



# University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

TO: Members of the University Affairs Board

SPONSOR: Louis R. Charpentier, Secretary of the Governing Council

DATE: March 11, 2008 for March 25, 2008

AGENDA ITEM 7

**Item Identification: Constitution of the College of Electors: Revisions**

**Jurisdictional Information:** Editorial or updating amendments to the Constitution of the College of Electors are approved by the University Affairs Board and do not require the approval of the Governing Council.

**Previous Action Taken:** The College of Electors was established by the Governing Council in 1972 to be the means by which alumni governors and the Chancellor are elected. The Constitution of the College sets out the framework for the College in exercising its responsibilities. The Constitution was last revised in February 2005.

**Background:** At the final meeting of the Chancellor Search Committee in 2006, members agreed that the refinements introduced to the search process had generally worked well and that the search had been more structured and transparent than previous searches. It was decided, however, that the election process should be assessed in light of this experience in order to determine whether any additional refinements were necessary before the 2009 search was undertaken.

In this context, two areas were identified for further consideration:

**Generation of Names**

Firstly, it was recommended that the Search Committee be granted authority to generate names of nominees to add to the pool of nominations received. As the Committee possesses a deep understanding of the requirements and qualities suitable for the position of Chancellor, it is reasonable for the Committee to identify potential candidates, acting in a manner consistent with the responsibilities of a search committee.

**Nominees' Consent**

Secondly, it was suggested that, in keeping with its mandate to bring forward candidates for consideration, the Search Committee determine the willingness of the recommended candidate to stand as Chancellor prior to submitting its Report to the College of Electors. The current Constitution of the College requires that the consent of nominees to stand be obtained prior to submission of the nomination form. This approach risks creating inappropriate expectations on the part of the potential candidates and may result in unnecessary sensitivities and erosion of goodwill with unsuccessful nominees. Given the distinction of individuals who are typically nominated for election as Chancellor, it would be more appropriate to seek his/her consent to stand only once the Search Committee has decided that he/she is the recommended candidate. This more respectful approach would minimize potentially difficult situations resulting from the nominee not being elected.

The proposed changes are reflected in sections VII A 3 and VII B 4 of the Constitution – attached hereto. The proposed constitutional revisions were approved by the College of Electors at its meeting on March 10, 2008. If the University Affairs Board approves the revisions, the proposed changes will be put in place for the 2009 Chancellor Search, which will be initiated in the Fall 2008.

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the University Affairs Board approve:

THAT the revised Constitution of the College of Electors be approved, replacing the Constitution amended on February 10, 2005.

Current Constitution	Proposed Changes for the Constitution
<p><b>Section VII A</b></p> <p>3. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the College of Electors. Nominations must be signed by a nominator and a seconder, who are alumni of the University. Subject to VII (B) (3) below, nominations will be held in confidence. Letters of support may be submitted and will form part of the documentation placed before members of the College.</p> <p>4. Nominations shall require consent to stand.</p> <p>5. Nominations shall close on or before March 31st, as determined by the College.</p> <p><b>Section VII B</b></p> <p>1. The Chancellor Search Committee, as described in Section VI (B) (3) below, shall prepare a Report on the nominations received for Chancellor, including at least the following:</p> <p>(a) An analysis of the general requirements of the position of Chancellor, any specific requirements appropriate for the incoming Chancellor and of the qualities appropriate to the position. Particular attention shall be given to the discussion of the position at the first meeting of the College.</p> <p>(b) One recommended candidate for Chancellor submitted, with supporting documentation.</p> <p>2. The Chancellor Search Committee shall have the option to</p> <p>(a) Obtain or ask nominators to obtain biographical or other information about the nominees.</p>	<p><b>Section VII A</b></p> <p>3. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the College of Electors <b>and</b> must be signed by a nominator and a seconder who are alumni of the University. Subject to VII (B) (3) below, nominations will be held in confidence. Letters of support may be submitted and will form part of the documentation placed before members of the College. <b>Candidates for the position may also be identified and nominated by the Search Committee. Such nominations must have the support of at least two members of the Search Committee who are alumni of the University.</b></p> <p><del>4. Nominations shall require consent to stand.</del></p> <p>4. Nominations shall close on or before March 31st, as determined by the College.</p> <p><b>Section VII B</b></p> <p>1. In carrying out its duties under Sections VII (B) <b>(2) and (3) below</b>, the Executive Committee of the College shall co-opt the President of the University and the Chair of the Governing Council as assessor members, and this group shall form the Chancellor Search Committee.</p> <p>2. The Chancellor Search Committee, <del>as described in Section VII (B) (3) below</del>, shall prepare a Report on the nominations received for Chancellor, including at least the following:</p> <p>(a) An analysis of the general requirements of the position of Chancellor, any specific requirements appropriate for the incoming Chancellor and of the qualities appropriate to the position. Particular attention shall be given to the discussion of the position at the first meeting of the College.</p> <p>(b) One recommended candidate for Chancellor submitted, with supporting documentation.</p>

<p>Section VII B (cont'd)</p> <p>(b) Meet with individual nominees to discuss the nature of the position, and obtain additional information that would be of assistance to the College.</p> <p>3. In carrying out its duties under Sections VII (B) (1) and (2) above the Executive Committee of the College shall co-opt the President of the University and the Chair of the Governing Council as assessor members, and this group shall form the Chancellor Search Committee.</p> <p>4. At least fourteen (14) days notice shall be given of a meeting of the College at which the report of the Chancellor Search Committee is to be received and discussed.</p> <p>5. The President and the Chair of the Governing Council will be invited to attend any meeting of the College at which the work or report of the Chancellor Search Committee is discussed.</p> <p>6. After receiving and discussing the report of the Chancellor Search Committee the College shall either proceed to the election or direct the Chancellor Search Committee to obtain additional information or to give further advice on individual nominees. This may involve meetings with one or more nominees, which shall be undertaken by the Committee on behalf of the College.</p> <p>7. If the report of the Chancellor Search Committee is returned to the Committee by the College, the Committee shall meet within seven (7) days of the receipt of its returned report. It shall submit a new report to the College that may contain names previously suggested and/or additional names.</p>	<p>Section VII B (cont'd)</p> <p>3. The Chancellor Search Committee shall have the option to</p> <p>(a) Obtain or ask nominators to obtain biographical or other information about the nominees.</p> <p>(b) Meet with individual nominees to discuss the nature of the position, and obtain additional information that would be of assistance to the College.</p> <p><b>4. Prior to submitting the Report to the College, the Chancellor Search Committee shall determine the willingness of the recommended candidate to stand as Chancellor.</b></p> <p>5. At least fourteen (14) days notice shall be given of a meeting of the College at which the report of the Chancellor Search Committee is to be received and discussed.</p> <p>6. The President and the Chair of the Governing Council will be invited to attend any meeting of the College at which the work or report of the Chancellor Search Committee is discussed.</p> <p>7. After receiving and discussing the report of the Chancellor Search Committee the College shall either proceed to the election or direct the Chancellor Search Committee to obtain additional information or to give further advice on individual nominees. This may involve meetings with one or more nominees, which shall be undertaken by the Committee on behalf of the College.</p> <p>8. If the report of the Chancellor Search Committee is returned to the Committee by the College, the Committee shall meet within seven (7) days of the receipt of its returned report. It shall submit a new report to the College that may contain names previously suggested and/or additional names.</p>
---	--