

Three Priorities: An Update & Discussion

Academic Board

19 November 2015



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



Installation Address: Three priorities

1. Leverage our urban location – or *locations* – more fully
2. Strengthen and deepen key international partnerships
3. Re-imagine and re-invent undergraduate education

Three Priorities: context, purpose

- *Towards 2030, View from 2012*
- Three priorities: a means to achieving the goals set out in *Towards 2030*
 - Enhancing our standing as:
 - a leader in research-intensive undergraduate education
 - a leader in graduate education
 - a globally ranked research powerhouse

Three Priorities: Consultation

- 24 presentations during past year
 - All three campuses, estates
 - > 2,000 present
 - Positive, constructive feedback
- *Three priorities: A Discussion Paper*
 - Released 2 October to entire U of T community
 - Incorporates input received

Leveraging our Location(s)

Taking better advantage of our location in one of the world's most vibrant, culturally diverse and economically dynamic regions, for the benefit of both the University and the residents of the Greater Toronto Area.



Leveraging our Location(s): Goals

- To improve the state of our host city-region
- To enhance the University's success in:
 - Attracting and retaining talent
 - Research
 - Teaching and learning
- To enhance our reputation as a city-builder



Leveraging our Location(s): Milestones

- Catalogue, Convene, Collaborate
- Strengthen relationships
- Expand outreach and partnerships
- Reflect on the built environment
- Appoint Presidential advisors on urban engagement and urban issues



International Partnerships

Position the University of Toronto as a strong research and teaching partner with leading peer institutions around the world, while creating more opportunities for our students to benefit from an internationalized learning experience.



International Partnerships: Goals

- Leverage existing networks, relationships for the mutual benefit of U of T and its global partners
- Enhance our ability to meet global challenges
- Enhance our global reputation, profile, rankings
- Enhance our success in attracting, retaining talent
- Enhance global citizenship, fluency of students



International Partnerships: Milestones

- Catalogue, Convene, Coordinate/Cooperate
- Develop strategic rationale and country-specific strategies
- Expand number and range of international experiences
- Strengthen recruitment, support for students
- Increase international PhD enrolment
- Appoint Senior Presidential advisor on international activities



Undergraduate Education

Re-imagine and re-invent undergraduate education at a research-intensive university, in light of current economic and social challenges, and taking advantage of emerging opportunities, including new pedagogical technologies.



Undergraduate Education: Goals

- Better prepare students for lifelong success
 - Acknowledge labour market pressures
- Rejuvenate liberal education model/ideal
- Anticipate, leverage, *create* disruptive changes in modes/mechanisms for education, knowledge production



Undergraduate Education: Milestones

- Catalogue, Continue, Create
- Further explore teaching & learning technologies
 - Conduct real-time research, share ideas, best practices
- Promote transition initiatives, entrepreneurship
- Appoint Vice-Provost, Innovations in Undergraduate Education
- Appoint Vice-President, Research & Innovation
 - Enhance research opportunities for students
 - Advise on technology-enhanced learning



Three Priorities: Interactions

- Clearly the three priority areas are *mutually reinforcing*
- Urban and international partnerships: two sides of the same coin
- Both urban and international partnerships have potential to enhance, reinvent undergraduate education

Feedback (Still) Welcome

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