



FOR RECOMMENDATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: Academic Board

SPONSOR: Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President & Provost
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PRESENTER: As above
CONTACT INFO:

DATE: February 27, 2019 for March 14, 2019

AGENDA ITEM: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Change in the name of the Faculty of Arts and Science's *Department of the History of Art* to the *Department of Art History*, change in the name of the tri-campus *Graduate Department of Art* to the *Graduate Department of Art History*.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Name changes in academic divisions (excluding namings) are considered by the Academic Board and confirmed by the Executive Committee. (*AB Terms of Reference, Section 5.2.7*)

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. Academic Board [For Approval] (March 14, 2019)
2. Executive Committee [For Confirmation] (March 26, 2019)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The change to the name of the Faculty of Arts and Science's *Department of the History of Art* to the *Department of Art History*, and the change of the name of the tri-campus *Graduate Department of Art* to the *Graduate Department of Art History* received approval from the Faculty of Arts and Science's Faculty Council on February 13, 2019.

On March 24, 2015 the Executive Committee of Governing Council confirmed the name change of the Faculty of Arts and Science's *Department of Art* to the *Department of the History of Art*, effective immediately upon approval.

On June 17, 2013, the Executive Committee of Governing Council confirmed the transfer of the Honours Bachelor of Arts Specialist, Major and Minor programs in Visual Studies and the Master of Visual Studies Programs from the Faculty of Arts and Science to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, effective July 1, 2013.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Faculty of Arts and Science is proposing a change to the name of the Faculty of Arts and Science’s *Department of the History of Art* to the *Department of Art History*, and to the tri-campus *Graduate Department of Art* to the *Graduate Department of Art History*, effective July 1, 2019.

At the graduate level, the name change is intended to better reflect the research and teaching undertaken within the unit. The graduate department’s current name “Art” is a holdover from when the unit included both art historians and art practitioners. However, faculty in these areas had their appointments transferred to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design in 2014. In 2015, the Faculty of Arts and Science’s Department of Art changed its name to the Department of the History of Art. At that time, there was support for the change to the name of the department on the St. George campus, but student and faculty opinions regarding the name of the tri-campus graduate department varied, reflecting the nature of tri-campus graduate activities. As a result, it was agreed that no changes would be made to the name of the tri-campus Graduate Department of Art at this time. Now, four years later, and with the passage of time, it has become quite apparent that “Art” does produce some confusion for students and colleagues alike, believing it signifies a studio component in the unit. The change to “Art History” is proposed as a more accurate description of the department’s research and teaching activities, and to avoid such misunderstandings.

One reason for choosing Art History over History of Art is that the Department of Visual Studies (DVS) at UTM has a program in Art History; and the Department of Arts, Culture and Media (ACM) at UTSC has a program in Art History and Visual Culture. These are the departments, along with the Faculty of Arts and Science department, from which the Graduate Department of Art’s Graduate Faculty are drawn. Use of the term “Art History” for the graduate department is thus more in keeping with existing undergraduate programs. With the above in mind, a renaming of the undergraduate department at UTSG from “History of Art” to “Art History” is also proposed, to align the Faculty of Arts and Science department name with that of the Graduate Department, and with existing undergraduate programs at UTM and UTSC.

Through separate minor modification proposals, the names of the FAS undergraduate programs and the graduate programs will change from “History of Art” to “Art History,” effective September 1, 2019, in line with this proposed change.

Consultation occurred with faculty members in the Faculty of Arts and Science’s Department of the History of Art and the Graduate Department of Art and with undergraduate and graduate students. Tri-campus consultation has taken place with the Chairs of the Department of Visual Studies at UTM and the Department of Arts, Culture and Media at UTSC, and through the

Tri-Campus Deans Committee. The Dean of the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design has also been consulted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Any new/additional financial obligations resulting from this change will be met at the Faculty/Divisional level.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be it Resolved

THAT subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee,

THAT the name of the *Department of the History of Art* be changed to the *Department of Art History*, and the name of the *Graduate Department of Art* be changed to the *Graduate Department of Art History*, effective July 1, 2019.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

Proposal to change the names of the Department of the History of Art (St. George) and the Tri-Campus Graduate Department of Art

Proposal to change the names of the Department of the History of Art (St. George) and the Tri-Campus Graduate Department of Art

January 2019

Summary

The Department of the History of Art and Graduate Department of Art propose to change their names to the Department of Art History and the Graduate Department of Art History, respectively, effective July 1, 2019. At the graduate level, the name change is intended to better reflect the research and teaching undertaken within the unit; at the undergraduate level, the name change is desired to align the name of the department with the graduate unit and with existing undergraduate programs at UTM and UTSC.

The Department of the History of Art offers a Specialist, Major and Minor in History of Art. The Graduate Department of Art offers an MA and PhD in History of Art. As a separate minor modification proposal, the names of these programs will change from “History of Art” to “Art History”, effective September 1, 2019 (see Appendix A for a summary of the proposed changes).

This proposal first outlines the rationale and consultation undertaken for changing the name of the tri-campus graduate department, followed by the St. George undergraduate department.

Graduate Department

The Tri-campus Graduate Department of Art proposes to change its name to the Graduate Department of Art History. We also propose to change the names of our graduate degree programs from “History of Art” to “Art History” through a separate minor modification. The idea behind this name change is to better represent the research and teaching conducted within the unit. Our current name ‘Art’ is a holdover from when our unit included both art historians and art practitioners. However, faculty in these areas had their appointments transferred to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design in 2014. In 2015 the Department of Art changed its name to the Department of the History of Art. At that time there was support for the change to the name of the department on the St. George campus, but student and faculty opinions regarding the name of the tri-campus graduate department varied, reflecting the nature of tri-campus graduate activities. As a result it was agreed that no changes would be made to the name of the tri-campus Graduate Department of Art at this time. Now, four years later, and with the passage of time, it has become quite apparent that ‘Art’ does produce some confusion, with students and colleagues alike believing it signifies a studio component in our unit. We propose the change to ‘Art History’ as a more accurate description of our research and teaching activities, and to avoid such misunderstandings.

Graduate faculty members have been consulted, with extensive discussion at Tri-campus meetings on 25th September and 27th November 2018. One possibility raised at these meetings is the option of adding a further description, for a name such as ‘Art History and Visual Culture’. The addition could serve to better describe the activities of a handful of faculty members. But then so would

‘Architecture’ (we have a number of architectural historians), or indeed ‘Archaeology’ (some departments, like Princeton, are ‘Art and Archaeology’; Columbia is ‘Art History and Archaeology’). We have opted to not add an ‘and’ and to use the shorter form ‘Art History’ – it is simpler while also being sufficiently ecumenical.

Our graduate students have been consulted, through the Graduate Union of the Students of Art (GUSStA). They produced a report on their poll. GUSStA also met with the Chair to talk through the options. Both History of Art and Art History seemed to have some currency; but importantly most saw that ‘Art’ was not a suitable label.

One reason for choosing Art History over History of Art is that the Department of Visual Studies (DVS) at UTM has a program in ‘Art History’; and the Department of Arts, Culture and Media (ACM) at UTSC has a program in ‘Art History and Visual Culture’. The Chairs of UTM DVS and UTSC ACM have been consulted. These are the departments, along with UTSG, from which our Graduate Faculty are drawn (6 from UTM DVS; 2 from UTSC; 14 from UTSG). Use of the term ‘Art History’ for our graduate department is thus more in keeping with existing undergraduate programs.

The Dean of the Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (DFALD) has also been consulted, and confirmed that DFALD is in agreement with the name change. Consultation with the Tri-Campus Deans Committee took place on January 31, 2019; this committee expressed their support for the proposal.

Undergraduate Department

With the above in mind, we also propose to revise the name of the undergraduate department at UTSG, which is currently ‘History of Art’. We propose that this too should become ‘Art History’, and that our undergraduate degree programs should be renamed accordingly. We note that the name ‘History of Art’ is a relatively recent change in itself, dating back to 2015 and prompted by the transfer of the studio program, Visual Studies, to the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, as of July 1, 2013. With the departure of the studio program, the name “Art” no longer accurately reflected the nature of the research and teaching undertaken in the department, and the name History of Art was chosen. However, the differences between “History of Art” and “Art History” as departmental names are relatively minor. Hence, given the benefits of aligning our UTSG department name with that of the Graduate Department, UTSG faculty offered strong support for this new name (at a UTSG faculty meeting, November 20th 2018). We have consulted with the President of our undergraduate society (HASA), and the society has no objection to the change. We would then have the same name ‘Art History’ for UTSG and the Graduate Department, bringing us in line with the vast majority of other FAS departments.

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

Departments			
	Current Name		Proposed Name
Tri-Campus Graduate	Department of Art	>	Department of Art History
Undergraduate Units			
UTM	Department of Visual Studies		Department of Visual Studies
UTSC	Department of Arts, Culture and Media		Department of Arts, Culture and Media
UTSG	Department of the History of Art	>	Department of Art History
Programs (UTSG)			
	Current Name		Proposed Name
Graduate	History of Art	>	Art History
MA			
PhD			
Undergraduate	History of Art	>	Art History
Specialist			
Major			
Minor			