



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 7

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design [FALD] and the Faculty of Arts and Science [FAS]: Proposal to transfer of the Honours Bachelor of Arts, Architectural Studies, Major program, from the Faculty of Arts and Science to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.**

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Committee recommends to Academic Board for approval changes which establish significant new academic directions for a Faculty or are anticipated to have significant impact on relationships amongst divisions or with the public.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:** none

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

This proposal seeks approval for the transfer of the Honours BA, Architectural Studies from the Faculty of Arts and Science to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, effective July 1, 2012.

The program will be transferred without any change to curriculum or program requirements. The Daniels FALD currently delivers all courses required for the major in Architectural Studies and supports the program with administrative staff and an academic program director. The program will continue to be offered as a broad Liberal Arts program.

This proposal to relocate the BA, Architectural Studies in the Daniels FALD is the result of a natural progression in the program’s history. The Daniels FALD has been instrumental in the conception, course content creation and delivery of the BA, Architectural Studies. As noted in the 2008 external review of the Daniels FALD, “undergraduate students constitute approximately 40% of current enrolments in courses taught by the Daniels faculty – a substantial component of the Faculty’s activities”. This

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continuing focus of the Daniels FALD on the BA, Architectural Studies is underscored by the following:

- a. All listed program faculty hold primary academic appointments at the Daniels FALD
- b. Student enquiries are directed primarily to the Daniels FALD
- c. Upper year students tend to identify primarily with the Daniels FALD

The transfer of the program to the Daniels FALD is an expression of the Faculty's commitment to the education of students from undergraduate through graduate studies. The transfer will bring undergraduate students more formally into the administrative and cultural space with which they already identify. The transfer will have the added advantage of placing the small BA, Architectural Studies program into a Faculty that will be able to provide student support services in a more directed manner, thus contributing to an enhanced student experience.

The transfer of the program requires one academic change: the adoption by the Daniels Faculty of the degree level requirements within which the newly transferred BA degree program will be situated. The Daniels Faculty does not currently offer an undergraduate degree. The former Bachelor of Architecture degree (BArch), a professionally accredited program providing undergraduate education in architecture, landscape architecture and design, was phased out as part of the 1997- 2003 academic plan. This closure was in response to larger changes in the profession and in the requirements of the professional accreditation bodies. As a result, the transfer of the BA degree program in Architectural necessitates the establishment of degree level requirements for any Bachelor of Arts program offered by the Daniels Faculty. The proposed requirements are the same as those in place in the FAS.

No other academic change is being recommended. It should be noted, however, that the program will henceforth be offered as a direct entry program and the calendar entry has been rewritten to reflect this.

This proposal has been the subject of extensive consultation at the program and with students including both the BA Architectural Studies Student Society and all the BA Architectural Studies undergraduate students, as well as current FAS students who form the prospective pool of BA Architectural Studies students. The proposal was unanimously approved by the Daniels Faculty Council on February 28, 2011 and by the FAS Council on March 7, 2011.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:** There are no new/additional financial resources at the University-level required to support the transfer of the program.

A Letter of Intent has been formalized between the two Faculties outlining the principles underlying the interdivisional arrangement ensuring that students will continue to have access to courses and programs offered by the FAS in order to complete their degree requirements and/or a second major. There are no implications for faculty members or staff that will result from this proposal.

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As outlined in the proposal, students in progress in the current undergraduate program at the time of the transfer will be given the option to complete their studies in FAS, or move to the Daniels FALD. There will be no impact on their program requirements or the type of degree conferred regardless of their home Faculty. All students will be able to complete their program, including completion of any other FAS major or specialist in which they are enrolled. Students will be provided advising from both the FAS and the Daniels FALD. It is proposed that students would apply directly to the Daniels Faculty in the fall of 2011 for admission to the B.A. Architectural Studies for September 2012.

This proposal will also be brought forward to the Planning and Budget Committee on April 6, 2010 and subsequently to Academic Board and the Executive Committee of the Governing Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Planning approve:

THE new faculty-level B.A. degree requirements outlined in the proposal to transfer of the Honours Bachelor of Arts, Architectural Studies, Major program, from the Faculty of Arts and Science to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design effective September 1, 2012.