

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 106 OF THE COMMITTEE ON
ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS

February 10, 2004

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto.

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

In Attendance:

Professor Cheryl Regehr (In the Chair)
Professor Vivek Goel, Interim Vice-
President and Provost
Professor David Farrar, Vice-Provost,
Students
Dr John G Challis, Vice-President,
Research and Associate Provost
Professor Rona Abramovitch
Professor Derek Allen
Mr. Bruce G. Cameron
Dr. Inez N Elliston
Professor Faith Fich

Professor Anthony Haasz
Ms Maritza Jackman
Professor Alexandra Johnston
Professor Ronald Kluger
Professor Brian Cantwell Smith
Miss Maureen Somerville
Professor Dennis Thiessen

Secretariat:

Mr. Andrew Drummond, Secretary
Ms Silvia Rosatone

Regrets:

Professor JJ Berry Smith
Mr. Syed W. Ahmed
Mr. Frank Belluardo
Ms Rochelle Fernandes
Ms Ranjini Ghosh
Professor Wayne Hindmarsh

Mr. Martin Hycza
Professor David Jenkins
Professor James Lepock
Ms Vera Melnyk
Professor Robert Reisz
Professor Tas Venetsanopoulos

In Attendance:

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 – January 14, 2004

The Secretary noted several minor amendments to the report of January 14, 2004. Report Number 105 of the meeting of January 14, 2004 was approved.

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising from previous meetings.

**4. Faculty of Arts and Science: 2004-2005 Program Changes and Deletions -
Additional**

The Chair welcomed Professor Thomas Wolever, Acting Chair, Department of Nutritional Sciences, and Professor Rick Guisso, Chair, Department of East Asian Studies.

Professor Goel summarized the proposed program changes and deletions.

There was a brief discussion, during which a member noted that the Chemistry requirements for the new Major Program in Nutritional Sciences should allow for Chemistry 151Y. Professor Wolever and the Committee accepted the change as a friendly amendment to the proposal.

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 January 26, 2004, and as amended by the Committee, all to take effect September, 2004.

**5. Faculty of Pharmacy: Proposal for the Part-Time Baccalaureate Doctor of
Pharmacy**

The Chair welcomed Professor Jake Thiessen, Associate Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, and Professor Thomas Brown, Associate Professor and Director, Doctor of Pharmacy Program.

Professor Goel summarized the proposed changes.

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

- The status of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree vis-à-vis other graduate programs;

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- The status of the proposed D.Pharm. as a distance program, and the policy background of both distance programs and part-time programs;
- The desirability of a broad discussion of the University of Toronto's goals in part-time and distance education;
- The concern that the issue of 'credential creep' (i.e., the gradual rise in requirements for health professionals) needed to be addressed.

Members noted that the points of discussion did not pertain directly to the merit of the proposed program (of which they were satisfied), but rather, to the institutional policy environment of distance education programs and post-baccalaureate degree programs with the 'doctorate' designation.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The establishment of the part-time Doctor of Pharmacy (D.Pharm.) degree program, as set out in the proposal from the Faculty of Pharmacy, dated January 26, 2004.

The Chair thanked the guests for their attendance.

6. School of Graduate Studies: Ceasing of Admissions and Program Closure of the MA/MEd/EdD/PhD Measurement and Evaluation Program, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Members had before them a proposal, submitted by the School of Graduate Studies, to cease admissions in, and (eventually) close, the MA/MEd/EdD/PhD Measurement and Evaluation Program in the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning.

Professor Goel summarized the proposed program deletion.

There was a considerable discussion, during which a member requested (and received) assurance that key courses in measurement and evaluation would continue to be available to students and that there would continue to be a faculty presence in the field.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

The proposal, submitted by the School of Graduate Studies on behalf of the Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, to close the Measurement and Evaluation Program as set out in the memo dated January 30, 2004, to take effect upon the completion of the program by the students currently enrolled in it.

7. Items for Information

- (i) School of Graduate Studies: Program Requirement Change for the Linguistics Field of the MA and PhD Program of French Language and Literature
- (ii) School of Graduate Studies: Program Regulation Changes to the MA/MEd Program in Second Language Education

Members received the above-noted items for information. There was no discussion.

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8. Reports of the Administrative Assessors

Professor Goel reported on the following:

- *Stepping UP*, the framework for academic planning, was proceeding to Governing Council for approval on 11 February, and revisions to the Statement of Institutional Purpose would follow thereafter.
- The University Program Reviews Audit Committee (UPRAC) had submitted its report about the University of Toronto's review system, and the administrative response had been completed. The item would appear on the next meeting's agenda.
- A set of program reviews was nearing completion and would be forwarded to the Committee at either its next or the subsequent meeting.
- Professor Goel had met with the Chair and had discussed means by which the Committee's business could be handled more effectively and efficiently, including the development of an extended orientation session, communication with divisions to determine planned changes ahead of time, development of a better comprehensive assessment of policy and program changes working their way through the system, and standardizing submission methods.
- Turnitin.com, a software program used as a tool to assist in the detection of plagiarism, had recently received increased attention in Canada because of a student case at McGill University. Although the use of Turnitin.com at the University of Toronto was not mandatory, Professor Goel noted that two objections were commonly raised to oppose the use of the tool:
 - Some argued that all students in classes that used the software are labeled as cheaters. It was noted that in and of itself, the software only pointed out likely similarities, and was not sufficient to determine if plagiarism occurred. In his view, the software was like any screening procedure, such as airport security.
 - Some believed that copyright may be infringed by entering students' work into the large and growing database of material used by turnitin.com. Professor Goel noted that copyright is normally infringed if material is sold or reproduced without permission, but the operators of the website were not doing so; rather, they were helping to ensure the intellectual property of students by preventing further use of their material.

There was some discussion, during which members advised that the administration proceed with due care to establish proper mechanisms for the training in the use of the software, as well as ensuring that the rights of all parties were protected, while simultaneously protecting the intellectual integrity of the University of Toronto.

Professor Farrar noted that an offline session on student finance would be held on Monday, February 23, 2004 at 12:00 noon in the Council Chamber, and that Committee members were welcome to attend.

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

Secretary

Chair

February 16, 2004

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