

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL**

**REPORT NUMBER 2 OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**November 12, 2013**

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

Your committee reports that it met on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 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)  
Mr. Syed W. Ahmed  
Dr. Johann Bayer  
Professor William R. Bowen  
Professor Nick Cheng  
Dr. Curtis Cole  
Professor George S. Cree  
Mr. Adrian De Leon  
Ms Hanan Domloge  
Professor Kelin Emmett  
Professor David J. Fleet  
Professor John Hannigan  
Dr. Brian Harrington  
Professor Paula Hastings  
Professor Rena Helms-Park  
Professor Matthew Hoffmann  
Mr. Jerry Jien  
Dr. Nancy Johnston  
Mr. John Kapageridis  
Dr. Sarah D. King  
Professor Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz  
Professor Patricia Landolt

Mr. Andrew Leung  
Professor Nathan R. Lovejoy  
Professor Andrew C. Mason  
Professor Alice Maurice  
Professor Karen Lyda McCrindle  
Professor John Robert Miron  
Dr. Christopher Ollson  
Ms Charmaine Ramirez  
Professor Stephen Rockel  
Ms Paulina Rousseau  
Professor Larry A. Sawchuk  
Professor Mark A. Schmuckler  
Professor Grace Skogstad  
Ms Tisha Tan  
Professor David Zweig

**Non-Voting Assessors:**

Ms Annette Knott

**Secretariat:**

Mr. Louis Charpentier  
Mr. Jim Delaney  
Ms Rena Parsan

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**Regrets:**

Professor Daniel Bender

Mr. Luki Danukarjanto

Ms Ariane Ganji

Professor Rick Halpern

Professor Sherri Helwig

Professor Philip Kremer (Bill Seager)

Professor Michael J. Lambek

Professor Garry Martin Leonard

Ms Victoria Owen

Ms Lindsay Raoufi

Professor Andre Sorensen

Dr. Sisi Tran

Ms Georgette Zinaty

**In Attendance:**

Professor George Archontitsis, Associate Professor, Department of Physical and Environmental Science

Mr. Chris Bovaird, Senior Lecturer, Department of Management Studies

Professor Mandy Meriano, Lecturer, Department of Physical and Environmental Science

Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs

Ms Kim Richard, Director, Human Resource Services

**1. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Jim Delaney, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Governing Council who would be filling in for Amorell Saunders N'Daw, Director of Governance UTSC, and Assistant Secretary of the Governing Council, because she was attending the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/University of Toronto convocation to receive her Masters of Education degree. The Chair congratulated Ms Saunders N'Daw *in absentia* on her graduation.

The Chair introduced, Professor Kelin Emmette, Professor David Fleet and Professor Matthew Hoffmann who were participating in the meeting via teleconference.

**2. Voting Assessors Remarks**

There were no reports from the Voting Assessors.

**3. Undergraduate Curriculum Changes**

The Chair noted that the bulk of the meeting agenda was focused on undergraduate curriculum changes brought forward by the Dean and Vice-Principal, Academic. She noted that there were six proposed changes (five for approval and one for recommendation to the Committee on

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Academic Policy and Programs), and mentioned that the detailed proposals for each change were provided with the meeting documentation.

**a. Introducing Two Streams to the Currently Undifferentiated Specialist Program in Strategic Management**

The Chair invited Acting Dean and Vice-Principal, Professor Mark Schmuckler, to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that the Department of Management offered a specialist in Strategic Management, but without streams. The department wished to add two streams to the program: management strategy, which was designed to give students broad exposure to all functional aspects of management, and an entrepreneurial stream, which was designed to encourage students to think about self-employment as a potential career path. Professor Schmuckler indicated that the program could run using the existing budget of the Department of Management, and that there would be a need for only one new additional course, MGS26H3 Venture Capital. Professor Schmuckler also mentioned that the department consulted with several other departments at UTSC and within the broader UofT community on this change.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT proposed streams in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship being introduced to the existing undifferentiated Specialist program in Strategic Management (B.B.A.), as described in the proposal recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated August 20, 2013, be approved effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15; and

THAT one associated new course – MGSC26H3 Venture Capital – as described in the same proposal dated August 20, 2013, be approved effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15.

**b. Separating (in Calendar Copy) Specialist B.A. and B.Sc. and Major B.A. and B.Sc. Programs in Anthropology, and Rename these Programs**

The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that the separation and renaming of these programs were to establish distinct learning outcomes for each program, and to better differentiate programs for students. He elaborated that the B.A. degree would be a Specialist or Major in Socio-Cultural Anthropology with a focus on qualitative methods and ways of life around the world, and that the BSc degree would be a Specialist or Major in Evolutionary Anthropology with an

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emphasis on quantitative methods and the emergence of the human species. Professor Schmuckler indicated that there were no resource implications, and that consultation had been done with the Department of Anthropology and senior administrative offices. One Committee member asked whether the proposal was for a new program in Anthropology, and Professor Schmuckler replied that it was a program modification.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

**YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,**

THAT the B.A. and B.Sc. Specialist and Major programs in Anthropology be explicitly separated in Calendar Copy, as described in the proposals recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated October 10, 2013, be approved effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15; and

THAT the title of B.A. Specialist and Major programs be changed to Specialist and Major programs in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, as described in the aforementioned proposals dated October 10, 2013, be approved to be effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15; and

THAT the title of the B.Sc. Specialist and Major programs be changed to Specialist and Major programs in Evolutionary Anthropology, as described in the aforementioned proposals dated October 10, 2013, be approved to be effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15

**c. Closing Four Streams within the Specialist Program in Art and Culture (B.A.) and Rename the Remaining Program**

The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that there were currently five specialist streams within the Art and Culture program and that four would be closed. Professor Schmuckler noted that the closure took into account the department's academic goals and available resources. He also explained that the Specialist in Art and Culture, Studio stream would be renamed to the Specialist in Studio. He reported that the closure does not have any resource implications. A Committee member asked what the enrollment numbers were for each stream prior to the closure, and Professor Schmucker indicated that there were one or two students enrolled in each stream.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

**YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,**

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THAT the Art History stream, Curatorial Studies stream, Music stream and Theatre & Performance Studies stream of the Specialist program in Art and Culture (B.A.), as described in the proposal recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated September 30, 2013, be closed effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15; and

THAT the remaining program, currently called the Specialist in Art and Culture, Studio stream (B.A.), be renamed as the Specialist in Studio (B.A.) aforementioned in the proposal dated September 30, 2013, be approved to be effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15.

**d. Introducing a New Freestanding Minor Program in Public Law (B.A.)**

The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that the new freestanding minor program in Public Law would be housed in the Department of Political Science. Professor Schmuckler indicated that the minor program in Public Law would complement the existing specialist, major and minor programs in political science by highlighting questions fundamental to contemporary politics, principles of justice, the role of constitutions in safeguarding the rule of law, and civil liberties. Professor Schmuckler indicated that the minor program in Public Law would include five new associated courses, and that current faculty in the Department of Political Science had shown interest in teaching courses in the Public Law program. He described the consultation process and all those involved at the UTSC level as well as the broader UofT Community.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the proposed freestanding Minor program in Public Law (B.A.), as described in the proposal recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated September 24, 2013, be approved to be effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15; and

THAT five associated new courses: POLB30H3, POLC32H3, POLC36H3, POLC38H3, and POLC39H3, as described in the aforementioned proposal dated September 24, 2013, be approved to be effective April 1, 2014 for the academic year 2014-15.

**e. Closing the Minor Program in French for Francophones (B.A.)**

The Chair reported that this item was for recommendation to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs. She also noted that the documentation for the item and meeting agenda, originally posted on Diligent Boardbooks and the UTSC governance website, had indicated that the

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program was proposed to be closed to admissions on May 1, 2014. The date was revised on Friday, November 8, 2013 to be closed to admissions on April 1, 2014 in order to coincide with the date when the 2014-15 calendar would come into effect. The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that the Centre for French and Linguistics did not offer other programs in French for Francophones, and that the existing specialist program in French could accommodate students with varying levels of French proficiency, including native speakers. Thus, francophone students could pursue a similar program by enrolling in a minor program in French. He also noted that as of October 11, 2013 there were two students enrolled in the program who would be able to complete it with no disruption.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

**YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS,**

THAT, the proposed closure of the Minor program in French for Francophones, as described in the proposal recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated October 10, 2013, be approved with an effective date of April 1, 2014 for the closure of admissions, and an anticipated program closure date of June 1, 2016.

**f. Introducing a New Course –Communicating Science: Film, Media, Journalism, and Society (PSCA01H3)**

The Chair invited Professor Mark Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler explained that the focus of the course was to examine how scientific issues were communicated to a wider audience through film, media, journalism and society. He indicated that there were not any courses similar to this one at the University of Toronto. Professor Schmuckler indicated that the course would be subsidized initially using iExplore funding, which was a fund that provided innovative curricular programs to first year students, but that ongoing financial obligations would be met by the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences. A member sought clarification on the title of the course. Professor Mandy Meriano from the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences explained that the course would focus on how science was communicated and how the public perceived scientific evidence outside of peer reviewed findings. One member asked how the course would be taught. In response, Professor Meriano explained that the course would be taught through experts inside and outside of the university. A member inquired as to how the department was planning to attract students to the course. Professor Meriano indicated that the course would be promoted in classrooms, through social media, and by working with the registrar's office. A member commented that they noticed that one of the learning outcomes was writing and asked what type of writing skills would be taught.

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Professor Meriano indicated that students would learn science writing techniques. A member inquired about the breadth requirement and its rationale. Professor Meriano explained that the feedback and advice the department had received indicated that students without a science background tended to struggle in science courses. The department had a desire to attract students who would continue to pursue science at the undergraduate level and who would envision themselves as scientists.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED,

THAT the new course, PSCA01H3, as described in the proposal recommended by the Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic), Professor Rick Halpern, dated October 23, 2013, be approved effective immediately for the academic year 2013-14.

**4. Calendar Change: Revisions of the Description of the Credit/No Credit Option**

The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item, which was presented for information. Professor Schmuckler explained that the calendar was being updated to explicitly state that supervised readings and directed research courses not be eligible for Credit/No Credit assessment effective April 1, 2014. This change was in line with current practices at UTSC, UTM and the Faculty of Arts and Science. Consultation on this change had included the Office of the Vice-Principal and Dean, Academic, Office of the Registrar, the Academic Advising and Career Centre and the Scarborough Campus Student's Union.

**5. Undergraduate Calendar Information: Sessional Dates, 2014-15**

The Chair invited Professor Schmuckler to speak to the item. Professor Schmuckler indicated that the 2014-15 Sessional Dates had been brought to the Academic Affairs Committee for information because the dates were directly related to the teaching, learning and research function of the campus. A member asked whether information was being collected on the impact of the fall reading week on students. Professor Schmuckler replied by stating that the Office of the Dean and Vice-Principal, Academic was currently working with the Academic Advising and Career Centre to determine what programs were used during the fall reading week. In addition, information was being gathered from first year students on the effectiveness of having a mental break during the fall semester in their first year of university.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**6. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 1- September 10, 2013** *(for approval)*

**7. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting**

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**8. Date of the Next Meeting-** Wednesday, January 8, 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 be approved.

The Chair reminded members that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee was on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

**9. Other Business**

The Chair noted that this meeting was the last time the committee would meet before 2014, and wished everyone a happy holiday. She also directed members' attention to the post cards distributed around the table, which were promoting the 2014 Elections process. She encouraged members to share the post cards with anyone they thought would be interested in getting involved in governance at the University of Toronto.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

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Secretary

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Chair