

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

REPORT NUMBER 35 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 11, 2019

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

Your Committee reports that it met on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Arts and Administration Building, with the following members present:

Present:

Elaine Khoo, Chair
Wisdom Tettey, Vice-President and
Principal, UTSC
William Gough, Vice-Principal,
Academic and Dean
Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz, Vice-
Principal, Research
Syed Ahmed
Conor Anderson
Corinne Beauquis
Christine Bolus-Reichert
Shelley Brunt
Dakota Bundy
Radhapriya Chawla
Li Chen
Curtis Cole
James Donaldson
Suzanne Erb
Nancy Johnston
Themabela Kepe
Jacob Koudys
Lydia Lampers-Wallner
Patricia Landolt
Fatema Motiwala
Tayyab Rashid
Rania Salem
Larry Sawchuk

Mark Schmuckler
Mary Silcox
Grace Skogstad
Michael Souza
Jessica Wilson

Non-Voting Assessors:

Annette Knott
Varsha Patel
Shelby Verboven

Secretariat:

Rena Prashad

Absent:

Fareed Amin
Sandra Bamford
Barry Freeman
Colleen Gillon
Sarah Guay
Alen Hadzovic
Angela Hamilton
Mark Hunter
Alexander Irving
Shiri Iskander
Mariam Issa
Margaret Kohn
Michael Lambek
Katherine Larson

Brenda Librecz
Andrew Mason
Karen McCrindle
Michael Molloy
Sonja Nikkila
Annie Sahagian
Mahinda Samarakoon
William Seager

Lynn Tucker
David Zweig

* Telephone Participants

In attendance:

Sarah Chaudhry, Programs & Curriculum Coordinator
Nick Cheng, Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, Dept. of Computer and Mathematical Sciences
Svetlana Mikhaylichenko, Undergraduate Associate Chair, Dept. of Physical and Environmental Sciences
Marishka Pereira, Program Advisor, Dept. of Political Science
Holly Wardlow, Interim Director, Interdisciplinary Centre for Health & Society
Zindel Segal, Interim Chair, Graduate Dept. of Psychological Clinical Science

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

2. Undergraduate Minor Curricular Modifications- Out-of-cycle Changes

Mark Schmuckler, Vice-Dean, Undergraduate, reported that the Centre for French and Linguistics was proposing nine new courses to support the Summer Language Institute (i.e. a program designed to learn a language in an accelerated format). The Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences was proposing five course changes to ensure enrolment requirements were aligned with program enrolment requirements planned to be effective for Summer 2019. Lastly, the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences was proposing one new course to increase experiential learning offerings for students.

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:

- Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Out of Cycle Centre for French and Linguistics, dated January 17, 2019, and

- Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Out of Cycle Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences, dated January 17, 2019, and
- Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Out of Cycle Physical and Environmental Sciences, dated January 17, 2019 and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, William Gough, be approved effective as of the Summer 2019 academic term.

3. Undergraduate Minor Curricular Modifications (Sciences Academic Units)

Professor Schmuckler reported that the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences was proposing changes to five programs and introducing two new courses. He remarked that the changes were common curricular modifications.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the minor modifications to undergraduate programs, submitted by UTSC undergraduate Sciences academic units, as described in Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Department of Physical & Environmental Sciences, dated January 17, 2019, and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, William Gough, be approved effective as of Fall 2019 for the academic year 2019-20.

4. Undergraduate Minor Curricular Modifications (Social Sciences Academic Units)

Professor Schmuckler reported that the Interdisciplinary Centre for Health and Society (ICHS) as well as the Departments of Political Science and Sociology were proposing new courses, and that the Department of Geography was proposing changes to the Specialist program in City Studies. He remarked that the changes were common curricular modifications.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the minor modifications to undergraduate programs, submitted by UTSC undergraduate Social Sciences academic units, as described in Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Interdisciplinary Centre for Health and Society, dated January 17, 2019, and Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Department of Human Geography, dated January 17, 2019, and Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Department of Political Science, dated

January 17, 2019, and Undergraduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report: Department of Sociology, dated January 17, 2019 and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, William Gough, be approved effective as of Fall 2019 for the academic year 2019-20.

5. Graduate Minor Curricular Modifications, Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences

Mary Silcox, Vice-Dean, Graduate, reported that two fields in the Master's of Environmental Science (MEnvSc) were being renamed to help students better understand the field title and to better reflect the topics taught in the field. The following field titles were being proposed:

Terrestrial and Aquatic Systems to replace Biophysical Interactions in Terrestrial and Aquatic Systems; and Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation to replace Climate Change Impact Assessment.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the minor modifications submitted by UTSC Graduate Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences, as described in 2019-20 Curriculum Cycle: Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report 1, dated January 22, 2019, and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, William Gough, be approved effective as of Fall 2019 for the academic year 2019-20.

6. Graduate Minor Curricular Modifications, Department of Psychological Clinical Science

Professor Silcox reported that changes were being proposed to the year 2 program requirements for the PhD in Counselling and Clinical Psychology. The existing requirements include a research-focused paper, separate from the doctoral dissertation or Master's thesis. The Department identified challenges with the current research-focused paper, which include: variability in grading practices, standards not being met, and misalignment with the training model for the program. The Department was proposing it be replaced with a grant proposal, which would build upon students' dissertation or thesis research. Students presently in year 2 of the PhD program had the opportunity to pursue the research-focused paper or the grant proposal. Students in year 1 have been informed of the potential changes.

In response to a comment regarding concerns in the variability of grading practices, Zindel Segal, Interim Chair, Graduate Dept. of Psychological Clinical Science, explained that inconsistencies in grading practices were associated with two non-supervisory members of the

dissertation committee (i.e. internal and external faculty) serving as evaluators generating a range of interpretations of the assessment criteria.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the minor modifications submitted by UTSC Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science, as described in 2019-20 Curriculum Cycle: Graduate Minor Curriculum Modifications for Approval, Report 2, dated January 22, 2019, and recommended by the Vice-Principal Academic and Dean, Professor William Gough, be approved effective as of Fall 2019 for the academic year 2019-20.

7. External Reviews of Academic Programs

- a. Department of Arts Culture and Media (ACM)
- b. Department of Historical and Cultural Studies (HCS)
- c. Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences (DPES)
- d. Department of Psychology

Professor Gough explained that academic units were reviewed every eight years under the provisions set out in the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP). The review process included the following: self-study, site visit by external reviewers, report of findings with recommendations, request for an administrative response from the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs, and the Dean's response and implementation plan. He remarked that during the most recent review cycle, ACM and HCS had undergone its initial review since obtaining department status, and that DPES and the Department of Psychology had been reviewed previously. In addition, he indicated that the reviews were subject to approval by the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) and that the Committee had received the reviews for information. Finally, he remarked that AP&P accepted three of the four reviews, but requested that ACM follow-up on its review recommendations in one year's time.

The review for ACM noted challenges regarding space and that the Department appeared scattered throughout the campus. It was also noted that a clear vision be developed for the vibrant Department with nine distinct program offerings. The review commented favourably on the shift towards tenure stream faculty.

HCS, DPES and Psychology received positive reviews with comments and suggestions for consideration.

The Chairs of the departments commented on the tremendous teaching and research goals their departments could achieve with greater resources (e.g. faculty, space, labs etc.). Professor Gough remarked that the UTSC administration was aware of the common need for greater resources in all academic departments.

A member asked how limited teaching and learning resources impacted students. Professor Gough remarked that UTSC teaching staff were highly committed to serving students as best they could, so that students were not negatively impacted or disadvantaged.

8. Reports of the Presidential Assessors

Professor Gough reported that funding changes introduced by the Provincial government would have financial implications for the campus. Efforts were being made to achieve domestic enrolment targets and to increase international student enrolment by offering an attractive suite of academic programs. In addition, Professor Gough explained that UTSC planned to partner with local high schools to promote the accessible and world-class higher education at UTSC.

A member asked whether UTSC had experienced success recruiting students from other Canadian provinces. Professor Gough commented that there were spots in Canadian universities for students, and as a result, students typically attended university in their home province. He further explained that what drew students to university were robust program offerings.

A member asked how academic units could help attract domestic students to UTSC. Professor Gough remarked that relationships with local high schools would be vital moving forward and suggested that the member volunteer to visit high schools along with colleagues from the Registrar's Office.

In response to a question regarding admission to UTSC, Professor Gough explained that students who do not receive offers were redirected to the Seneca College or Centennial College pathway programs. He further commented that admission was not offered to students below the threshold average because their success rate would be low at UTSC given the standards of excellence the University maintains.

A member asked how many UTSC students we lost to the St. George campus annually. Professor Gough remarked that, on average, UTSC lost approximately 3.3 percent of UTSC students to the St. George campus.

A member commented that transit could impact the UofT campus students chose to attend when offers were made. Professor Gough remarked that transit from Pickering, Ajax, and Whitby was accessible, but improvements were necessary for transit from Markham.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and that the item requiring approval (item 11) be approved.

9. Undergraduate Minor Curricular Modifications

10. Undergraduate Minor Curricular Modifications, Out-of-cycle Changes

11. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 34- Tuesday, January 15, 2019

12. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

13. Date of the Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.

14. Other Business

The Chair advised members that the University governance elections were underway. She encouraged administrative staff, students and teaching staff members to vote in the elections, which would close on Friday, February 15th at 5:00 p.m. and to encourage their peers and colleagues to do so as well.

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

February 20, 2019