



**TO:** Members of the Academic Board

**SPONSOR:** Louis Charpentier, Secretary of the Governing Council

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**DATE:** April 3, 2012 for April 10, 2012

**AGENDA ITEM:** 1b iii)

**TITLE OF ITEM OF BUSINESS:** Constitutional Amendments: Innis College

**ACTION:**  
For Approval

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Governing Council has the authority to establish faculty and college councils and to determine the composition, powers, and duties of those councils under the provisions of the *University of Toronto Act, 1971*, Section 2 (14)(i).

Section 5.2.2 of the Academic Board's terms of reference calls for amended divisional constitutions to be considered by the Board and confirmed by the Executive Committee. Amendments to By-laws are approved by divisional councils.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

On October 28, 2010, the Governing Council approved in principle the [Report of the Task Force on Governance](#) and the 32 recommendations outlined in the *Report*. Recommendation 15 provides for the re-distribution of and greater delegation of responsibilities. Specifically, the Task Force recommended that, as a guiding principle, transactional matters be delegated to either the lowest appropriate level within governance, or where appropriate, to the administration, with reporting back of decisions to a suitable level of governance.

An Implementation Committee, established by the Governing Council in October 2010 and led by then Vice-Chair Richard Nunn, was charged with overseeing and coordinating implementation of the Task Force's recommendations, ensuring appropriate participation among relevant bodies of governance, administrative offices and the Secretariat.

At the same time, and in line with the work of the Task Force on Governance, the University approved a new policy governing the Approval and Review of Academic Programs and Units

## **PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN (cont'd)**

(June 24, 2010) and developed the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) which was approved by the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance on March 31, 2011. The UTQAP reflects the delegation to universities of an important degree of responsibility and authority over the quality of their academic programs. At the same time it provided a new definition of categories of academic change and envisaged the delegation to Faculty Councils of an important degree of authority and responsibility for that academic change.

Together, these two processes culminated in revisions to Board and Committee Terms of Reference and led to Governing Council approval in May 2011 of the re-alignment of responsibilities among the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs, the Planning and Budget Committee, the Academic Board and the divisional councils with respect to academic program review and approval.

In June, 2011, Principals and Deans were advised of the need for amendments to the constitutions of the academic divisions arising from changes to the approval processes for proposals for new academic programs and modification of existing programs. During the summer and early fall, 2011, representatives from the Office of the Governing Council and the Office of the Vice-President and Provost met with divisional representatives to discuss the required constitutional and related by-laws changes as well as the implications for divisional processes. Updated templates for divisional constitutions and by-laws were provided in order to enable greater consistency across the University, and divisional representatives were encouraged to draw freely from the templates when drafting revisions to their documents.

Amendments to the Constitution of Innis College Council were previously approved by the Academic Board on June 2, 2010 and confirmed by the Executive Committee of the Governing Council on June 14, 2010. In November 2011, the Executive Committee of College Council reviewed the Constitution and By-Laws. Following broad consultation, the Executive Committee prepared and presented revised documents to Council on February 14, 2012. The documents were then presented to the Provost's Advisory Group (PAG) on February 27, 2012 and sent to the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS) for comment. Innis Council gave final approval to the Constitution and By-Laws as amended on April 10, 2012.

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

All divisions were asked to incorporate into their constitutions provisions for the following powers and duties of Council and this was done in the case of Innis College.

- **Academic Programs**
  - Council's responsibility for overseeing the content of academic programs and courses of study that lead to degrees, diplomas, certificates, credit and non-credit courses sponsored by the College.
  - Council's authority to recommend for approval to FAS proposals for new academic programs.

- Council's authority to recommend for approval to FAS proposals for major and minor modifications to existing academic programs. (Definitions of major modifications of existing programs, minor modifications, and new academic programs are provided in the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process* and are subject to change.)
- Council's authority to recommend for approval to FAS proposals for the modification of existing diploma and certificate programs, pursuant to the University's *Policy on Diploma and Certificate Programs*.
  
- **Review of Academic Programs and Units**  
Council's responsibility to consider and discuss a review report of an academic program and/or unit of the Faculty, consistent with the protocol outlined in the *University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process*.

Because Innis College Council had undertaken a substantial amendment of its Constitution and By-laws only two years previously, the fundamental purpose of the current amendments was to bring the document into conformity with the constitutional template provided by the Office of the Governing Council to all divisions. As well, the opportunity was taken to make simple housekeeping and editorial changes to both the Constitution and Bylaws. No other substantive amendments were deemed necessary.

**BUDGETARY/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

N/A

**ACTION:**

Be It Recommended

THAT, subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee, the amended Constitution of the Innis College Council, which was approved by Council on April 10, 2012, be approved.