



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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DATE: April 22, 2005 for May 11, 2005

AGENDA ITEM: 7 (b)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies: Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning for a Flexible-Time Ph.D. Program Option in the Curriculum Program.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee receives for information flex-time options for PhD studies approved by SGS Council.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

There are a number of mid-career qualified applicants who would undertake a flexible time PhD without funding if there was greater flexibility in how the program requirements could be met. A typical applicant would be in a mid-career teaching position in a post-secondary institution, or in a research department of a teaching hospital or school board, or in a private consultancy, and have available to him or her a system for professional leaves, or a study incentive system that guarantees some portion or all of salary. The flexible-time Ph.D. option would be ideal, and is the preferred doctoral degree for most of them since it is designed to enhance the research and publishing skills that their employing institutions value.

The flexible-time option would be effective September 2005. Details regarding the option and calendar changes are outlined in the attached summary.

The proposal was approved by the Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Council (February 2, 2005) and by the Council of the School of Graduate Studies (March 22, 2005).

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the flex-time PhD option.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information.