



TO: Governing Council

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DATE: January 4, 2010 for January 21, 2010  
AGENDA ITEM: 6

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

*Performance Indicators for Governance: Measuring UP (2009)*

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee state that the Committee reviews and reports to the Governing Council on the discharge of the Council's accountability requirements, including but not limited to the annual Performance Indicators report.

The Governing Council receives the annual Performance Indicators Report for information.

In 1994, the Governing Council approved in principle a recommendation of the Broadhurst Task Force on Ontario University Accountability that standard institutional performance measures should be approved by governing boards and reported on in a consistent manner.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

In 1997, the Governing Council formally approved a list of institutional performance indicators relating to central dimensions of the University's mission and which, to the extent possible, allow for a comparison of performance against that of other universities. Annual reports are required, and this is the thirteenth annual report.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The University of Toronto is respected as one of the foremost research-intensive universities in the world. It has educated hundreds of thousands of students and enjoys a global reputation in multiple fields of scholarships. The University has considerable strengths and notable achievements. Building on successes will require careful monitoring.

The University of Toronto has been a leader in the post-secondary sector in Ontario in providing a performance indicator report as part of our accountability to governance. An annual Performance Indicators Report has been presented to Governing Council since

1998. The indicators in these reports have changed over the years as we have expanded the scope of areas that we have sought to measure, have enhanced our data collection and created partnerships with other institutions and agencies that allow for external benchmarking. The seventy measures included in the project span a range of teaching and research areas.

In 2008 we began to align our measures against the 2030 Framework. This year's report is organized according to the 2030 Framework and includes analysis in several new areas:

- Research chairs and research infrastructure measures
- Research ranking discipline results
- A measure of undergraduate instructional engagement
- A measure of extra-curricular activity
- A new measure of our students' family income background
- International student survey results
- Pre-tenure faculty survey results
- Graduate student survey benchmarks

The appended summary provides highlights of our recent performance in some of these areas. The major findings include:

- The University of Toronto continues to be distinct through the excellence of its faculty whose research output and strength in a broad range of fields ranks among the best in the world.
- Obtaining research funding from the three federal granting councils continues to be competitive and requires close monitoring and further effort.
- Recent investments by the Federal and Provincial Governments in new and existing space will help improve the University's physical space needs particularly at UTSC and UTM.
- The University continues to provide access to students from a diverse range of backgrounds and provides them with the resources needed to be successful academically.
- Our graduate students show a high level of satisfaction that exceeds our peers; however, more needs to be done to improve the engagement and satisfaction of our undergraduates.
- With the economic downturn, the University has experienced a reduction in our private support from alumni and friends compared to last year; however, the University's financial health remains strong.
- The gap in per-student funding between the University and public peer institutions is large and remains a source of serious concern for the future.

A comprehensive inventory of our performance measures can be found at

<http://www.utoronto.ca/about-uoft/measuring-our-performance/performance-indicators-2009.htm>

In addition to this report, the University has published a number of other detailed accountability reports and makes available a large amount of annual performance-related data. This information includes: the Multi-year Accountability Agreement and annual Report-Backs to the Government of Ontario, the Common University Data Ontario (CUDO), the National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE) Report, and the Canadian Graduate and Professional Student Survey (CGPSS) Report.

See <http://www.utoronto.ca/about-uoft/measuring-our-performance.htm>

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:** N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information.