette of materials is considered within the budgetary framework of the project. The landscape plan is presented clearly illustrating what the articulation of the open space is to be within the site and any impacts to adjacent areas.

The complete mandate of the Design Review Committee is defined in Appendix C of the *Policy on Capital Planning and Capital Projects*. This mandate was approved by Governing Council in June, 2001. As the original mandate is now over 10 years old it is recommended that a review be undertaken to ensure that it is consistent with the new Policy on Capital Planning and Capital Projects which was approved by Governing Council in June, 2012.

The following projects, each categorized within one of the nine defined sectors at the University of Toronto, have been reviewed by the Design Review Committee during 2013.

University of Toronto at Scarborough

- Environmental Science and Chemistry Building (1 meeting and 1 follow-up plus mailing)

University of Toronto at Mississauga

- Kaneff Building Expansion (2 meetings)

St. George Campus

- Centre for Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship (2 meetings and 1 follow-up plus mailing)
- Faculty of Law Expansion (3 meetings)
- Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design (2 meetings)
- Jackman Institute of Child Study Expansion (2 meetings and 1 follow-up plus mailing)
- Back Campus Fields (1 meeting)

Citations and Awards 2013:

Again this year, completed capital projects were recipients of significant design awards, pointing to the sustained design excellence in recent projects. Four projects received recognition including the following:

1. Rotman School of Management Expansion, KPMB Architects

    - 2013 Architizer A+ Awards
    - 2013 OAA Award of Excellence
    - 2013 Pug Awards, Honorable Mention
    - 2013 Canadian Interiors Best of Canada, Project Winner

2. Faculty of Law Expansion, Hariri Pontarini Architects with B+H Architects

    - 2013 Canadian Architect Award of Excellence

3. Robarts Library 4th Floor Renovation, Gow Hastings Architects Inc.

    - 2013 LEAF (Leading European Architects Forum) International Design Awards, Shortlisted for the Public Building of the Year Award

4. The Lassonde Institute of Mining (Goldcorp Mining Innovation Suite), Baird Sampson Neuert Architects

    - 2013 Heritage Toronto Awards, Shortlisted for the William Greer Architectural Conservation and Craftsmanship Award

In addition to newly completed projects, and speaking to the legacy of architecturally significant projects constructed on the University of Toronto campus over time, Massey College recieved the 2013 OAA Landmark Award.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

## RECOMMENDATION:

For Information

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## DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

*None*