

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 105 OF THE COMMITTEE ON
ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS

January 14, 2004

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto.

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 2004 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, at which the following were present:

In Attendance:

Professor J. J. Berry Smith (In the Chair)
Professor Cheryl Regehr, Vice-Chair
Professor Carolyn Tuohy, Vice President,
Policy Development and Associate
Provost
Professor Vivek Goel, Deputy Provost
Professor Rona Abramovitch
Professor Derek Allen
Dr Inez N Elliston
Professor Faith Fich
Ms Ranjini Ghosh
Professor Anthony Haasz

Ms Maritza Jackman
Professor Alexandra Johnston
Professor Ronald Kluger
Ms Vera Melnyk
Professor Robert Reisz
Miss Maureen Somerville
Professor Dennis Thiessen

Secretariat:

Mr Andrew Drummond, Secretary
Ms Silvia Rosatone

Regrets:

Mr Syed W. Ahmed
Mr Frank Belluardo
Mr Bruce G. Cameron
Dr John R G Challis, Vice-President,
Research and Associate Provost
Dr. Inez N. Elliston

Ms Rochelle Fernandes
Professor David Jenkins
Professor Wayne Hindmarsh
Mr Martin Hyrcza
Professor James Lepock
Ms Karel Swift
Professor Dennis Thiessen
Professor Tas Venetsanopoulos

ALL ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION.

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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 – December 3, 2003

Report Number 104 of the meeting of December 3, 2003 was approved.

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising from previous meetings.

4. University of Toronto at Scarborough: 2004-2005 Program Changes and Deletions

The Chair welcomed Professor Ragnar-Olaf Buchweitz, Vice-Dean and Chair of the UTSC Subcommittee on Academic Programs and Curriculum.

Professor Tuohy introduced the changes and deletions, noting for the record that the proposed deletion of the Joint Program in Health Informatics had been approved in January 2003 and had not yet operated.

There was a lengthy discussion, during which members focused primarily on the proposed new Specialist Program in Liberal Sciences (BSc). Some members noted the following points:

- The term 'Liberal Sciences' was perceived to be vague and did not adequately represent the aim of the program, which was to enable future teachers of science within the school system to communicate about science in a clear, informed and proper manner. Professor Buchweitz noted that alternative titles had been explored emphasizing the 'teacher preparation' elements of the program, but that UTSC did not offer a program in teaching.
- The term 'Liberal Sciences' seemed to imply the existence of a 'Science Studies' Program, which would not be encompassed by the proposed program.
- The term 'Liberal Arts', traditionally, has encompassed the basic sciences.
- The program did not adequately focus on the improvement of scientific writing. Professor Buchweitz noted that it was not the intent of the program to do so, but that it might become a valuable addition to UTSC's offerings in the future.
- The completion of the program still required education in at least one science at the Major level.
- The new framework for academic planning, *Stepping UP*, strongly encouraged the development of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary programs along the lines of the proposed program.

Members' concerns were generally satisfied.

Members also noted for the record that the deletion of the Classics program was unfortunate, and complimented the administration of UTSC for the renewal of its Philosophy program.

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4. University of Toronto at Scarborough: 2004-2005 Program Changes and Deletions (cont'd)

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

the proposed program changes and deletions as set out in the memorandum from the University of Toronto at Scarborough dated December 9, 2003, all to take effect May, 2004.

It was emphasized for the record that the Committee was concerned about the title of the Specialist Program in Liberal Sciences (BSc), and that the University of Toronto at Scarborough should re-examine the title.

5. Faculty of Arts and Science: 2004-2005 Program Changes and Deletions

The Chair welcomed Professor Ingrid Stefanovic, Director, Division of the Environment, Professor Ian Radforth, Vice-Principal, University College, Professor Don Dewees, Department of Economics, Professor Brenda Andrews, Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, and Professor David Clandfield, Principal, New College, to the meeting.

Professor Tuohy summarized the proposed program changes and deletions.

There was a considerable discussion, during which members raised the following issues:

- The course content of Sexual Diversity programs;
- The reasons for the deletion of the Minor program in Humanism;
- The reasons for the replacement of the former Specialist program in Economic History;
- The possible over-specificity of the course requirements for the program changes in Molecular Genetics.
- The ethical implications of course material offered within the Molecular Genetics program, especially regarding issues of cloning and other genetic manipulation.

Individual concerns having been addressed, the Committee noted its desire to standardize materials received from various divisions into some form of template. Professor Goel indicated that he and the Secretary would be working towards some form of standardization in the future.

Members then noted that the term 'resource implications', which determined the governance route for various programming items, was a vague term that did not adequately describe the changes. It was noted that all changes have some resource implications, and the key governance distinction lay with the programs that required additional resource allocations unavailable within the proposing division. Members noted for the record that many of the changes coming to the Committee were brought forward because of the general inadequateness of institutional resources to offer the programs in the way they should be.

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**5. Faculty of Arts and Science: 2004-2005 Program Changes and Deletions
(cont'd.)**

Professor Tuohy noted that although resource allocations fell within the mandate of the Planning and Budget Committee, the points raised were valid and that that committee should be informed of the Committee's concerns.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

the proposed program changes and deletions as set out in the memorandum from Faculty of Arts and Science dated December 16, 2003, all to take effect September, 2004.

The Chair thanked the guests for their attendance.

6. Items for Information

The following items were presented for information.

- (i) School of Graduate Studies: Collaborative Program in Jewish Studies
- (ii) School of Graduate Studies: Proposal to Change the Degree Requirements of the Master of Museum Studies Program
- (iii) School of Graduate Studies: Proposal from the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design to Change the Degree Requirements for the Master of Architecture (M.Arch.), the Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.) and the Master of Urban Design (M.U.D.) Programs
- (iv) School of Graduate Studies: Proposal from the Rotman School of Management to Change the Degree Requirements of the Global Executive MBA Program

7. Reports of the Administrative Assessors

The Chair thanked Professor Tuohy for her extensive service to the Committee. Professor Tuohy noted that although she would no longer act as Senior Assessor, she would still be bringing forward items to the Committee's attention, namely, the audit report from UPAC on reviews of academic programs and the annual compendium of review summaries.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

January 23, 2004

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