



TO: Members of Governing Council

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DATE: March 31 for April 7, 2011

AGENDA ITEM: 5(b)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Tuition Fee Schedule for Publicly-Funded Programs for 2011-12.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Business Board recommends the schedule of tuition fees to Governing Council for approval.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Report on Student Financial Support has been reported to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs on March 1, 2011.

The Enrolment Report has been reported to the Planning and Budget Committee on March 2, 2011.

The Tuition Fee Schedule for Publicly-Funded Programs for 2011-12 was approved by Business Board on March 7, 2011.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Tuition fees at the University of Toronto are determined in accordance with the University's Tuition Fee Policy, the Statement of Commitment Regarding International Students and the Provincial Government's Tuition Framework. The tuition fee policy speaks to five elements: advocacy, fee revenue, fee differentiation, fee level commitment and monitoring. In presenting this tuition schedule, the University reaffirms its commitment to student aid and to guaranteeing accessibility, which states:

"No student offered admission to a program at the University of Toronto should be unable to enter or complete the program due to lack of financial means."

The University's Tuition Fee Policy and Statement of Commitment Regarding International Students define the principles that should guide changes to tuition fees.

The Provincial Government implemented a Tuition Framework for 2006-07 through to 2009-10. The Framework was later extended for two additional years, 2010-11 and 2011-12, along with some improvements to OSAP funding. Under the Framework, tuition fees for domestic students are regulated and increases are allowed subject to accessibility guarantees. The modifications to the OSAP program relieve some of the financial pressure on universities but nonetheless the burden for maintaining accessibility has increasingly shifted to the University. The framework does not mandate a specific amount to be set aside by universities for student aid. Instead, it requires universities to ensure accessibility, regardless of the students' financial means.

Under the Tuition Framework, tuition fees for entering students in Arts and Science and selected other undergraduate programs may increase by a maximum of 4.5%. Tuition fees for entering students in graduate and high-cost professional programs may be increased by a maximum of 8%. Increases in tuition fees for continuing students in any program may not exceed 4%. Overall, the average increase in tuition for all students in any institution may not exceed 5%.

The University of Toronto Tuition Fee Report for 2011-12, including a complete fee schedule, is attached. It has been designed in accordance with the University's policy on tuition, our clear objective of maintaining excellence in all programs and the Government's Tuition Framework.

Domestic Tuition Fees

The increase in tuition fees in 2011-12 for most domestic programs will be 4.5% for entering students and 4% for continuing students. Tuition for all doctoral stream graduate programs will increase by 4%. Tuition for many professional undergraduate and graduate programs will rise by 8%, because of the resource requirements of these programs. Full details on tuition in all programs are given in the report.

There are some programs in which students move from a first-year general program to a more resource-intensive upper-year specialized program (Commerce, Business Administration, Management, Computer Science, Bioinformatics, Communication, Culture and Information Technology (CCIT), and Visual Studies.)

Students pay the Arts and Science fee in first year and then a higher fee in the upper years of these programs. Second Year tuition in these programs for 2011-12 was listed and approved in last year's tuition report so as to provide advance notice to first-year students considering these second-year entry programs. The tuition schedules for these programs for both 2011-12 and 2012-13 are described clearly in the report and are given in a separate table. To ensure that students are properly informed at the time they enter the University in September 2011, the Business Board is being asked to approve the tuition schedule for Second Year of these programs for a two-year period. For these programs, the Government's maximum limit of 8% applies to Second Year tuition.

The average tuition fee increase for all domestic students in the University is 4.31%. This is within the maximum of 5% allowed by the Government's Tuition Framework. About 94% of domestic students will experience fee increases of 4.5% or less. About 61% percent of domestic students will experience fee increases of \$250 or less.

International Tuition Fees

Tuition for continuing students in most programs will increase by 5% relative to 2010-11.

Tuition fees for entering students will increase by 10% for the following programs: undergraduate Applied Science and Engineering, tri-campus Arts & Science, OISE/UT, and Nursing, as well as some Professional Masters graduate programs

Tuition fees for Second Year Commerce/BBA will increase by 8% while Second Year Management and Second Year Bioinformatics, Computer Science, CCIT and Visual Studies will increase by 10%.

Tuition fees for entering students in UTM programs will increase by either 8% (DIFA, MBIotech, MMI, MScBMC) or 12% (MMPA).

Tuition fees for entering students in all other programs will increase by 5%.

Across almost all programs, the University's 2010-11 international tuition fees remain below the average tuition fees of the AAU public universities

In order to provide potential applicants with information regarding tuition fee levels, the attached schedule also includes proposed tuition fees for international students in 2012-13.

Comparison of tuition fees to other jurisdictions

Domestic and international tuition fees are monitored relative to peer institutions within Canada and internationally and results continue to indicate that we remain competitive. Student applications and yield rates are also monitored each year across all programs to ensure that that tuition fees are not adversely impacting the University's commitment to high academic standards. Applications from international students across all programs remain very strong, and in fact are increasing each year. The University also continues to attract high quality domestic students in ever greater numbers.

Consultation Process

The annual process for setting tuition fees runs over a period of several months. This year the process was facilitated by the extension of the Provincial Tuition Fee Framework to include 2011-12. So in all conversations with student groups and with academic administrators, there was explicit clarity about proposed tuition fee increases.

The first stage of consultation and discussion on tuition fees was held as part of the annual academic and budget review process, which occurred between October and early December 2011. As part of this planning process, leading to the annual budget review meeting with the Provost (and a committee comprised of vice provosts, government relations and planning staff), deans were asked to indicate their plans for undergraduate and graduate, domestic and international tuition fees for the following year. Planning and Budget staff also worked with divisional staff to review tuition fee proposals and to provide policy and planning advice. Proposals were discussed by the Provost's committee, with consideration given to the Provincial Tuition Fee Framework, student demand for programs, comparison to other programs in Ontario, Canada and internationally, advocacy and campaign initiatives for raising additional student aid funding and, finally, revenue generation. Discussions also considered the impact on the University's commitment to meet its own policy on student access and student aid, as well as the provincial Student Access Guarantee (SAG)

Principals and Deans were then consulted as a body in early December 2010 and asked to submit their plans for domestic and international tuition fee levels for 2011-12. They were also asked to communicate decisions on international tuition fees and tuition fees for programs with higher fees starting in second year (e.g. Commerce and Computer Science) for

2012-13, as the University provides students with an additional year's notification in these situations.

The Provost, in her regular meetings with UTSU, GSU, and the Provost's Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee, had many conversations over the course of these months about how this year's tuition increases would follow the tuition framework: that is, would be more or less the same as the increases seen last year.

Tuition fee decisions and student aid funding were then incorporated into the University's budget and long range guidelines and the tuition fee schedules were compiled. An information session on tuition, enrolment and budget was held in early February for Governing Council governors, including of course, our student governors. Final reports were submitted to Business Board and Academic Board (budget only) for approval in March, leading up to final submission to Governing Council in April.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The proposed tuition schedule will increase tuition revenue in 2011-12 by \$66.0M. This is the total increase due to the combined effect of the increase in tuition levels and increases in enrolment. In contrast, the total projected increase in provincial grant revenue is \$32M relative to 2010-11. There is no per student increase in grant revenue other than for medical students.

The additional \$66M in new revenue will be used to fund student aid, services for international students, faculty complement and divisional priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Business Board recommends to Governing Council

THAT the Tuition Fee Schedule for Publicly-Funded Programs in 2011-12 as described in the attached report and the tuition fees in 2011-12 and 2012-13 for the special programs identified in Tables B2 and C2 of Appendices B & C of the report be approved.