

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

REPORT NUMBER 5 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 25, 2014

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

Your Committee reports that it met on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Arts and Administration Building, with the following members present:

Present:

Ms Kathy Fellowes (Chair)
Professor Suzanne Erb (Vice-Chair)
Professor Bruce Kidd, Interim Vice-
President and Principal
Professor Rick Halpern, Dean and
Vice-Principal (Academic)
Professor Julie McCarthy, Interim
Vice-Principal, Research
Mr. Syed W. Ahmed
Dr. Johann Bayer
Professor William R. Bowen
Dr. Curtis Cole
Professor Kelin Emmett
Professor John Hannigan
Professor Rena Helms-Park
Professor Sherri Helwig
Dr. Nancy Johnston
Dr. Sarah D. King
Professor Michael J. Lambek
Professor Patricia Landolt
Mr. Andrew Leung
Professor Nathan R. Lovejoy
Professor Andrew C. Mason
Professor John Robert Miron
Dr. Christopher Ollson
Professor Stephen Rockel
Ms Paulina Rousseau
Professor Larry A. Sawchuk
Professor Mark A. Schmuckler
Ms Tisha Tan

Dr. Sisi Tran
Professor David Zweig

Non-Voting Assessor:

Ms Annette Knott
Ms Lesley Lewis

Secretariat:

Mr. Louis Charpentier
Ms Amorell Saunders N'Daw
Ms Rena Parsan

Regrets:

Professor Daniel Bender
Professor Nick Cheng
Professor George S. Cree
Mr. Luki Danukarjanto
Mr. Adrian De Leon
Ms Hanan Domloge
Professor David J. Fleet
Ms Ariane Ganji
Dr. Brian Harrington
Professor Paula Hastings
Professor Matthew Hoffmann
Mr. Jerry Jien

Mr. John Kapageridis
Professor Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz
Professor Garry Martin Leonard
Professor Alice Maurice
Professor Karen Lyda McCrindle
Ms Victoria Owen
Ms Charmaine Ramirez
Ms Lindsay Raoufi
Professor Bill Seager
Professor Grace Skogstad
Professor Andre Sorensen
Ms Georgette Zinaty

In attendance:

Mr. Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting, and welcomed Professor Kelin Emmett and Dr. Christopher Ollson who participated in the meeting via teleconference. She also offered a warm welcome to Professor Bruce Kidd, Interim Vice-President and Principal who was also in attendance.

2. Assessor Report

The Chair invited Professor Rick Halpern, Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic) to provide the Committee with a brief report. Professor Halpern reported that the Concurrent Teacher Education Program (CTEP) had suspended enrollment, and that the primary driver was a change in provincial policy. CTEP operates across several university divisions, and the transition to new teacher training programs is evolving smoothly and is being coordinated centrally.

Professor Halpern provided a presentation on the topic of external departmental, unit, and program reviews. The presentation highlights included the following:

- Departmental, unit, and program reviews are conducted at regular intervals to assess the health of the academic enterprise at the University of Toronto.
- External reviews are governed by the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) where the *Cyclical Review Protocol* is used to ensure that the University of Toronto programs meet the highest standards of academic excellence.
- The process of conducting external reviews includes: establishing terms of reference, selecting a review team, a department self-study, and a site visit by the review team.

- When the work of the review team is completed a report is produced with highlights and challenges. A summary of the report is prepared by the Office of the Provost, which also requests the Dean to provide a formal written administrative response. This response, along with the summary, then is presented to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P).
- A member of the Committee asked whether there was a review of an academic unit when the Chair's term ended, and Professor Halpern replied that there is now a conscious effort to decouple the end of a Chair's term and the conduct of an external review. He added that if the two coincide, then there is an effort to defer the external review process for one year.

The Chair thanked Professor Halpern for his report.

3. External Academic Reviews of Programs* (*for information*)

- a. Anthropology
- b. City Studies and Human Geography
- c. Joint Program in Journalism
- d. Joint Program in New Media Studies
- e. Joint Program in Paramedicine
- f. Political Science and Public Policy
- g. Sociology

The Chair invited Professor Rick Halpern to present the external academic reviews of programs for information to the Committee.

Professor Halpern reported that the Joint Programs external reviews (Journalism, New Media Studies, and Paramedicine) were largely positive but observed that these programs might be more explicit about their learning outcomes. The reviews also noted that many students in the programs expressed confusion about varying expectations and pedagogical styles between Centennial College and UTSC. He reported that staff members from UTSC and Centennial College were meeting regularly to discuss ways to address these challenges.

Professor Halpern reported that he was very pleased with the four Social Sciences external reviews (Anthropology, Human Geography, Political Science, and Sociology). The departments were praised for their academic rigour and the quality of faculty hired. The external reviewers also remarked on the high morale of faculty, staff and students in each department. Professor Halpern will bring the reviews to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs.

A member commented on the excellent work done by the Office of the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic) and congratulated them on the stellar reviews.

4. UTSC Strategic Plan* (for information)

The Chair invited Mr. Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Administrative Officer to present the UTSC Strategic Plan to the Committee for information. The presentation highlights were as follows:

- The approach to the strategic plan was to update and refresh the existing 2008 plan.
- The updated Strategic Direction including:
 1. New and emerging areas of scholarship- lead thinking in traditional disciplines, and build new areas of scholarship.
 2. Innovative research-Create and share new knowledge in new ways.
 3. Global perspective- Harness the advantage of our local surroundings and global reach.
 4. Experiential learning- Enhance learning through experiences on campus and beyond.
 5. Strong foundations- Create strong interpersonal connections through the campus of tomorrow.
- The academic plan, service/administrative/capital plans, campus plan and annual budget develop from the strategic plan and directions.

A member commented on the exceptional work done in updating the UTSC Strategic Plan.

The Chair thanked Mr. Arifuzzaman for his presentation to the Committee, and for the work put into the updated UTSC Strategic Plan.

CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Undergraduate Program Revisions * (for information)

6. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 4 – Tuesday, February 11, 2014*(for approval)

7. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

8. Date of the Next Meeting – Monday, April 28, 2014, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and the item requiring approval (item 6) be approved.

The Chair reminded members that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was on Monday, April 28, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

9. Other Business

There were no other items of business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Secretary

Chair