



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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APPENDIX "B" TO REPORT NUMBER 161 OF
THE ACADEMIC BOARD – March 26, 2009

DATE: February 12, 2009

AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Faculty of Arts and Science and School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for a Master of Global Affairs (M.G.A.)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to recommend to Academic Board for approval changes which establish a new degree program.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

On May 21, 2008, Governing Council approved the establishment of the School of International Studies as an Extra-Departmental Unit:B of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed Master of Global Affairs (MGA) is a stand-alone professional masters degree that has resulted from a planning process within the Faculty of Arts and Science and the School of International Studies. The program will consist of four semesters of course work, and a compulsory summer internship program between the first and second years. The program description and details regarding the academic rationale and requirements are outlined in the attached proposal.

In developing the proposal, the School has consulted with the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Arts and Science, the Rotman School of Management, and the School of Public Policy and Governance. Letters of support for the program have been submitted by senior academic administrators from these divisions. Consultations have been held with Chairs of Arts and Science departments that currently participate in the collaborative Master of International Relations. Alumni of the collaborative Master of International Relations have also been consulted. Individual faculty members who currently teach in the collaborative Master of International Relations, all of whom are likely to teach in the MGA, have been consulted.

The proposal was reviewed by the Faculty of Arts and Science Three Campus Graduate Curriculum Committee at its meeting on January 13, 2009 and approved by School of Graduate Studies Council on January 20, 2009.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The proposed MGA program is intended to replace the International Relations Collaborative Program. Discussions are ongoing with faculties and departments participating in the program to ensure enrolled students can complete their degrees and the collaborative program.

The School of International Studies and the Faculty of Arts and Science have committed to provide all the resources needed for this program. The financial plan has been reviewed by the Faculty of Arts and Science and by the Planning and Budget Office. The proposal will be presented to the Planning and Budget Committee on February 25, 2009.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommends to the Academic Board:

THAT the Master of Global Affairs (M.G.A.) program be established within the Faculty of Arts and Science, commencing September 2010.