



DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNING
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To: Division II
 From: Dennis Thiessen, Professor and Chair, Department of Curriculum,
 Teaching and Learning
 Date: January 5, 2004
 Re: Discontinuation of M.Ed./M.A./Ed.D./Ph.D. Program in
 Measurement and Evaluation

On November 18, 2003, I sent a letter to Professor Joan Cherry informing her that I was taking steps to close the Measurement and Evaluation (M&E) program effective July 1, 2004. I also stated that I would submit a proposal to this effect for the January 14th, 2004 meeting of the Division II Executive Committee.

Though the M&E program has a distinguished history, conditions and priorities have changed. Numerous concerns raised during the last OCGS review in 1998 have either persisted or increased. The enrolment in the program has been comparatively low for some time. The number of core faculty has dropped from six in the last OCGS submission to four core faculty in the July 2003 submission (with Professor Hong to begin full time in 2004/2005). One of the core faculty will retire before the next OCGS review. There are no plans for an additional appointment in this program. These low student and faculty numbers in turn affect supervision numbers, overall faculty productivity, and the capacity to offer a range of courses in measurement and evaluation. The program is no longer viable under these conditions.

In terms of changing priorities, the Dean has indicated that with scarce resources at OISE/UT for the foreseeable future, difficult choices are now necessary. OISE/UT will continue to offer courses in measurement and evaluation and to hire faculty with an expertise in research methodology. However OISE/UT can no longer sustain a discrete program in this area.

The students have been informed. We have compiled information about each student and have determined which courses need to be scheduled over the next 1-2 years. We will meet with students individually or in small groups to review their progress and to develop strategies which respond to each person's needs (eg., schedule to complete the comprehensive examination). The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies (Glen Jones), the CTL Coordinator of Graduate Studies (Anne Jordan), the M&E faculty, and myself are working together to ensure that currently registered students can complete their program. We will not admit any further students to this program.

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