



TO: Academic Board
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DATE: February 9, 2009
AGENDA ITEM: 5

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Faculty of Arts and Science: Name change of the School of International Studies to the "School of Global Affairs".

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Board has authority to approve name changes of academic units.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

Governing Council approved the establishment of the School of International Studies as an EDU:B within the Faculty of Arts and Science on May 21, 2008.

HIGHLIGHTS:

In order to capitalize on potential for growth and in recognition of our critical role in advancing Canada's place in an increasingly competitive global environment, the University of Toronto established the School of International Studies at the Munk Centre for International Studies. The School presently houses five undergraduate programs (International Relations, American Studies, Latin American Studies, European Studies, the David Chu Program in Asia Pacific Studies), three collaborative MA programs (International Relations, Asia Pacific Studies, South Asian Studies), one stand-alone MA program (European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies), and two collaborative PhD programs (Dynamics of Global Change, South Asian Studies).

The Provostial Committee on International Studies at the University of Toronto and the Role of the Munk Centre (2007)¹ recommended the establishment of the School; that the collaborative MA program in International Relations be reconfigured as a stand-alone professional masters degree; and that further steps be taken to integrate graduate students into the School.

As part of the development of a new professional masters program, an advisory committee was struck to assist with fundraising for student aid and program marketing. After consultation, the advisory committee recommended that the School's proposed degree be named the Master of Global Affairs (M.G.A.). The name Global Affairs was chosen both to telegraph the intellectual focus of the new program and to distinguish it from other similar programs in North America. The committee also received strong feedback that the name of the School be aligned with its proposed new degree.

¹ http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/Assets/Reports/isc_rep.pdf
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The School engaged in a broad consultation process with stakeholders and the proposal received support. The Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and the Provost of Trinity College support the name change, which was approved at the Faculty of Arts and Science Council on February 2, 2009.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the name change.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Academic Board approve:

THAT the name of the Faculty of Arts and Science School of International Studies become the “School of Global Affairs”, effective immediately.