



TO: Planning and Budget Committee

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DATE: December 11, 2008 for January 21, 2009

AGENDA ITEM: 4

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to disestablish the Centre of Criminology within the School of Graduate Studies and to re-establish the Centre in the Faculty of Arts and Science as an extra-departmental unit A (EDU:A)¹.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Excerpt from the terms of reference for the Planning and Budget Committee:

4.4.2. The Committee advises the Academic Board on the planning and resource implications of plans and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic programs. Those implications might include significant planning and budgetary changes within the division or significant effects on other divisions, the University as a whole and the public.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS

The Centre of Criminology is a research and teaching unit that currently exists as an EDU:A within the School of Graduate Studies (SGS). It is proposed that the Centre be disestablished within SGS and re-established as an EDU:A in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

The Centre has achieved a strong international stature for its graduate programs. In a recent external review, it was noted that the Centre of Criminology has maintained “a world-class reputation in two related but distinct fields... In socio-legal studies, it is a peer institution to the leading US programs at the University of California at Berkeley, New York University, and the University of California at Irvine, and has a stronger reputation and higher profile than the Socio-Legal Studies Centre at Oxford. In criminology, it is one of a small group of institutions – including Cambridge, Maryland, Albany, Montreal, the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement in Leiden, and the Max Planck Institute on Foreign and

¹ As per the *Guidelines for Administrative Functions and Protocols of Extra-Departmental Units* an EDU:A has a well-established and defined area of scholarship as a focus. The unit has attained a critical mass of interdisciplinary scholarship at the University that allows for the unit to engage in the appointment of teaching staff, admission of students to a program of graduate or undergraduate study, and engage in interdisciplinary research. <http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/guide100.pdf>

Comparative Criminal Law in Freiburg – that most informed people would describe as being the world’s leading programs.”²

The Centre of Criminology has had a long and fruitful association with the Faculty of Arts and Science, especially through the Arts and Science undergraduate program in Criminology at Woodsworth College.

The strongly interdisciplinary nature of the Centre and its connection to the undergraduate program has resulted in the proposal that Faculty of Arts and Science would make an appropriate administrative home for the Centre. Student demand for the Centre’s MA and PhD programs is strong and is likely to increase with the closer association with the undergraduate program.

Faculty and staff members of the Centre support the proposal to transfer the Centre to the Faculty of Arts and Science. The Faculty of Law, that jointly administers a JD/MA program with the Centre, has been consulted and is in agreement with the proposed move. The proposal has been approved by the Faculty of Arts and Science Council on December 1, 2008 and by the SGS Graduate Education Council on October 21, 2008.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The administration and operating budget of the Centre of Criminology will be transferred to the Faculty of Arts & Science. There are no other implications for the University’s budget. All relevant matters concerning faculty and staff have been taken into consideration in the timing of the transfer. The Centre of Criminology will oversee administrative aspects of the transfer, such as student services and academic delivery of the program. Three students from the Faculty of Law are currently enrolled in the program. There are no financial or planning implications for the Faculty of Law.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Recommended to Academic Board:

THAT the Centre of Criminology be disestablished as an academic unit in the School of Graduate Studies and reestablished as an extra-departmental unit A (EDU:A) within the Faculty of Arts and Science, effective May 1, 2009.

² Ontario Council of Graduate Studies (OCGS) review, 2008