



TO: Members of the Academic Board

SPONSOR: Ellen Hodnett, Chair, Academic Board

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DATE: May 11, 2011 for June 1, 2011

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 9

TITLE:
Academic Board and Committee on Academic Policy and Programs – Terms of Reference Revisions Regarding the Connaught Committee

ACTION: For approval

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Governing Council approves the terms of reference of its Boards and Committees.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Connaught Fund was established by the Governing Council in 1972 and has been overseen by the Connaught Committee, a committee of the Governing Council.

HISTORY OF CONSULTATIONS:

On the recommendation of the Implementation Committee for the Task Force on Governance, the Vice-President, Research recently presented to the Connaught Committee a proposal for revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Connaught Fund. The proposed revisions were unanimously endorsed by the Committee. In early May, 2011 members of the Implementation Committee were then invited to provide input on the proposal.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Connaught Committee is currently a Standing Committee that reports to the Governing Council by means of an annual report to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs on matters concerning the Connaught Fund. The Fund, which originated from the sale of the University's Connaught Laboratories in 1972, is used to promote research as well as the application of professional expertise and resources of the University of Toronto to matters of public interest in all research fields.

It is being proposed that the existing reporting structure be altered such that the Connaught Committee would no longer be a committee of the Governing Council. Rather, responsibility for the Connaught Committee, and its role with respect to the Connaught Fund, would rest with the Vice-President, Research, consistent with other research funds. As Chair of the Connaught Committee, the Vice-President, Research would ensure that accountability was met through the provision of information about the Fund to the

HIGHLIGHTS (cont'd)

University community and the public using electronic or other means. The proposed membership of the Connaught Committee would include the following:

- the Vice-President, Research (Chair);
- two members of the University's senior administration, or their designates;
- the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies or designate;
- four other faculty members representing the four broad disciplinary areas of the humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, and life sciences, appointed by the Committee Chair, to serve for not more than three years each;
- other representatives of the University research community, at the discretion of the Chair.

The proposed revised Terms of Reference of the Connaught Fund are attached for information only as Appendix "A".

In order to accommodate the proposed structural changes to the Connaught Fund terms of reference, outlined above, the following changes to the terms of reference of the Academic Board and the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs would be required.

- 1) Section 4.9 of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs would be modified, removing reference to "Connaught Committee activities" as one of the matters on which the Committee would receive an annual report; and
- 2) Section 3.3 of the Academic Board Terms of Reference dealing with the Connaught Committee would be deleted.

Section 4.9 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs Terms of Reference now reads as follows.

4.9 Monitorial responsibilities

The Committee is responsible for monitoring academic matters as may be required by general policy, as specified herein or by resolution of the Academic Board, the Executive Committee or the Governing Council. The Committee receives annual reports or such more frequent regular reports as it may determine, on matters within its purview, including reports on the following:

- Reviews of Academic Units and Programs;
- Major modifications to programs, as approved by divisional Councils;

HIGHLIGHTS (cont'd)

4.9 Monitorial responsibilities (cont'd)

- Establishment and termination of transcript notations within existing degree programs;
- Connaught Committee activities;

- Student Financial Support;
- Research and international activities;
- Student awards.

Section 3.3 of the Academic Board Terms of Reference now reads as follows.

3.3 Connaught Committee

The Connaught Committee is a Standing Committee that reports annually through the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs to the Governing Council on matters concerning the Connaught Fund.

Proposals for use of Connaught monies that would have a major steering effect are handled in the same manner as other major research proposals.

Proposals to amend the terms of reference of the Connaught Fund are considered by the Academic Board and confirmation by the Executive Committee.

ACTION:

This proposal is to be forwarded to the relevant governance bodies in cycle 6: June 1, 2011 to the Academic Board; June 13, 2011 to the Executive Committee; and June 23, 2011 to the Governing Council. The Terms of Reference of the Connaught Fund will be established by the Vice-President, Research.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be it Recommended

THAT responsibility for the Connaught Committee and its role with respect to the Connaught Fund be assigned to the Vice-President, Research;

THAT Section 3.3 of the Terms of Reference of the Academic Board dealing with the Connaught Committee be deleted, effective immediately; and

THAT Section 4.9 of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs be revised, removing reference to “Connaught Committee activities”, effective immediately.