



## MEMORANDUM

To: **Members of the University Affairs Board**

From: Jim Delaney

Date: June 9, 2008

Subject: **University of Toronto Mississauga Student Societies, Representation, and Fees**

The Erindale College Student Union (currently operating as the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union, UTMSU) recently held a referendum among part-time undergraduate students at UTM to seek support to realign formal representation of part-time students on the Mississauga campus and to realign the fees paid to the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS), the Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students (EPUS), and UTMSU. At present, the Students' Administrative Council (currently operating as the University of Toronto Students' Union, UTSU) and APUS are recognized by the Governing Council as the formal representatives of UTM students as "representative student committees" pursuant to the *University of Toronto Act* (1947).

The *Act* provides that the Governing Council "may make provision for enabling the students of the University, University College and the federated colleges to appoint a representative committee of themselves to be chosen in such manner as shall be approved by the [Governing Council], which shall be the recognized official student medium of communication on behalf of such students between them and the [Governing Council]."

The referendum, therefore, was designed primarily to (a) support a request to the Governing Council to designate UTMSU as the formal representative of part-time undergraduate UTM students, and to (b) realign fees charged by the University on behalf of APUS and EPUS. This memorandum addresses the issues related to the recognition of a new representative student committee pursuant to the *University of Toronto Act* as well as issues related to the approval of student society fees pursuant to the *Policy for Compulsory Non-Academic Incidental Fees*.

### Background

In fall/winter 2007-08, the APUS fee was \$73.71 per session for part-time undergraduate students on all campuses. The EPUS fee was \$8.80 per session in fall/winter 2007-08 for

part-time undergraduate students at UTM. The EPUS fee was \$17.60 for part-time undergraduate students at UTM in summer 2007.

## Requests

The letter of request from the presidents of UTMSU and EPUS are attached to this memorandum. The letter delineates six requests:

- 1) That the EPUS fee be reduced to zero;
- 2) That the APUS fee for UTM students be reduced to zero;
- 3) That the fees be adjusted according to the referendum question (see below);
- 4) that EPUS' recognition as a student society of the University of Toronto be withdrawn;
- 5) that APUS be de-recognized as the "representative student committee" for UTM part-time undergraduate students; and
- 6) that UTMSU be recognized as the "representative student committee" for UTM part-time undergraduate students.

A referendum was held on February 6-7, 2008, in which part-time undergraduate UTM students were asked to support the proposal. The advertisement for the referendum which appeared in *The Medium* is attached. The wording of the question is as follows:

### ***Preamble:***

*The University of Toronto Mississauga Students Union (UTMSU) and the Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students (EPUS) are proposing to fold EPUS into UTMSU and unite all full and part-time UTM undergraduate students together by eliminating UTM part-time undergraduate student membership in EPUS and the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS). In this realignment, the services and representation currently offered by UTMSU, EPUS and APUS would be offered through membership in UTMSU. A UTMSU part-time student levy of \$76.70 per session would replace the current EPUS and APUS levies totalling [sic] \$78.40 per session (EPUS fee of \$ 8.80 per session fee and APUS fee of \$69.60 per session). Annual cost of living and inflation increases would continue to be applied to the relevant designated portions of the fee (subject to the provisions and conditions noted on the back of this ballot) beginning with the fall 2008 session. Fees for the Ontario Public Interest Research Group, the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students–Ontario would remain unchanged.*

**Current and Proposed Fees:**

EPUS Fee (Current)

Society – Fall/Winter Session (Summer Session = \$2.00)	1.00
<i>Note: (1\$ is collected per winter session, 2\$ is collected in the summer session)</i>	
Student Centre Levy (reduced to \$3.75 per session beginning in Fall 2009)	7.80
<i>Note: (7.80\$ is collected per winter session, 15.60 is collected in the summer session)</i>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8.80</b>

APUS-UTM Fee (Current)

Society	13.65
Accident & Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (refundable)	26.67
<i>(increases up to 10% permitted without referendum, approved spring 1994)</i>	
Provincial Sales Tax on Accident & Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (refundable)	2.13
Dental Plan (refundable)	25.42
<i>(increases up to 10% permitted without referendum, approved spring of 2005)</i>	
Provincial Sales Tax on Dental Plan (refundable)	2.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$69.90</b>

Current combined fees for EPUS and APUS-UTM (as described above) \$78.40

UTMSU Part-Time Student Fee (Proposed)

Society	12.65
<i>(adjusted annually by the Canadian Consumer Price Index - CPI)</i>	
Student Centre Levy (reduced to \$3.75 beginning in Fall 2009)	7.80
Accident & Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (refundable)	26.67
<i>(May increase up to 10% permitted without referendum, approved spring 1994)</i>	
Provincial Sales Tax on Accident & Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (refundable)	2.13
Dental Plan (refundable)	25.42
<i>(May increase up to 10% permitted without referendum, approved spring of 2005)</i>	
Provincial Sales Tax on Dental Plan (refundable)	2.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$76.70</b>

**Question:**

Are you in favour of all UTM part-time undergraduate students joining together with full-time students as members of the University of Toronto Mississauga Students Union (UTMSU) and eliminating all membership in and fees for the Erindale Part Time Undergraduate Students (EPUS) and the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS)?

The results of the referendum are as follows:

<b>YES</b>	<b>55</b>	94.8%	Aproximate Number of Eligible Voters	752
<b>NO</b>	<b>2</b>	3.4%	<b>Voter Turnout</b>	<b>58 / 7.7%</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>1</b>	1.7%	Difference Between YES and NO	53 / 7.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>			

The society has submitted the required documentation and two officers of the society have signed a declaration certifying that the society has acted in an open and democratic fashion and in a manner consistent with its constitution and/or by-laws. No complaints were received by this office concerning the referendum or the request for an increase.

### **Recommendations:**

Subject to the conditions and expectations delineated below, the following is recommended for approval:

#### **Fees**

It is recommended,

- 1) THAT all fees currently charged to University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) students on behalf of Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students (EPUS) be discontinued, and by virtue of this change, that EPUS no longer be recognized as a student society of the University of Toronto;
- 2) THAT all fees currently charged to UTM students on behalf of the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students (APUS) be discontinued; and
- 3) THAT a new fee of \$80.51 be established and charged on behalf of the Erindale College Students' Union (currently operating as the UTM Students' Union; UTMSU) to UTM part-time undergraduate students including designated portions for the Society (\$12.65), an Accident and Prescription Drug insurance plan (\$28.80, including provincial sales tax), a Dental Plan (\$27.45, including provincial sales tax), the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (\$0.50 in fall and winter, \$1.00 in summer), the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and CFS-Ontario (\$3.31), and the UTM Student Centre (\$7.80).

#### **Representation**

It is recommended,

- 1) THAT the Governing Council cease its recognition of APUS as the Representative Student Committee of part-time undergraduate students registered at the UTM; and

- 2) THAT the Erindale College Students' Union (currently operating as the UTMSU) be recognized as the Representative Student Committee and primary representative body of part-time undergraduate students registered at UTM.

Terms and conditions of the foregoing recommendation and approval:

- 1) That for the purposes of the *Memorandum of Agreement between the University of Toronto, the Students' Administrative Council, the Graduate Students' Union and the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students for a Long-Term Protocol on the Increase or Introduction of Compulsory Non-Tuition Related Fees* (the "Protocol"), the Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students shall continue to represent part-time undergraduate students registered at UTM until such time as a new or revised Protocol is approved; and
- 2) That the Erindale College Students' Union (currently operating as the UTMSU) will:
  - (a) undertake, in consultation with the Students' Administrative Council (currently operating as the UTSU), to address the formal representation of full-time undergraduate UTM students; and
  - (b) will report to the administration the society's progress on addressing this matter no later than the spring of 2010.