

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

REPORT NUMBER 22 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 25, 2017

To the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Council, University of Toronto Scarborough,

Your Committee reports that it met on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Arts and Administration Building, with the following members present:

Present:

Dr. Elaine Khoo, Chair
Mr. Andrew C. Leung, Vice-Chair
Professor Bruce Kidd, Vice-
President and Principal, UTSC
Professor William A. Gough, Vice-
Principal, Academic and Dean
Professor Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz,
Vice-Principal, Research, UTSC
Professor Syed W. Ahmed
Mr. Conor Anderson
Professor George B. Arhonditsis
Ms Hira Ashraf
Professor William Bowen
Professor Shelley Brunt
Mr. Dean Carcone
Ms Monica Cheng
Professor Chris Cochrane
Dr. Curtis Cole
Ms Jacqueline Deane
Professor Tarun Dewan
Mr. George Fadel*
Professor David J. Fleet
Ms Gautami Gupta
Dr. Alen Hadzovic
Ms Whitney Kemble*
Ms Katie Konstantopoulos
Professor Patricia Landolt*
Ms Brenda Librecz

Professor Andrew C. Mason
Dr. Jennifer McKelvie
Dr. Matthias Niemeier*
Ms Victoria Owen
Dr. Tayyab Rashid
Dr. Mahinda Samarakoon
Professor Larry Sawchuck
Professor Mark A. Schmuckler
Professor Mary T. Silcox
Ms Gobika Sithamparanathan
Professor Grace Skogstad
Professor Andre Sorensen

Non-Voting Assessors:

Ms Annette Knott
Dr. Janelle C. LeBoutillier

Secretariat:

Ms Rena Prashad

Regrets:

Professor Sandra Bamford
Professor Christine Bolus-Reichert
Professor Leslie Chan
Professor Li Chen
Ms Agatha Cheng
Professor George Cree
Professor Neal Dolan
Professor John A. Hannigan
Professor Clare Hasenkampf

Professor Benj Hellie
 Professor Mark Hunter
 Professor Alexander Irving
 Professor Philip Kremer
 Dr. Karen McCrindle
 Professor Pascal Riendeau

Dr. Zohreh Shahbazi
 Dr. Jayeeta Sharma

* Telephone Participants

In attendance:

Professor Corinne Beauquis, Centre for French and Linguistics
 Professor Raymond Grinnell, Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences
 Professor Marney Isaac, International Development Studies
 Professor James MacLellan, Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
 Dr. Naureen Nizam, Director of Systems & Operations, Office of the Registrar
 Ms Marishka Pereira, Program Advisor, Department of Political Science
 Professor Michael Souza, Department of Psychology
 Ms Jennifer Tigno, Interim Director, Academic Advising and Career Centre
 Ms Michelle Verbrughe, Director, Student Housing and Residence Life

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting and introduced the members participating in the meeting by teleconference. She thanked Professor Mark Schmuckler, Vice-Dean, Undergraduate, for acting in the capacity of the Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, Professor William Gough, who could not attend the meeting. The Chair advised members that Ms Amorell Saunders N'Daw, Secretary to the Committee, had been seconded to the role of Senior Advisor, Equity and Diversity, on an interim basis.

2. Major modifications to the Specialist and Specialist Co-op programs in International Development Studies (BSc)

Professor Schmuckler advised the Committee that he had withdrawn the major modifications to the Specialist and Specialist Co-op programs in International Development Studies (BSc). He had recently learnt that further consultation was required within a specific academic department and that the proposal would be considered at a future meeting.

3. Major modifications to introduce a new freestanding Minor in Natural Sciences and Environmental Management (Science)

Professor Schmuckler reported that the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences (DPES) was proposing a Minor in Natural Sciences and Environmental Management. The minor was designed to offer multidisciplinary education between the Arts and Sciences,

which distinguished the program from the existing Minor in Environmental Science. In addition, the program would meet the needs of undergraduate students who had a preference to combine Major and Minor programs from varying disciplines.

A member asked whether a course on political ecology would be considered for the Minor, and Professor George Arhonditsis, Chair of DPES, remarked that a course in political ecology was not included in the Minor program offerings.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the major modifications to introduce a new freestanding Minor in Natural Sciences and Environmental Management (Science), as described in the proposal dated December 2, 2016 and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, Professor William Gough, be approved effective April 1, 2017 for the academic year 2017-18.

4. Major modification to introduce enrolment requirements for the first time to the Specialist in Statistics (BSc)

Professor Schmuckler reported that the Department of Computer and Mathematical Science (CMS) was proposing to introduce enrolment requirements for the first time to the Specialist in Statistics (BSc) program. Enrolment requirements were being proposed to ensure that students had the necessary background and aptitude to be successful in the program. CMS was proposing that students with a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 2.5 or higher and the necessary prerequisite courses be guaranteed admission into the program. Students with a CGPA lower than 2.5 would be considered on a case by case basis, available space, or redirected to a more appropriate program (i.e. Major in Statistics). In addition, Professor Schmuckler reported that the enrolment requirements brought the program in line with the norms of other statistics specialist programs across the University.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the major modifications to the Specialist in Statistics (BSc), as described in the proposal dated November 23, 2016 and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, Professor William Gough, be approved effective April 1, 2017 for the academic year 2017-18.

5. Minor Curricular Modifications, Undergraduate

Professor Schmuckler reported that ten academic units had submitted minor curricular modifications for approval, which included new courses, course changes, and modifications to curriculum that modestly changed the nature of the courses or programs.

He drew members' attention to the documentation, which was presented in two reports and explained that the Office of the Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, was a part of a pilot program involving a new Curriculum Manager (CM) System, which would give academic units more autonomy over curriculum changes. He advised members that the second report was produced using the existing CM.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the minor modifications to undergraduate programs, submitted by UTSC undergraduate academic units, as described in the Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report 1, dated January 4, 2017, and Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report 2, dated January 5, 2017, and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, Professor William Gough, be approved effective April 1, 2017 for the academic year 2017-18.

6. Minor Curricular Modifications, Undergraduate

Professor Schmuckler presented, for information, minor curricular modifications that did not impact course and program learning outcomes or mode of delivery. The information was presented in two reports from CM.

7. 2017-18 Sessional Dates

The Chair invited Dr. Naureen Nizam, Director, Systems and Operations, in the Registrar's Office to present the 2017-18 Sessional Dates. Dr. Nizam's presentation included the following highlights:

- The process for establishing the 2017-18 Sessional Dates began in May 2016 when the University released its holiday schedule;
- The Registrar's Office was responsible for developing the first draft of the sessional dates to be shared with the Office of the Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, who then shared the dates with all Chairs and Directors in a consultative process. Taking into account input from Chairs and Directors, the Office of the Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, approved the sessional dates;
- The Provost's Office planned to share five years of tentative University holiday schedules with the Registrar's Office, which would be used to coordinate future sessional dates in advance;

- Fall 2017 classes were scheduled to begin after the Labour Day holiday; and
- Sunday exams were included for Fall 2017 sessional dates due to timing and space constraints. If exams were scheduled on Sundays, the exams would be scheduled at noon or late afternoon.

A member commented on an observation that study breaks appeared to be getting shorter. Dr. Curtis Cole, Registrar & Assistant Dean, Enrolment Management, explained that in order to get twelve teaching weeks into a semester the study break was often affected, and that effort was made to minimize scheduling and timing conflicts that could negatively impact students' performance (e.g. scheduling first year Chemistry, Biology and Calculus on the same day).

A member commented that a web search for UTSC sessional dates resulted in 2015-16 sessional dates. Dr. Nizam reported that she would ask Information and Instructional Technology Services (IITS) to deactivate the page.

A member asked why it was common for sessions to begin on weekdays other than Mondays. Dr. Nizam explained that courses required twelve teaching weeks and beginning a semester on a Monday could result in the need for makeup dates (e.g. one week of Monday classes missed due to Thanksgiving).

A member asked whether the Registrar's Office planned to share five years of tentative sessional dates with the UTSC community. Dr. Nizam replied that further conversations were necessary to determine how and to whom the information would be disseminated.

A member commented that students were open to beginning classes earlier each session to allow for a longer study break, and Dr. Nizam thanked the member for their suggestion and made known that the suggestion would be considered.

8. Assessors' Reports

There were no Assessors' Reports.

9. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 21- Tuesday, November 22, 2016

The report of the previous meeting was approved.

10. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

There was no business arising from the report of the previous meeting.

11. Date of the Next Meeting— Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair reminded members that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 4:10 p.m.

12. Other Business

No other business was raised.

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

Winter 2018 Sessional Dates
Friday, January 5, 2018 to Friday, April 6, 2018

2018

January					April					July					October												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				29	30						29	30	31					28	29	30	31			

February					May					August					November												
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28				27	28	29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29	30	

March					June					September					December												
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	23	24	25	26	27	28	29