



**FOR INFORMATION**

**PUBLIC**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** Planning & Budget Committee

**SPONSOR:** Scott Mabury, Vice President, University Operations

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**PRESENTER:** Gilbert Delgado, Chief University Planning, Design & Construction

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**DATE:** April 26, 2017 for May 10, 2017

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Design Review Committee: Annual Report, 2016

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

Planning and Budget Committee receives reports for information.

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

- 1. Planning and Budget [for information] (May 10, 2017)**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

During 2016, the new Chief of Planning, Design and Construction, Mr. Gilbert Delgado, FAIA was instituted as the co-chair of the Design Review Committee acting as a key representative for the administration. Mr. Delgado was formally the University Architect at Cornell University where he served as that institution's leading steward for planning and design.

One of the more significant efforts during this year was the review of the committee's terms of reference as part of an overall review of the policy on Capital Projects. The most significant outcome of that effort was an expressed need to better understand the relationship of individual projects to the overall campus design. As a result, University, Planning, Design and Construction will require that future designs specifically address the overall campus context as part of any design presentation.

During the period of January to December 2016, the Design Review Committee met a total seven times to review a total of nine different projects. The projects included new construction,

renovations and additions of a wide range of academic facilities. Additionally, major landscaping projects and campus plans were reviewed. The following projects were reviewed in 2016:

#### Renovation Projects

- Student Commons at 230 College
- University College Revitalization
- Thomas Fisher Library Rare Book Library Envelope Design

#### Public Spaces & Campus Plans

- Landmark Landscape
- Willcocks Common
- St. George Campus Secondary Plan

#### New Construction

- Huron Sussex Laneway Housing Project
- Robarts Common

Membership of the Design Review Committee as of December 2016:

Bruce Kuwabara (Co-Chair) KPMB Architects, Partner

Gilbert Delgado (Co-Chair), Chief, University Planning Design & Construction

Paul Bedford, Paul Bedford & Associates, Principal

Carl Blanchaer, WZMH Architects, Principal

Don Schmitt, Diamond Schmitt Architects, Principal

Jane Pepino, QC, Aird & Berlis LLP (municipal lawyer & Governing Council member)

Richard Sommer, Dean Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design

Christine Burke, (Executive Secretary) Director, Campus & Facilities Planning

George Phelps, Director of Project Development, University Planning Design & Construction

Adrienne De Francesco, Executive Director, Capital Projects Group, University Planning Design & Construction

Paul Donoghue, Chief Administrative Officer, University of Toronto Mississauga

Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Strategy Officer, University of Toronto Scarborough

At DRC meetings, projects are presented by the design team for each project to the DRC. Teams present the projects at least twice and on an as need basis, additional presentations are reviewed. The first review occurs at an early schematic design stage. This is intended to establish that the proposed building and landscape concept is contextually appropriate to the site and campus and addresses urban design criteria and massing as delineated by the University's master plans as well as campus wide issues of parking, loading, traffic impact, accessibility and servicing. At this meeting, the DRC reviews building design requirements such as: internal functionality, opportunities to elevate student experience, flexibility/adaptability options and interconnectivity with other buildings.

A second review and follow-up discussions between consultants and the DRC occur when the project is in the design development phase where details of the building have been determined and are better refined.

The landscape plan is reviewed for the articulation of open space within the site, opportunities for synthesis with adjacent areas and interconnectivity to the wider campus. Finally the palette of materials and signage is considered. Throughout the process, the DRC review is considered within the budgetary framework of the project.

The DRC conducts reviews of the strength of ideas proposed and provides guidance to explore options that otherwise might not have developed. In its deliberations, the DRC is mindful of the difficult trade-off between expectations, budgetary reality and long term faculty goals, seeking a balanced approach to the resolution of design concerns. The DRC is not tasked with the design of the project, but to work with design teams to set high expectations for design, in all aspects.

Projects are also reviewed with respect to sustainability and environmental concerns as these continue to be more important in our built environment and impact the ongoing operating costs of our buildings.

The complete mandate of the Design Review Committee is defined in Design Review Committee Terms of Reference found on the University Planning Design and Construction website. This mandate was approved by Governing Council in June, 2014.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Information

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**DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:**

*None*