



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: May 4, 2012 for May 16, 2012

AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to disestablish the existing Department of Humanities at the University of Toronto Scarborough and create two new Departments and an Extra-Departmental Unit A [EDU:A]

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Planning and Budget Committee is responsible for making recommendations 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. (*P&B Terms of Reference, Section 4.4.1*)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

This is a proposal for the restructuring of the existing omnibus Department of Humanities at the University of Toronto Scarborough. This restructuring will see the creation of two discrete disciplinary departments including the Department of Arts, Culture and Media, and the Department of Historical and Cultural Studies and of an EDU:A, the Centre for French and Linguistics in place of the current Department of Humanities effective July 1, 2012.

Originally, all academic programs at UTSC were organized in three large Divisions – Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities. Over time, as the proposal describes, these omnibus units have gradually given rise to smaller units and discipline-based departments. In the case of the Department of Humanities, in 2010 two free-standing departments were created from the larger omnibus unit with the creation of the Department of English and the Department of Philosophy. The decision of remaining teaching staff in the Department of Humanities to articulate a vision for further departmentalization arose in the context of the campus' academic planning exercise.

The reorganization of the original department will not affect the curriculum or existing programs which will be administered by the most appropriate unit as follows. The Department of Humanities does not currently offer any graduate programs.

Proposed Unit	Existing programs
Dept. of Arts, Culture and Media	Specialist (Co-op), and Specialist in Art & Culture Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Art History Specialist (Co-op), and Specialist in Arts Management Specialist in Journalism (Joint with Centennial) Minor in Media Studies Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Music and Culture Major in New Media Studies (Joint with Centennial) Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Studio Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Theatre and Performance Studies
Dept. of Historical and Cultural Studies	Minor in African Studies Minor in Classical Studies Specialist, Major, and Minor in Global Asia Studies Specialist (Co-op), Specialist, Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in History Minor in Religion Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Women and Gender Studies
Centre for French and Linguistics (EDU: A)	Specialist (Co-op), Specialist, CTEP, Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in French Minor in French for Francophones Specialist (Co-op), Specialist, Major (Co-op), Major, and Minor in Linguistics Specialist (Co-op), and Specialist in Psycholinguistics

The Dean’s Office at UTSC has worked closely with the teaching staff associated with each of the proposed new units to develop an academic plan and vision for the future all of which is provided as part of the proposal. According to the *Guidelines for Administrative Functions and Protocols of Extra-Departmental Units (EDU)* (February 2007) an EDU:A has “a well-established and defined area of scholarship as a focus. The unit has attained a critical mass of interdisciplinary scholarship at the University that allows for the unit to engage in the appointment of teaching staff, admission of students to a program of graduate or undergraduate study, and engage in interdisciplinary research.”

This proposal has been the subject of extensive discussion with teaching staff and students. A plan for ensuring that once approved these changes are communicated clearly to all students is provided in the proposal.

This proposal was approved by the UTSC Council on April 24, 2012.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The Dean's Office has worked with the proposed new units and with Human Resource Services on a staffing model that will include some shared support and some unique staffing for each department. All staff currently employed in the Department of Humanities will continue to work with one or more of the proposed new units. They will be placed in the new department that best aligns with their current duties. Three new full-time administrative staff positions will be created to ensure that there is adequate support for the new units.

The proposal notes that the new units have committed to work together to preserve common areas and that the need for contiguous space for the new units will be an important priority over the 2012-13 academic year.

The Dean's Office is currently working closely with Financial Services at UTSC to separate out the budgets of two departments and one EDU, including TA budgets and sessional instruction budgets, under the principle that these will follow the reallocation of faculty, programs and courses into their new administrative homes.

All financial obligations flowing from the approval of the proposed changes including the additional administrative positions, the stipends of the two new chairs and any teaching release associated with these appointments, and the stipend of one new director will be met at the Faculty/Divisional level.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended to the Academic Board:

- (a) THAT the Department of Humanities at the University of Toronto Scarborough be disestablished, effective July 1, 2012;
- (b) THAT the following units be established, effective July 1, 2012, in its place:
 - The Department of Arts, Culture and Media,
 - The Department of Historical and Cultural Studies, and
 - The Centre for French and Linguistics as an Extra-Departmental Unit:A