



University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Reviews of Academic Units and Programs – Annual Report

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee is the point of entry into governance for reports on the results of academic reviews commissioned by academic administrators. The role of the Committee is to ensure that the reviews are done, that an appropriate process is being used, that adequate documentation is provided and consultations are undertaken, and that issues identified in the review are addressed by the administration.

The compendium of review summaries will be forwarded, together with the record of the Committee's discussion, to the Agenda Planning committee of the Academic Board, which will determine whether there are any issues of general academic import warranting discussion at the Board level. The same documentation will be sent to the Executive Committee of the Governing Council for information.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Academic leaders commission regular reviews of academic divisions when deans or chairs reach the end of their terms. These reviews usually inform the search for a new dean or chair and are an integral part of the academic planning process.

The current report includes twenty-two summaries of reviews and administrative responses of units and programs commissioned by the University in the 2005-06 academic year. Also included is the review of Victoria College commissioned by Victoria University, one of the federated universities of U of T. The overall assessments of the units and programs were positive. Common themes were the strength of our faculty excellence and the emphasis on enhancement of the student experience. These reports compliment the University's Performance Indicators and other institution-wide quantitative measures of our performance towards key goals and compares that performance to its peers.

The full review reports are available in the Office of the Governing Council should members wish to consult them.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

There are no new/additional financial resources required.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information.