



FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Sioban Nelson, Vice Provost, Academic Programs
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PRESENTER: See above
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DATE: March 3, 2017 for March 29, 2017

AGENDA ITEM: 2

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Follow-up Reports on Reviews:

- a) University of Toronto Mississauga (University of Toronto Mississauga)
- b) Faculty of Music and its programs (Faculty of Music)
- c) Commerce undergraduate programs (Faculty of Arts and Science, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management)
- d) International Relations undergraduate program (Faculty of Arts and Science)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) is the point of entry into governance for reports, summaries and administrative responses on the results of reviews of academic programs and units commissioned by academic administrators. The role of the Committee is to ensure that the reviews are conducted in accordance with University policy and guidelines, that an appropriate process has been followed, that adequate documentation is provided and consultations undertaken, and that issues identified in the review are addressed by the administration. Under the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process, the AP&P may request a one-year follow-up report when concerns are raised in an external review that require a longer period of response.

This report is forwarded, together with the record of the Committee's discussion, to the Agenda Committee of the Academic Board, which determines whether there are any issues of general academic significance warranting discussion at the Board level. The same documentation is also sent to the Executive Committee and Governing Council for information.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

- 1. Committee on Academic Policy and Programs [for information] (March 29, 2017)**
2. Agenda Committee of the Academic Board [for information] (April 11, 2017)
3. Academic Board [for information] (April 20, 2017)
4. Executive Committee of the Governing Council [for information] (May 4, 2017)
5. Governing Council [for information] (May 18, 2017)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

At its meeting on March 30, 2016, AP&P considered the following reviews:

- a) The November 2015 external review of the University of Toronto Mississauga academic portfolio and its decanal response of March 16, 2016. At that time, AP&P requested a follow-up report in one year from the dean to outline steps taken to respond to the issues and concerns raised by the reviewers.
- b) The September 2015 external review of the Faculty of Music and its programs and the decanal response of March 2016. At that time, AP&P requested a follow-up report in one year from the dean regarding the completion of the strategic academic plan and its implementation, including the prioritized implementation of the issues raised in the External Review.
- c) The January 2015 external review of the Commerce undergraduate programs (Faculty of Arts and Science joint with Joseph L. Rotman School of Management Commerce), together with the decanal response of March 4, 2016. AP&P requested a follow-up report in one year from the Deans (FAS & Rotman) about steps taken to address the issues raised by the reviewers regarding the admission process, organizational structure, student morale and faculty teaching assignments.
- d) The October 2015 external review of the International Relations undergraduate program and the decanal response of March 2, 2016. At that time, AP&P requested a follow-up report in one year about the steps taken to address the concerns identified in the review including issues around resourcing arrangements and curriculum design and delivery.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- a) University of Toronto Mississauga (University of Toronto Mississauga):

UTM undertook a year-long academic and strategic planning initiative that involved broad consultation and participation with the UTM community, resulting in the release of the UTM Vision statement on January 19, 2017. A Strategic Planning Task Force has been struck to advise UTM's leadership on the development of an Academic Plan that will build on the Vision statement and guide new initiatives. Actions in line with UTM's Vision have already resulted in an increase of 30 graduate students affiliated with UTM, and the welcoming of a Traditional Aboriginal Elder to the UTM community. The Chief Administrative Officer established a working group to review support staff levels and effectiveness across departments. A new

academic administrative structure has been established in the Dean's Office; all appointments will be in place by July 1, 2017.

b) Faculty of Music and its programs (Faculty of Music)

The Faculty of Music's Strategic Academic Plan (2016-2021) was approved by Faculty Council in October 2016 and was presented to Planning and Budget Committee and Academic Board in November 2016. The positive consultative process that produced the Plan allowed the Music community to review and refine its Mission, Vision, and Values. Many elements of the Plan are already implemented or well underway. For example, the Faculty is well into the process of normalizing its programs at 20 credits, has implemented changes to its year 1 and 2 common core, and is currently reviewing upper-level specializations. A DMA working group has been struck, a strategic research plan is underway, and several actions have been taken to improve the resources (physical, financial) available to support programs.

c) Commerce undergraduate programs (Faculty of Arts and Science, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management)

With respect to admission changes, at least two assessors review each candidate's submission for the supplemental applications, and a majority of program offers will now be made in February and March. To build community the program office has introduced a house system for first year students; has improved the space outside the four classrooms in the lower level of Woodsworth Residence, and secured additional space. A curriculum committee was formed in August 2016 and some curriculum changes have already been implemented (e.g., more business courses moved into the first year). Both Faculties have agreed to comprehensively revisit all aspects of the program and its organizational structure.

d) International Relations undergraduate program (Faculty of Arts and Science)

The new International Relations (IR) curriculum will address concerns raised around the need for greater flexibility, a review of course offerings, and the inclusion of courses from cognate departments. These concerns are being addressed primarily through a) the creation of core focus areas designed to provide students with clear pathways through the program while ensuring flexibility within those pathways, along with b) more flexible course offerings, and c) greater access to research opportunities. In the short term, the Program Director is working to ensure that, whenever possible, core IR courses are taught by tenure-stream faculty members from the core departments. The History Department is seeking a new appointment in international history in the current round of FAS faculty appointments.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

- a) University of Toronto Mississauga (University of Toronto Mississauga) Follow-Up Letter from Dean Amrita Daniere, March 6, 2017
- b) Faculty of Music and its programs (Faculty of Music) Follow-Up Letter from Dean Don McLean, March 8, 2017
- c) Commerce undergraduate programs (Faculty of Arts and Science, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management) Follow-Up Letter from Deans Tiff Macklem (Rotman) and David Cameron (FAS), March 1, 2017
- d) International Relations undergraduate program (Faculty of Arts and Science) Follow-Up Letter from Dean David Cameron, March 1, 2017