Opportunities for UTM's Leadership in Sustainability: Possible Initiatives

Professor Shashi Kant Director, MScSM, IMI University of Toronto Mississauga Shashi.kant@utoronto.ca

# Agenda

- What is Sustainability?
- Sustainability Pathways Working Group
- Initiatives under Discussion

#### What is Sustainability? Sustainable Development Goals



#### Sustainability Pathways Working Group (SPWG)

- 1. Prof. Amrita Daniere (VP Academic and Dean, UTM)
- 2. Prof. Ingo Ensminger (Bilogical Studies)
- 3. Prof. Jumi Shin (Chemsitry)
- 4. Prof. Teresa Lobalsamo (Language Studies)
- 5. Prof. Barbara Murck (Geography)
- 6. Prof. Joan Simalchik (Historical Studies)
- 7. Prof. Soo Min Toh (Management)
- 8. Prof. Steven Hoffman (Sociology)
- 9. Prof. Amy Mullin (Philosophy)
- 10. Prof. Jeffrey Graham (Psychology)
- **11. Christopher Lengyell** (Residence Centre)
- 12. Laura Ferlito (Student Advisor, Office of the registrar)
- 13. Lorretta Neebar (Registrar, Acting)
- 14. Amy Geisberger (MScSM Student)
- 15. Julia Morton Marr (International Holistic Tourism Education Centre)
- 16. Prof. Shashi Kant (Sustainability Management)
- **17. Anuar Rodrigues**

### SPWG

- Four Meetings
- 2 Sub–Groups

   a. Definition of Sustainability
   b. Best Practices
- Committee Reviewed Sustainability Strategic Plans of Yale, Harvard, Arizona State, UBC, and Columbia;
- Inventory of Canadian Program, UTM courses and Professors
- Discussion about Sustainability Initiatives not limited to Sustainability Pathways
- Final Report April/May 2018

• **Definition:** Sustainability rests on the principle that the biosphere is the foundation for all human activities: the well-being of present and future generations depends on the health of our shared ecosystems.

The University of Toronto Mississauga has a unique role to play in promoting ways of living that respect the Earth and all of its inhabitants.

• *Five pillars:* Through the following five pillars the UTM can stimulate a culture of sustainability.

- A. Academic Programs B. Research
- C. Campus Engagement D. Community Engagement
- E. Work Environment and Wellbeing

- 1. Sustainability Strategic Plan of UTM
- Standing Committee
- Administrative and Financial Support to Implement Strategic Plan
- Annual Progress Report of the SP

#### 2. Academic Programs

- <u>Undergraduate Programs</u> (Sustainability Pathways Certificate key features: option for every student, interdisciplinary and experiential learning; Distribution requirement; Certificate in related areas – social innovation and entrepreneurship)
- <u>Graduate Programs (Summer School; Certificate in Sustainability</u> Leadership)

3. Research: Grants to promote interdisciplinary research focused on different aspects of sustainability.

#### 4. Campus Engagement:

- a. Student-centric Initiatives
- b. Faculty and Staff Centric Initiatives
- c. Facilities focused initiatives
- 5. Community/Civic Engagement:
  - a. Summer camps for school students
  - b. Participation in Peel Region Science Fair

c. Other opportunities – joint research/community issues etc.

- 6. Work Environment and Wellbeing
- Next Steps Full report