

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 92 OF THE COMMITTEE ON
ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS

January 16, 2002

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto.

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2002 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, at which the following were present:

Professor Ruth Gallop (In the Chair)
Professor Carolyn Tuohy, Vice-President
- Policy Development and Associate
Provost

Mr. Adam Chapnick
Professor Sherwin Desser
Professor James Donaldson
Dr. Inez Elliston
Professor Annelise Jorgensen
Ms Vera Melnyk
Professor Cheryl Regehr
Professor Keren Rice
Mr. Janakan Satkunasingham
Ms Catherine Seymour

Professor Arthur Sheps
Professor J. J. Berry Smith
Mr. Arnon Vered

Non-Voting Assessors:

Professor Heather Munroe-Blum, Vice-
President, Research and International
Relations

Secretariat:

Ms Susan Girard

Regrets:

Ms Rakhi Bhavnani
Professor Mary Chipman
Professor Frank Cunningham (teaching)
Professor Luigi Girolametto
Professor Vivek Goel

Professor Lynne C. Howarth
Professor David Jenkins
Professor Kumar Murty (Vice-Chair)
Professor Robert Reisz
Ms Heather Schramm

In Attendance:

Professor Ragnar Buchweitz, Vice-Dean, UTSC
Professor Umberto de Boni, Associate Dean, Division IV, School of Graduate Studies
Professor Rashmi Desai, Associate Dean, Division III, School of Graduate Studies
Professor Michael Escobar, Direction of Biostatistics, Department of Public Health Sciences
Professor Grant Ferris, Associate Chair, Department of Geology
Professor Joan Foley, Chair, Program and Curriculum Committee, UTSC
Professor Jeffrey Hurwitz, Chair, Department of Ophthalmology
Professor David Mock, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

PART OF ITEM 4 IS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL. THE REMAINING ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION.

1. Time of Adjournment

On motion duly moved and seconded,

It was agreed

THAT the meeting adjourn no later than 6:00 p.m.

2. Report of the Previous Meeting

Report Number 91 of the meeting of December 5, 2001 was approved.

3. Business Arising

Item 4: Research and International Relations Portfolio: Annual Report 2000-2001 and Plans for 2001-02

The Chair recalled that at the previous meeting, Professor Munroe-Blum had given a presentation of her report but had been unable to remain at the meeting to answer any questions members might have. She had kindly agreed to attend this meeting for that purpose.

Professor Munroe-Blum noted that she had indicated at the previous meeting that she would provide information on the Task Force on Internationalization and Strategic International Partnerships. Unfortunately due to an oversight, this had not been distributed. She agreed to provide the material the next day.

In answer to a question, Professor Munroe-Blum noted that approximately 14 percent of research funding was provided by industry and that this had remained a fairly constant proportion over a number of years.

A member asked about the guidelines for the Task Force and in particular about the health sciences. Professor Munroe-Blum said that the aim was to explore the possibility of establishing strategic partnerships with a small group of international universities. This would help the University achieve its goal of becoming one of the world's top public research universities. The Task Force had had its first meeting; it had discussed the task and begun to consider the characteristics of its future partners. She noted that the terms of reference for the task force, including the membership, had been published in the *Bulletin*. Three areas of study that were particularly important to international agencies were health services, education and women's issues. She said that she would be happy to report to the Committee from time to time on the progress of the Task Force.

The Chair accepted Professor Munroe-Blum's offer of occasional reports. She noted that there were a large number of international agreements in existence and it would be a very interesting task to determine which were the key institutions. Professor Munroe-Blum indicated that the recommendations of the Task Force would not address the many existing productive international agreements at the divisional and programmatic levels. She noted as well that she had been reviewing, and in some cases, reducing the number of international

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

3. Business Arising (cont'd)

agreements to ensure that they were productive, beneficial and achievable. She was pleased that there was a keen interest in this issue in the University community.

4. University of Toronto at Scarborough: Calendar Changes 2002-03

The Chair welcomed Professors Foley and Buchweitz from the University of Toronto at Scarborough (UTSC) and invited Professor Tuohy to introduce the proposal. Professor Tuohy noted that the list of course names for three programs had inadvertently not been provided with the documentation but had been placed on the table. Also a copy of the draft agreement with Centennial College had also been given to members. She indicated that the proposals for new programs were consistent with on-going planning and future expansion at UTSC. She noted that the motion was in two parts and Chair suggested that the Committee deal with them separately.

Professor Foley spoke to the new, restructured and discontinued programs, other than those planned with Centennial College. She said that they arose out the prospect of enrolment growth, although that growth might not be as much as once thought. It was now expected that enrolment would grow at UTSC at 25 percent in the first phase, followed by a further 10 percent if the necessary capital funding was provided by the provincial government. Budget reductions in the 1990s had resulted in problems supporting some of the academic programs; the promise of new growth gave a firmer footing to the programs. For example, in the area of geography there would be a new appointment in 2002 to support the new program. There would also be a Canada Research Chair appointment in a cognate area of urban studies. She explained that there would be significant retirements in physics but new growth would allow the discipline to stabilize and complement other science programs even if a specialist program in physics was not offered. The implementation of all the new proposed programs was related to realizing the staffing plan. There was also a connection between growth and the co-op programs. UTSC had offered co-op programs for 25 years and it had found that these programs attracted excellent students. They were, therefore, an important part of the plan for enrolment growth. UTSC's goal was that the co-op students would form a majority of the student body. This year, the College was introducing co-op programs in humanities and life sciences. There were currently 12.5 full-time equivalent staff working on placements - preparing the students, finding and monitoring placements, and debriefing the students and employers. This number was expected to increase in the near future to 15. Professor Foley stated that UTSC expected no problems in finding placements for the humanities co-op program since the Arts Management co-op program had been operating very well for 15 years. As well, the University of Victoria and the University of Waterloo both had successful humanities co-op programs. Placements were expected to be found in museums, research units for television productions, publishers, communications departments and libraries, to name just a few.

A member asked whether the graduates of co-op programs were geared toward graduate school or toward a profession. Professor Foley explained that the students in co-op programs took a specialist or double major program with exactly the same academic program as those in a regular 20-course program but with the addition of two periods of work experience. The latter provided an added dimension of exposure to a work setting. Many students proceeded to graduate studies. Professor Buchweitz said that places in the co-op programs were highly competitive and that the quality of the student body was high. Professor Tuohy noted that information from the U.S. indicated that a significant percentage of Ph.D. graduates in the humanities proceeded to other than academic careers, and there had been

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

4. University of Toronto at Scarborough: Calendar Changes 2002-03 (cont'd)

considerable discussion of including various types of practica as options in doctoral programs. It would thus appear that co-op programs were not incompatible with doctoral study.

A member asked when the work term was scheduled. Professor Foley said that it could be taken in any term. A number of employers held a position for a co-op student and wanted the slot filled year round. She noted that UTSC was moving to a three-semester system and the students would have no difficulty enrolling in specific courses when they needed to.

In answer to a member's question, Professor Foley estimated that there were approximately 10 students in the minor program in English that was being discontinued. Currently enrolled students would have no problems in taking courses needed to complete their programs.

A member asked whether the courses mentioned for the new programs were new or reworked existing courses. Professor Foley indicated that most courses currently existed, some were new, and all were staffed for next year. As new faculty appointments were made, more courses would be added.

The member asked about the human biology program, noting that it bore the same name as a group of programs offered on the St. George campus. He had expressed his concern to the Division Chair at UTSC about different programs bearing the same name. Professor Foley said that she had spoken to Professor Youson. The problem had been noted but no one had been able to suggest a better name.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The proposals for new, restructured and discontinued programs at the University of Toronto at Scarborough, as described in the University of Toronto at Scarborough submission for 2002-2003 to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs dated December 6, 2001 (except the Joint Programs with Centennial College), effective for the academic year 2002-03.

Professor Foley reported that Centennial College was building a new facility on University land at UTSC. It was expected to be ready for its first classes in January, 2004. Discussions had been held with Centennial about sharing services and facilities and about academic interactions in a limited number of programs. Two proposals had come to fruition and joint four-year degree programs in Journalism and in New Media were being presented for consideration. The program in Journalism would be unique in the University. With respect to the New Media program, discussions with UTM about their program in Communication, Culture and Information Technology revealed that this new UTSC program would be distinctive.

A member asked about the status of students and their access to U of T services. Professor Foley said that the students would be U of T students and would be registered at U of T. All courses taught by Centennial College would have U of T designations. The students

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

4. University of Toronto at Scarborough: Calendar Changes 2002-03 (cont'd)

would pay fees to U of T and the appropriate amount would be transferred to Centennial under the terms of the agreement. Students would have access to all U of T policies.

A member said that the program in Journalism was an excellent idea but he was concerned about one aspect of the proposal. The program was a four-year degree. If the student then wanted to receive the certificate from Centennial College, a further term was required. This would put these graduates at a disadvantage compared to those at Ryerson and Ottawa where the program was four years. Graduates of these programs were quick to find employment. Professor Foley said that the main component of the additional time was a field experience semester, similar to a co-op placement. This proposed program structure was an intermediate step to a new co-op program in Journalism. However, there were a number of aspects to a co-op program that had to be worked out with Centennial. For example, UTSC expected its students to be paid for the work experience, Centennial did not. The member asked whether the failure to complete the certificate work would be seen as detrimental to the student. Professor Foley replied that the student would graduate with a four-year specialist degree in Journalism. It was completely open to the student whether the certificate program was completed. She suggested that the work experience term might be completed during a summer session. Professor Buchweitz said that the current two-year program at Centennial College was typically taken by students who had completed a four-year university degree. The time to completion had, in fact, been substantially reduced.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

THAT the proposals for new Joint Programs with Centennial College, as described in the University of Toronto at Scarborough submission for 2002-2003 to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs dated December 6, 2001, a copy of which is attached hereto as Appendix "A", be approved, effective for the academic year 2002-03.

**5. School of Graduate Studies: M.Sc. Program in Public Health Sciences
(Biostatistics field, course-only option)**

The Chair welcomed Professors Michael Escobar and Umberto de Boni. Professor Tuohy introduced the proposal for a course-work only M.Sc. in the field of biostatistics.

A member asked for clarification of the rationale for offering the course-work only option. She suggested that the Department might not be able to tell as readily whether these master's students were suited to doctoral work, particularly in the research area. Professor Escobar said that the University, with its two-year program, lost a lot of students to other universities where the program was one year in duration. A five-course program allowed the student to cover the subject with more breadth rather than specializing in any one area. He also noted that part of the courses had a required practicum in which students were expected to present their results in a written format. Professor Tuohy indicated that the question of a course-only degree was a general one. There were a number of disciplines where it was the norm. The courses themselves would have a substantial research component. A member noted that these students would be working with datasets and not in scientific laboratories.

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

**5. School of Graduate Studies: M.Sc. Program in Public Health Sciences
(Biostatistics field, course-only option) (cont'd)**

In response to a question, Professor Escobar indicated that there was no difference in the designation of the degree whether the student finished a thesis or not. Professor de Boni said that the School of Graduate Studies considered these different formats equivalent in terms of the degree.

A member asked whether there would be students who wanted to do a thesis degree in biostatistics. Professor Escobar suggested that students, on their way to a doctoral program, would probably take the one-year option. He thought other students who were interested in a variety of disciplines and had the disposition to experiment would do the master's thesis. Another member noted that in her discipline, about 10 percent of the students did the master's thesis, even though it was longer, as a step in thinking about whether to proceed to the doctoral program.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The proposal for the establishment of a course-work only option in the Biostatistics field of the M.Sc. program in Public Health Sciences, as described in the submission from the School of Graduate Studies of November 23, 2001, effective immediately.

6. School of Graduate Studies: M.Sc. Program in Geology - Re-design

The Chair welcomed Professors Grant Ferris and Rashmi Desai. Professor Tuohy introduced the proposal to redesign the master's program from a two-year 'thesis' degree to a one-year 'research' degree that could include a supervised research component or a course-only degree.

A member noted a discrepancy in the documentation. The letter from the Department indicated that the new format could be taken on a part-time basis while the letter from the School of Graduate Studies indicated that the part-time option would be eliminated. After some discussion, Professor Ferris stated that both the current and the new programs allow part-time study. The proposed calendar entry, provided in his letter, was correct.

Candidates are required to complete five full graduate courses, and should normally include two or three supervised research courses for doctoral stream students. To encourage breadth of study, the department will permit students to substitute up to 50 percent of the program requirement of five full graduate courses with equivalent non-geology courses. Candidates may proceed on a part-time basis.

In answer to a member's question, Professor Ferris noted that a course-only degree without the supervised research courses was not considered sufficient research preparation for doctoral work.

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

6. School of Graduate Studies: M.Sc. Program in Geology - Re-design (cont'd)

A member expressed his disquiet with the same degree being awarded for two different types of programs in this case and in the previous item. Professor Tuohy said that students should be counselled at the outset as to which degree would not qualify them to proceed to doctoral studies.

Professor Desai clarified the range of programs currently offered and the proposed new ones. The current M.Sc. by course-work only was not being changed. The M.Sc. with a thesis was being changed to course-work with a research component. The M.A.Sc. in geology would continue to be offered with the thesis component. Professor Tuohy said that the School of Graduate Studies calendar should be amended to amplify the route potential doctoral students should take. Professor Desai agreed and noted that all incoming students were counselled.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The proposal for the re-design of the M.Sc. program in Geology from a two-year format to a one-year format, as described in the submission from the School of Graduate Studies of November 23, 2001, effective September 2002.

7. Faculty of Medicine: Department of Ophthalmology - Name Change

The Chair welcomed Professor Jeffrey Hurwitz and again Professor de Boni. Professor Tuohy introduced the proposal to change the name of the department to Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences.

A member noted the presence of an endowment for the Vision Science Research Program. Professor Hurwitz said that the department wanted to expand its scope and the new name would be more appropriate. Ophthalmologists were trained to do clinical work. He wanted to enhance the research profile of the department and funding from the endowment would greatly benefit that shift. He was interested in training clinician-scientists as well as clinician-surgeons. The name change would bring with it broad-reaching ramifications for building the department's research capability and for strengthening its graduate education.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The proposal for the change of the name of the Department of Ophthalmology to the Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, as described in submission from the Faculty of Medicine, dated November 7, 2001, effective immediately.

8. Faculty of Dentistry: Sanctions for Breach of Clinic Protocol

The Chair welcomed Professor David Mock. Professor Tuohy introduced the proposal which would provide sanctions for D.D.S. students who breached the professional protocol in the dental clinic. She noted that the sanctions, if approved, would apply effective February 1, 2002.

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

8. Faculty of Dentistry: Sanctions for Breach of Clinic Protocol (cont'd)

In response to a question about sanctions, Professor Mock suggested that they would be applied, for example, to students who violated the infection control protocol or who mishandled patient records. It was noted that medical students were in clinics in the hospitals and were subject to the hospital regulations. For dentistry, the clinic was in the Faculty's building and was operated by the Faculty. It was necessary to have a clinic protocol and the ability to apply sanctions if that protocol was breached.

A member asked if there were academic consequences to the sanctions. Professor Mock explained that if students were suspended from the clinic for a week, they would be unable to continue their practical work and that could have a possible impact. He noted that they had had sanctions in place but the new proposal provided a method for students to appeal the suspension. The existence of the sanctions would be referred to in the calendar and printed in full in the clinic manual which was given to every D.D.S. student. He confirmed that the sanctions would be imposed by the Director of the clinic and appropriate divisional heads in the Faculty would be informed. The suspensions would not be placed on the students' record.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The Sanctions for Breach of Clinic Protocol, included in the submission from the Faculty of Dentistry dated December 7, 2001, effective February 1, 2002.

9. Reports of the Administrative Assessors

Professor Tuohy recalled that she had not been present at the previous meeting and that Professor Goel had reported on her behalf on the Undergraduate Program Review Audit Committee (UPRAC) visit in November. She personally wished to thank the members of this Committee past and present - Professors Gallop, Smith, Rolph and McDonald - who had met with the auditors. She said that she would provide the Committee with the report when it was received.

Professor Orchard noted that he would be presenting his annual report on student financial support at the next meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The Chair noted that the date of the next meeting was Wednesday, February 6, 2002.

11. Other Business

Several members commented generally on the items that had been considered by the Committee at this meeting.

A member suggested that the various options for earning degrees at the University should be presented positively as providing a wide range of choices for students of different ages, experience, life-styles and needs rather than in terms of which program was academically better.

**Report Number 92 of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs –
January 16, 2002**

11. Other Business (cont'd)

Another member noted the problems that arose when conflicting information was provided by a division in its proposal, such as the question of part-time study. This caused considerable disquiet in the members and was counterproductive.

A member asked whether there should be a general discussion of the question of course-only master's and the apparent trend of discontinuing the thesis-only option.

Professor Tuohy undertook to discuss these issues with the School of Graduate Studies and report back at the next meeting.

The Chair explained that the agenda planning group had anticipated most of the questions that were raised by members at the meeting and had asked the guests to be prepared to provide further information. It was necessary to judge the appropriate balance between supplying sufficient information and giving members too much to read.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Secretary
January 18, 2002

Chair