



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: February 13, 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:**

Excerpt from the terms of reference for the Planning and Budget Committee:

*4.4.2. The Committee advises the Academic Board on the planning and resource implications of plans and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic programs. Implications might include significant planning and budgetary changes within the significant effects on other divisions, the University as a whole and the public.*

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

**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 are outlined in the attached summary.

A Committee on International Studies at the University of Toronto and the Role of the Munk Centre was struck by the Vice-President and Provost in 2007 to consider international studies and the future of the Munk Centre<sup>1</sup>. The report noted that the School offers five undergraduate programs (International Relations, American Studies, Latin American Studies, European Studies, and the David Chu Program in Asia Pacific Studies), three collaborative MA programs (International Relations, Asia Pacific Studies, South Asian Studies), one stand-alone MA program (European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies), and two collaborative PhD programs (Dynamics of Global Change, South Asian Studies). The Committee recommended that the collaborative MA program in International Relations be reconfigured as a stand-alone professional Master's degree and that further steps be taken to integrate graduate students into the School.

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<sup>1</sup> Report of the Committee on International Studies at the University of Toronto and the Role of the Munk Centre [http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/Reports/isc\\_rep.pdf](http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/Reports/isc_rep.pdf)

In developing the proposal, the School has consulted with the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine and the Rotman School of Management, School of Public Policy and Governance and alumni of the collaborative Master of International Relations. 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. 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 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 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.

The proposal will be presented to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs Committee on March 3, 2009.

#### **FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

The Faculty of Arts and Science and the Planning and Budget Office has reviewed the budget for the proposed program. The MGA will admit approximately 40 students per year. The proposal for the closure of the collaborative program will be brought forward at a future time.

The School of International Studies and the Faculty of Arts and Science have committed to provide all the resources needed for this program. The resources necessary to offer the program will be provided by a combination of funding from tuition and BIU revenue generated by student enrolment. In steady state projected revenue is \$800,000 from operating grant and \$2.2 million from tuition. The program is projected to be self-funded after three years. The School of International Studies has received a grant of \$25 million from the Province of Ontario to renovate or build new premises to accommodate the MGA as well as other programs to be offered by the School. The program will be temporarily housed in the Munk Centre, primarily in office and student workspace.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Planning and Budget Committee concurs with the recommendation of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs:

THAT the proposal to establish the Master of Global Affairs (M.G.A.) within the Faculty of Arts and Science be approved, effective September, 2010.

## **Master of Global Affairs (M.G.A.)**

### **Executive Summary**

The School for International Studies at the Munk Centre, working with the Faculty of Arts and Science, is proposing the creation of a new professional Master's program in Global Affairs (M.G.A.) at the University of Toronto. The purpose of the program is to provide an outstanding professional, multidisciplinary education to train the next generation of global leaders of international institutions, global civil society, and business.

The Master of Global Affairs will consist of four semesters of course work, and a compulsory summer internship program between the first and second years. The MGA will admit approximately 40 students per year. If all approvals are in place, the MGA will admit its first class of students for September 2010.

The MGA will be a professional Master's program that equips students with a sophisticated understanding of the larger political, economic and social contexts of global institutions, issues, and markets and with the professional skills necessary to work strategically and effectively within the evolving global system. The MGA will marry the virtues of rigorous, multidisciplinary scholarship to the acquisition of skills necessary to navigate the global environment; it will combine analysis of *why* the global system is as it is with practical understanding of *how* things work on the global ground; and it will equip students with the *critical skills* necessary to evaluate the opportunities and challenges of the global environment.

The MGA will develop both "soft" and "hard" skills that provide students with an intellectual toolkit that is appropriate to their chosen area of interest in the global economy and markets, global governance, and global civil society. The MGA will also require internships for all students, to build understanding of the environment of global policy-making. In addition, the program will encourage students to study abroad for one of the four semesters. In so doing, the MGA will build partnerships with outstanding organizations the world over. The goal is to attract exceptional talent from around the world to Toronto and to connect outstanding Canadians to their global peers.

The financial model for the MGA program is a professional degree built on BIU and tuition revenue. Tuition for the program will be a minimum of \$15,000. This tuition will have to be approved by the Province of Ontario, but there are no comparator programs in Canada and comparable programs in public universities in the United States charge considerably higher tuition. The MGA program will be staffed by graduate faculty members, cross-appointed to the School, and by distinguished professionals on a contractual basis. An administrative staff coordinator will manage the student application and selection process and will work with the Director to manage the marketing of the School and Internship program.

Students will have access to all the facilities and services available to graduate students at the University of Toronto on the same terms and conditions. Students will be subject to all the applicable University policies and procedures relating to graduate students. Financial support for students is built into the program's budget and students are eligible for external scholarships. Fundraising will be targeted to enhance this support.