



# University of Toronto

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OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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DATE: October 17 for October 26, 2005

AGENDA ITEM: 7

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal from the Department of Occupational Therapy to change admission requirements.

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approves admission policies relating to minor changes to individual programs or to divisional practices and policies.

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The Department of Occupational Therapy proposes to remove the 2.5 pre-requisite courses in psychology, physiology, statistics, sociology, human growth and development that are currently required for admission to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy. Applicants will still be required to have taken the same number of courses, but not necessarily from the prerequisite list.

The removal of these specific courses as prerequisites is intended to allow students with a greater range in background to enter the program. The Department will continue to review the last 10 full-course equivalents completed at the undergraduate level. The change is anticipated to increase the Department's applicant pool substantially and will assist in its ability to make the best choices for the Program. Students accepted into the program will be required to complete a self-study as a means of obtaining background knowledge as required.

The proposed change is a result of recommendations of the Department's Student Affairs Committee: Graduate Coordinator (committee chair), Chair, Graduate Administrator, 4 other Faculty (1 with clinical perspective), and 2 current students from each of the 2 years of the program. The proposal has been approved by the Departmental Affairs Committee and was discussed and approved by SGC Council at its meeting of May 24, 2005. Appendix 1 contains the revised SGS Calendar entry for the program.

**FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no new/additional financial resources required.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approve the proposal from the Department of Occupational Therapy:

THAT the admission requirement for the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Program, that each student must have completed 2.5 credits of prerequisite courses in psychology, physiology, statistics, sociology, human growth and development in their undergraduate study, be removed, effective September 1, 2006.