



TO: Members of the Governing Council

SPONSOR: David Naylor, President

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DATE: May 15, 2013

AGENDA ITEM: 4 (b.)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposed Revisions to the *Policy on Presiding Officers for Convocation*

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 approved a resolution regarding presiding officers for convocation in 1987.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

Revisions to the *Policy on Presiding Officers for Convocation* were previously approved by the Governing Council in 2005, 2007 and, most recently, on April 16, 2009.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Revisions to the *Policy on Presiding Officers for Convocation* are being proposed to allow for Chancellors Emeriti, Presidents Emeriti and University Ambassadors to serve as presiding officers in specific circumstances. The proposed University Ambassadors are described in the *Guidelines regarding the Role and Appointment of University Ambassadors* also being considered by the Governing Council for approval. A detailed table summarizing the options for presiding officers has been appended to the *Policy* for clarity.

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 *Policy* revisions and unanimously supported the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended

THAT the proposed revised *Policy on Presiding Officers for Convocation* be approved, effective immediately, replacing the *Policy* approved on April 16, 2009.