



TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

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AGENDA ITEM: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

- I. Annual Report on Major Modifications, 2011-12
- II. Annual Report on Transcript Notations, 2011-12

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Councils of the academic divisions have delegated authority to approve modifications to and transcript notations within existing degree programs. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs receives for information an annual report on modifications to existing programs that are defined in the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) as major modifications, and an annual report on the establishment and termination of transcript notations (AP&P Terms of Reference, October 13, 2011, page 4).

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

These are the first reports on major modifications and transcript notations submitted to AP&P in the first full year of implementation of the UTQAP.

HIGHLIGHTS:

I. The attached document is the 2011-12 Annual Report on Major Modifications. All listed items have been approved under delegated authority by the Councils of the academic divisions.

The University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP), as approved on March 31, 2011 by the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance, defines a major modification as “a restructuring of a program, a merger of existing programs or a renewal of a program in order to keep it current with its academic discipline” (UTQAP page 17). This definition is subject to change.

Major modifications, broadly, are understood to include the following:

- A. Significant changes to program requirements:
 - Creation of a new program of specialization where another with the same designation already exists (e.g., a new specialist program where a major with the same designation already exists)

- Addition of a new major or specialist that does not differ substantially in program requirements or learning outcomes from an existing program
- Merger of two or more existing programs
- Creation of a minor where there is no existing program of specialization
- The creation of new bridging options for college diploma graduates
- The introduction or deletion of a thesis requirement, co-op requirement or placement at the undergraduate or graduate level

B. Significant changes to the learning outcomes:

- Changes to program content that affect the learning outcomes, but do not meet the threshold for a “new program”

C. Significant changes to the faculty engaged in delivering the program and/or to the essential physical resources as may occur, for example, where there have been changes to the existing mode(s) of delivery (e.g., different campus, online delivery, inter-institutional collaboration):

- A change to the language of the program
- The establishment of an existing degree program at another institution or location
- Change in mode of delivery of a program such as from classroom to online or full-time to part-time

Proposals for major modifications are developed in consultation with the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs and approved at the level of the Faculty/Division. Major modifications are reported annually to the Quality Council by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs.

II. The attached document is the 2011-12 Annual Report on Transcript Notations. All listed items relate to existing degree programs and have been approved under delegated authority by the Councils of the academic divisions.

Transcript notations recognize academic student achievement in addition to the work required by the student’s program of study.

In conformity with the University of Toronto Guidelines on Academic Transcript Notations, all proposals for transcript notations within existing degree programs are discussed with the Provost’s Office before being brought forward for approval at the level of the Faculty/Division.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS: None.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.