

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

**REPORT NUMBER 10 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**February 10, 2015**

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

Your Committee reports that it met on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Arts and Administration Building, with the following members present:

**Present:**

Ms Kathy Fellowes (Chair)  
Professor Bruce Kidd, Vice-  
President and Principal  
Professor Rick Halpern Vice-  
Principal and Dean (Academic)  
Ms Maryam Ali  
Dr. Johann Bayer  
Dr. Corinne Beauquis  
Professor Christine Bolus-Reichert  
Professor William R. Bowen  
Professor Nick Cheng  
Dr. Curtis Cole  
Professor George S. Cree  
Professor William A. Gough  
Professor John A. Hannigan  
Professor Clare Hasenkampf  
Professor Matthew J. Hoffmann  
Mr. Jerry Yu Jien  
Professor Madhavi Kale  
Mr. John Kapageridis  
Ms Whitney Kemble  
Dr. Elaine Khoo  
Dr. Sarah D. King  
Professor Philip Kremer  
Professor Michael J. Lambek  
Professor Patricia Landolt  
Ms Nancy Lee  
Professor Nathan R. Lovejoy  
Professor Andrew C. Mason  
Professor John Robert Miron  
Ms Susan Murray

Professor Matthias Niemeier  
Professor Mark Schmuckler  
Professor Mary T. Silcox  
Ms Lynn Tucker  
Mr. Lukas Zibaitis  
Professor David Zweig

**Non-Voting Assessors:**

Ms Jennifer Bramer  
Ms Annette Knott  
Mr. Desmond Pouyat

**Secretariat:**

Mr. Lee Hamilton  
Ms Amorell Saunders N'Daw  
Ms Rena Parsan

**Regrets:**

Mr. Syed W. Ahmed  
Professor Malcolm Campbell  
Professor Neal Dolan  
Professor Suzanne Erb  
Professor David J. Fleet  
Professor Benj Hellie  
Ms Noor Khan  
Professor Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz  
Mr. Andrew Leung  
Dr. Karen Lyda McCrindle  
Mr. Moataz S. Mohamed  
Dr. Christopher Ollson  
Ms Victoria Owen  
Mr. George Quan Fun

Ms Charmaine Louise C. Ramirez  
Dr. Jayeeta Sharma  
Professor Grace Skogstad  
Professor Andre Sorensen

Ms Tisha Tan  
Mr. Selim Younes

**In attendance:**

Professor Bettina von Lieres, Assistant Professor, Centre for Critical Development Studies

**1. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting and introduced Professor Matthew Hoffmann and Ms Susan Murray who participated in the meeting by teleconference. She reported that Professor Malcolm Campbell, Vice-Principal, Research and Assessor to the Committee had sent regrets due to his involvement in another campus event.

**2. Assessors' Reports**

There were no reports from the Assessors.

**3. Curricular Items- Undergraduate**

**A. New Undergraduate Courses submitted by all Academic Units**

The Chair invited Professor Rick Halpern, Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic) to introduce the item. He reported that the Dean's Office had reached the point in the academic calendar where academic departments submitted new courses for the 2015-16 calendar year. He acknowledged the work done by Ms Annette Knott, Academic Programs Officer, who was the liaison between the academic departments and the Dean's Office for the submission of new courses. He invited Professor Mark Schmuckler, Vice- Dean, Undergraduate, to present the item. Professor Schmuckler reported that a total of 55 new courses were being proposed, and that all the departments had addressed how they would fund the new courses.

A member commented on the language used in the financial implications portion of the cover sheet and asked for clarification. Professor Halpern explained that no new revenues would need to be generated to cover the cost of any of the new courses. He also indicated that the new courses would be funded from each academic department's budget.

A member asked whether any of the new courses were planned with enrollment targets in mind. Professor Halpern reported that by having more new courses, students would choose UTSC as a destination of choice, and that the recruitment team in the Registrar's Office could use the unique course offerings in their recruitment strategies.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT all new courses submitted by UTSC undergraduate academic units, as described in the package dated January 21, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**B. Major Modification B introducing a freestanding Minor in Migration and Ethnic Diversity**

The Chair invited Professor Halpern to introduce the item. Professor Halpern reported that the Minor program fit well into the Department of Sociology's goals, aspirations, and curriculum renewal. Professor Schmuckler highlighted that there had been significant student interest in the program and that there was no other similar program across the University tri-campus system. He reported that the new program was also anticipated to be popular among students in a number of social sciences programs. The Minor program would draw upon resources from already existing faculty and course offerings. Lastly, he reported that the proposal had been approved by the Department of Sociology's Curriculum Committee, and reviewed by the Dean's Office, the Decanal Undergraduate Committee, and the Provost's Office.

On motion, duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed freestanding Minor in Migration and Ethnic Diversity, as described in the package dated January 13, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**C. Major Modification B introducing a freestanding Minor in Culture, Creativity, and Cities**

The Chair invited Professor Halpern to introduce the item. He remarked that the proposal was aligned with one of President Meric Gertler's priorities, which was to acknowledge and embrace the role of the University of Toronto as a city-builder<sup>1</sup>. Professor Schmuckler reported that there was significant student interest for the program, with no other similar program offered at UTSC. He added that there was only one new associated course for the program and that any new or additional funding would be absorbed by the Department of Sociology and the Dean's Office.

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<sup>1</sup> President Meric Gertler's Installation Address

Lastly, Professor Schmuckler reported that the proposal had been approved by the Department of Sociology's Curriculum Committee, and reviewed by the Dean's Office, the Decanal Undergraduate Committee, and the Provost's Office.

A member asked what the process was for a Minor program to develop into a Major program. Professor Halpern explained that there was no unilateral path for developing a Minor program into a Major program, but academic departments were encouraged to establish Minors before creating Major ones. He added that the administration did look at high enrollment figures in the Minor program when determining whether a Minor program should be offered as a Major program. Professor Patricia Landolt, Chair of the Department of Sociology, commented that Major programs are never developed based on faculty interest alone, and that student interest was also a significant and major driver.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEED APPROVED,

THAT the proposed freestanding Minor in Culture, Creativity, and Cities, as described in the package dated January 13, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved to be effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**D. Major Modification B introducing a freestanding Minor in Urban Public Policy and Governance**

Professor Halpern reported that the Minor was linked to the remarkable work done in the Department of Human Geography's City Studies program, and that many aspects of the program would use the City of Toronto as an urban laboratory for research. Professor Schmuckler explained that the new Minor program would provide students with an in-depth understanding of city-related policy, governance, and public administration issues. He added that there were no new courses associated with the program, and that any new or additional financial obligations would be met by the Department of Human Geography and the Dean's Office with no financial implications to the campus' operating budget. Lastly, he reported that the proposal had been approved by the Department of Human Geography's Curriculum Committee, and reviewed by the Dean's Office, the Decanal Undergraduate Committee, and the Provost's Office.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed freestanding Minor in Urban Public Policy and Governance, as described in the package dated January 8, 2015 and recommended by the Dean

and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**E. Major Modification A to close the Design-Your-Own streams of the Specialist and Specialist Co-op programs in Mathematics (B.Sc.)**

The Chair invited Professor Halpern to introduce the item. Professor Halpern thanked Professor Schmuckler for working on streamlining the curriculum and academic calendar. Professor Schmuckler reported that historically, enrollment in the stream had been low. He emphasized that there were still options for students interested in Specialist and Specialist Co-op programs in Mathematics. Lastly, he reported that the proposal had been approved by the CMS Curriculum Committee, and reviewed by the Dean's Office, Decanal Undergraduate Committee, and the Provost's Office.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the Design-Your-Own stream of the Specialist in Mathematics (B.Sc.), as described in the package dated January 7, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16; and

THAT the Design-Your-Own stream of the Specialist (Co-operative) in Mathematics (B.Sc.), as described in the package dated January 7, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**F. Changes to UTSC Academic Regulations**

Professor Halpern reminded members that at the previous meeting of the Committee on January 8, 2015, highlights regarding the proposed changes to the UTSC academic regulations were provided. He invited Professor Schmuckler to present the item. Professor Schmuckler provided the following summary on each proposed change to the UTSC academic regulations:

1. Propaedeutic Rule

The proposed change was to eliminate the propaedeutic rule, which prevents students from registering for credit in a course that was a specific prerequisite for a course they had already passed. Professor Schmuckler reported that the propaedeutic rule unfairly disadvantaged some students, and that neither the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS) or the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) applied this rule. He added that

consultation had taken place with the Academic Advising and Career Centre (AACC), Registrar's Office, Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU), and Chairs and Directors Group (CAD)..

2. Combinations of Programs and Degree Conferred

The proposed change was to allow the Honours BA or BSc degrees to be conferred based on only a Major or Specialist program. A degree could no longer be conferred based on a Minor program. He added that consultation had taken place with AACC, Registrar's Office, SCSU, CAD and the Provost's Office.

3. Major Co-op Programs must be combined with another Major Program

The proposed change was to allow Major Co-op Programs to be combined with two Minor programs rather than only one Major program. Professor Schmuckler added that consultation had taken place with Arts and Science So-op, AACC, Registrar's Office, SCSU, and the Provost's Office.

A member commented that historically, Major Co-op programs were combined with other Major Programs to show Co-op employers that students had strength and expertise in more than one area. Professor Schmuckler explained that current Minor programs provided both breadth and depth in the learning objectives, which was also valued.

A member asked how students at UTSC would be notified regarding changes to the propaedeutic rule, and Professor Schmuckler reported that the SCSU, AACC, the Registrar's Office, and the Departmental Student Association (DSA) would help broadcast the message. In addition, the new regulation would be contained in the academic Calendar.

In response to a question regarding prerequisite checks being done by the academic departments to ensure that students had taken courses in sequence, Professor Schmuckler explained that the technology in the Repository of Student Information (ROSI) system could not do prerequisite checks, and that it was requested that the Next Generation Student Information System (NGSIS) have that functionality. He also noted that academic units can work with the Registrar's Office to perform manual pre-requisite checks.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed changes to academic regulations, as described in the package dated January 21, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved to be effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**G. Minor Modifications to Undergraduate Curriculum Requiring Approval- All UTSC Academic Units**

Professor Schmuckler reported that the proposed modifications modestly changed the nature of the programs and courses without altering the learning outcomes, and did not have any financial implications on the campus' operating budget.

A member commented on concerns raised by external reviewers surrounding depth and breadth in courses and programs, which was discussed at the January 8, 2015 Committee meeting. Professor Halpern reported that balancing depth and breadth was a priority at UTSC. He added that different departments pursued different goals in terms of depth and breadth, but that it was important to maintain both.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT all Minor Modifications to programs and courses submitted by UTSC undergraduate academic units, as described in the package dated January 28, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1, 2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

**4. Curricular Items- Graduate**

**Minor Modifications to Graduate Programs requiring approval submitted by the Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science**

Professor Halpern reported that the modifications were small changes to the original curriculum. He invited Professor William Gough, Vice-Dean Graduate Education and Program Development, to present the item. Professor Gough reported that the proposed modifications did not have a significant impact on program or course learning outcomes and modestly changed the nature of the program or course.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT all minor modifications to programs and courses submitted by the Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science, as described in the documentation dated January 20, 2015 and recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, be approved effective April 1,

2015 for the academic year 2015-16.

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and the item requiring approval (item 8) be approved.

5. **Minor Curricular Modifications to Undergraduate Programs and Courses that do not Require Governance Approval- All UTSC Academic Units**
6. **Editorial Changes to Undergraduate Programs and Courses-All UTSC Academic Units**
7. **Editorial Changes to Courses submitted by the Graduate Department of Psychological Clinical Science**
8. **Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 9 – Thursday, January 8, 2015**
9. **Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting**
10. **Date of the Next Meeting –Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

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**11. Other Business**

There were no other items of business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chair