



# University of Toronto

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OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Edith Hillan  
CONTACT INFO: edith.hillan@utoronto.ca

DATE: September 15, 2004 for the meeting on September 22, 2004

AGENDA ITEM: 11(h)

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal that the Faculty of Nursing change the requirements of the Master of Nursing (M.N.) Program by specifying part-time degree requirements and full-time student program length to completion, effective September 2004.

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Committee has general responsibility for policy on, and for monitoring, minor changes within degree programs.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

The School of Graduate Studies approved this proposal at its Council meeting on May 25, 2004.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The proposed text addition in calendar entry for the Master of Nursing explicitly states course requirements for part-time degree students with the addition of the sentence: "*Part-time students must be enrolled at minimum in two out of three sessions in each academic year*". For full-time students, there is a change regarding expected program length by the replacement of the sentence "The program may be completed in a minimum of 4 sessions (16 months) of full-time study" with "*The program will normally be completed within two years of full-time study*".

Since the new Master of Nursing curriculum was implemented in September 2002, the Faculty has encountered numerous issues of concern with students regarding part-time degree studies and program length to completion. The above changes will allow the Faculty to help to resolve these issues.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no new/additional financial resources required to implement the program change.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Information.



# School of Graduate Studies

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University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

May 28, 2004

Professor Vivek Goel  
Interim Vice-President and Provost  
Room 225, Simcoe Hall  
27 King's College Circle  
University of Toronto

Dear Professor Goel:

At its meeting of May 25, 2004, the Council of the School of Graduate Studies approved the following motion:

**THAT** SGS Council approve the proposal of the Faculty of Nursing to change the requirements of the Master of Nursing (M.N.) Program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2004.

The motion and supporting documentation are attached. Division IV Executive Committee approved the proposal at its meeting of May 4, 2004.

On behalf of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies, I am presenting this item to Governing Council committees, for information.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Alderdice  
Secretary to SGS Council  
and Coordinator of Policy, Program and Liaison

Encl. (1)  
/smr

c.c. T. Chan  
E. Hillan  
L. Yee

U. DeBoni  
C. Johnston  
S. Zaky (attachments)

A. Drummond (attachments)

H:Council/FollowUp/2003-2004/May 25/Nursing M.N. Program Requirement Change

## Motion

### School of Graduate Studies Council Tuesday, May 25, 2004

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Item 11.

#### 11. Program Requirement Changes

##### 11.7 Nursing, M.N.

**MOTION ( / ) THAT** SGS Council approve the proposal of the Faculty of Nursing to change the requirements of the Master of Nursing (M.N.) Program, as specified in the attachment, effective September 2004.

*See attached.*

#### **NOTE:**

Division IV Executive Committee approved this proposal at its meeting of May 4, 2004.

With SGS Council's approval this item will go to Governing Council committees for information.

Professor Edith M Hillan PhD MSc MPhil RGN RSCN RM



Professor Umberto De Boni  
Associate Dean Division IV  
School of Graduate Studies  
University of Toronto  
63-65 St George Street  
Toronto

25<sup>th</sup> March 2004

Dear Umberto

**Re: Calendar Change Request : Faculty of Nursing**

On behalf of the Faculty of Nursing I would like to request approval for a change in the calendar entry for the Master of Nursing degree. This proposed change was approved by the Faculty of Nursing Council at its meeting held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004.

The current calendar entry reads :

***Course and Degree Requirements***

1. To qualify for the degree, a candidate shall complete a program of study outlined by the Graduate Department of Nursing Science.
2. Students are encouraged to enrol on a full-time basis; however, a part-time option is available.
3. The program may be completed in a minimum of 4 sessions (16 months) of full-time study. All requirements for the degree must be completed satisfactorily within six calendar years from the date of the student's first enrolment in the program.

We would like this amended to read (proposed changes in italics) :

***Course and Degree Requirements***

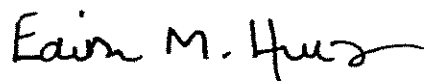
1. To qualify for the degree, a candidate shall complete a program of study outlined by the Graduate Department of Nursing Science.
2. Students are strongly encouraged to enrol on a full-time basis; however, a part-time option is available. *Part-time students must be enrolled at minimum in two out of three sessions in each academic year.*
3. The program *will normally be completed within two years of full-time study.* All requirements for the degree must be completed satisfactorily within six calendar years from the date of the student's first enrolment in the program.

FACULTY OF NURSING  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
50 St George Street  
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Since the new Master of Nursing curriculum was implemented in September 2002, we have encountered a number of problems. Firstly, we have become aware that some students have been put off full-time study because they think they have to complete the program in four consecutive terms. This has resulted in a large increase in the number of part-time students in order to meet our enrollment targets which has had a major impact on workload within the Faculty. Secondly, the new program was structured so that students take foundation courses followed by required courses and then specialist courses prior to the final practicum. This has resulted in specialist and elective courses having to be timetabled in the summer term which is inappropriate for part-time students. The above changes will allow us to resolve some of these issues.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edith M Hillan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

**Dr Edith M Hillan**  
**Professor and Associate Dean**