



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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DATE: December 20, 2005

AGENDA ITEM: 6(a)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for a new one-year Master of Management of Innovation Program (M.M.I.) to be offered through the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee has authority to recommend to Academic Board approval changes which establish a new degree program.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

HIGHLIGHTS:

The proposed new professional master's program will be housed at the University of Toronto at Mississauga and with academic oversight provided by the Graduate Department of Health Administration. This proposal fulfills a need in the health care industry, is of interest to graduate students, and provides a greater presence of life sciences at UTM. The proposed MMI program focuses on economic analysis and would be complementary to the successful M.Biotech program at UTM providing more graduate level courses in management at UTM that address issues particular to organizations which deal with the innovation process.

The proposed program is a 12 month intensive management program which focuses on the innovation process in the health care sector. The student intake will have a bachelor's degree in the health professions, sciences, or engineering. The program will consist of a core of the equivalent of 10 graduate half courses in management and 4 elective half courses. The program is designed to prepare students for management careers in: industry as R&D managers; investment funds oriented towards technology intensive sectors, health care and medical-research oriented companies and; in the public sector or nongovernmental organizations at agencies involved in supporting R&D and technology transfer.

This new program serves an unfilled niche. It is more focused in terms of methods (economic analysis), business processes (R&D) and industrial sector than an M.B.A. It differs from an M.H.Sc. in that it focuses on the innovation process and serves students at an earlier stage in their careers. The faculty resources at both Health Administration and UTM create a unique learning environment to accomplish the program. This program is part of the University of Toronto and UTM's plan (SteppingUp, 2004) to increase graduate program activity of the UTM campus.

As described in the attached documentation, the objective of the MMI program is to provide a superior management education by refining critical, scholarly and professional skills in the area of innovation management for students who aspire to a career in technology-focused organizations of the health care sector in either a professional practice, industry or government. This program will allow students to acquire the foundation skills, and strategic perspective necessary to become future leaders and senior managers responsible for driving business growth through innovation, and to become effective agents for change in their organizations. The aim of this graduate program is to train highly qualified personnel for the management and support of innovative activities of organizations. That is, to train people with a background in science and technology for the management of the R&D functions and other supporting functions within an establishment. The objectives of the program are to be achieved through course work, teaching and research seminars, technical training, and major research papers.

This has been a challenging program proposal to organize because of the tri-campus issues and the unusual structuring of the program between two major divisions of the University, UTM and Faculty of Medicine. The proposal has the support of the Faculty of Medicine, the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (HPME), and the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) campus. The new program will be academically administered through HPME, and students will be housed at UTM.

The program proposal has been discussed and approved by SGS Council (Nov 22, 2005) and Division IV (Life Sciences) Executive Committee meeting (Nov. 1, 2005); Health Policy, Management and Evaluation Curriculum Committee meeting (Sept. 14, 2005); UTM Management Department meeting (April 20, 2005, Sept. 9, 2005); Survey of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation Advisory board members; Survey of University of Toronto graduate students.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

The new program will be academically administered through HPME, and students will be housed at UTM. UTM and the Faculty of Medicine have written a memorandum of agreement that defines administrative procedures and budget-sharing issues. The space requirements are guaranteed at the UTM campus.

The proposal will be presented to the Planning and Budget Committee on January 18, 2006.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs recommends to the Academic Board:

THAT the Master of Management of Innovation Program to be offered through the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, effective September 2006.