



**FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**TO:** Members of the Academic Board

ITEM 4 (a.) – GOVERNING COUNCIL –  
May 23, 2013

**SPONSOR:** David Naylor, President

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**DATE:** April 22 for May 2, 2013

**AGENDA ITEM:** 2

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

*Guidelines on the Role and Appointment of University Ambassadors*

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The *University of Toronto Act, 1971* (Section 5 (3)) provides for degrees to be conferred by individuals designated by the Governing Council in the absence of the Chancellor and the President. Under this authority, the Governing Council has established the *Policy on Presiding Officers for Convocation* which assigns, under specific circumstances, the ceremonial responsibilities of the Chancellor and President to senior individuals in the University's central administration and in academic divisions, as well as to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Governing Council. Consistent with this authority and in light of the stature and expectations of the proposed University Ambassadors, the Governing Council should approve the formal designation of the roles and the process by which individuals are appointed to serve the University in such a senior capacity.

**BACKGROUND:**

There are increasing demands on members of the University and a growing need to ensure an official University presence in a variety of external ceremonial settings. The proposed *Guidelines on the Role and Appointment of University Ambassadors* provides for the appointment of individuals to serve as "University Ambassadors" in particular circumstances and for deputizing such individuals to act on behalf of the Chancellor in presiding at Convocation from time to time.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

It is recommended that a small corps of University Ambassadors be established by the President, from which the President could invite individuals to fulfill specific ceremonial responsibilities from time to time. The University Ambassadors would be drawn from the University's most dedicated and respected volunteers based on defined criteria, and they would be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Governing Council for a three-year term with the possibility of renewal for a maximum of six consecutive years.

*Proposed Guidelines on the Role and Appointment of University Ambassadors*

The Academic Board Subcommittee on Convocation Ceremonial Procedures (composed of the Chancellor, the President, the Chair of the Academic Board and the Secretary of the Governing Council) was consulted on the proposed *Guidelines* and unanimously supported the recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Be It Recommended

THAT the proposed *Guidelines on the Role and Appointment of University Ambassadors* be approved, effective immediately.