



# University of Toronto TORONTO ONTARIO M5S 1A1

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## OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

TO: Planning and Budget Committee  
SPONSOR: Safwat Zaky, Vice-Provost Planning & Budget  
CONTACT INFO: 416 978-7116, Safwat.zaky@utoronto.ca  
DATE: November 24, 2005 for December 6, 2005  
AGENDA ITEM: 6

### **ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

School of Graduate Studies: Proposal for a new one-year Master's in Women and Gender Studies to be offered through the Women and Gender Studies Institute in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

To be presented to the Academic Program and Policy Committee on December 7, 2005

### **JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

Excerpt from the terms of reference for the Planning and Budget Committee:

*4.4.2. The Committee advises the Academic Board on the planning and resource implications of plans and proposals to establish, disestablish or significantly restructure academic programs. Those implications might include significant planning and budgetary changes within the division or significant effects on other divisions, the University as a whole and the public.*

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

This proposal is for a course-based MA program in Women's Studies and Gender Studies (see attached documentation). The program will be 12 months in duration, designed for students who have completed a four-year Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Women's Studies or Gender Studies, with at least a B+ standing.

Scholarship in Women's Studies and Gender Studies has developed so rapidly over the last 30 years that free-standing MAs and PhDs are increasing yearly in the US and Europe. Women's Studies has articulated its own canon as evidenced in a variety of scholarly domains such as dedicated journals and press series, research institutes and curricula. The Women and Gender Studies Institute at the University of Toronto currently houses a successful Collaborative Program for graduate students enrolled in over 25 academic units.

In the fall of 2000 the Collaborative Program underwent a successful review by OCGS. However, innovative Women's Studies and Gender Studies scholarly work requires a focus on Women's or Gender Studies as a discipline in its own right, not just on Women's or Gender Studies as a component or analytical dimension of other disciplines. A Master's degree in Women's Studies and Gender Studies is a key ingredient in realizing the potential of such scholarship at the University of Toronto. It will be seen as the core of a multi-dimensional graduate program in Women's Studies and Gender Studies. The MA will be complemented by the Collaborative Program for those students enrolled in other Programs who want a

focus on Women's Studies and Gender Studies.

The new program will require a scholarly foundation in the field of Women's Studies or Gender Studies and as such is different from the Graduate Collaborative Program in Women's Studies, which does not require significant prior course work in Women's Studies and/or Gender Studies.

The proposal has been reviewed extensively within the Faculty of Arts and Science and by the Women and Gender Studies Institute faculty and graduate students. It has been approved by the School of Graduate Studies Council on **November 22, 2005**. **Additional information is attached.**

### **FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

The proposed MA program will be offered through the Women and Gender Studies Institute (WGSI) — an Extra-Departmental Unit Type-1 in the Faculty of Arts and Science, with autonomy as a hiring unit and full authority over graduate appointments. The resources needed for the MA program will be provided by the Faculty of Arts and Science.

The Faculty of Arts and Science has agreed that a cohort of ten MA students in Women's Studies and Gender Studies will be covered by the University of Toronto graduate funding guarantee. These ten students will be supported for one year each, according to the principles set out in the Guidelines for Graduate Funding and Enrolment Management in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Under these guidelines, the responsibility for financing the graduate funding guarantee is jointly shared between the graduate unit and the Faculty of Arts and Science. At current rates, the MA program in Women and Gender Studies will be expected to generate as its contribution TA funding equivalent to \$6500 per student (excluding those students holding major external awards such as SSHRC or OGS scholarships).

The proposed program has no budgetary or space implications beyond those provided by the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Women and Gender Studies Institute.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Committee on Planning and Budget recommends to the Academic Board:

THAT the establishment of the Master's in Women and Gender Studies at the Faculty of Arts and Science be recommended to Governing Council for approval, effective September 2006.

**University of Toronto**  
**School of Graduate Studies**  
**Governance Form**

*This form is to be used by a graduate unit, or the School of Graduate Studies, when proposing name changes, changes to existing admission or program requirements, or as a cover document for submissions of new program proposals, new procedures and/or policies including revisions to existing procedures and policies, or for any other matter requiring approval by SGS Governance. This form is NOT required for new course proposals or changes to existing courses.*

**IMPORTANT DEADLINES:** *Changes for the next SGS Calendar must be submitted by the January Executive Committee and Council agenda deadlines. Changes that are meant to be effective July 1 of the next academic year must be submitted by the March Executive Committee and Council agenda deadlines. Routine revisions are requested by the SGS Calendar editor for the end of October.*

**Name of Graduate Unit:**

*(graduate department/centre/institute/School of Graduate Studies)*

Women and Gender Studies Institute (WGSI)

**Graduate Program/s involved in proposal, if any:**

*(list program/s and degree level/s involved in the proposal, if any)*

MA in Women and Gender Studies

**Brief Summary of Proposed Change:**

*(most changes require Calendar revision - see Governance Form Note 1)*

This is a new academic Master's program. It is a 12-month post-baccalaureate program designed for students who have completed a four-year Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Women's Studies and/or Gender Studies, or a related area, with at least a B+ standing.

**Rationale:**

*(provide an explanation about why the change is being proposed and its anticipated effect on the program/s and students)*

The new program will ensure a scholarly foundation in the field of Women and Gender Studies and will distinguish the MA program from the Graduate Collaborative Program in Women's Studies (GCWS), which does not require significant prior course work in Women's Studies and/or Gender Studies.

**Prior Approvals/Actions:**

*(List committees at the Department level and the Faculty level that have approved proposal, and any other relevant approvals or actions taken. Normally this will include consultation with graduate students.)*

1. Carl Amrhein, Dean Faculty of Arts & Sciences with David Clandfield, Principal of New College, Margrit Eichler, Director Women and Gender Studies Institute, Kathryn Morgan, Philosophy and Women's Studies and Gender Studies, and Sheila Neysmith, Coordinator of the Graduate Collaborative Program in Women's Studies – 19 July, 2001

They were advised to prepare a brief which articulated the canon of Women's Studies and Gender Studies; its markers as a discipline; a series of critical questions to be addressed by the discipline that cannot be adequately addressed by other disciplines; the presence of dedicated journals and series in presses; the availability of PhD programs and /or jobs available to MA graduates.

2. Carl Amrhein, Dean, Faculty of Arts & Sciences; Margrit Eichler, Director Women and Gender Studies Institute; Sheila Neysmith, Coordinator of the Graduate Collaborative Program in Women's Studies; June Larkin, Co-ordinator Undergraduate Program in Women's Studies and Gender Studies – 17 December, 2001

A report by Margrit Eichler, Director of the Women and Gender Studies Institute was submitted to Dean Amrhein at the end of November, 2001 addressing the above questions. At this meeting Dean Amrhein agreed that the questions had been addressed and evidence presented to document the argument. He noted that the model of the proposed MA seemed close to that currently offered through the Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES). Dean Amrhein gave advice on several people with whom to consult, clarified next steps and offered his support as the proposal was moved into SGS.

3. Discussion of proposed MA in Women's Studies and Gender Studies with Graduate Students. Sheila Neysmith gave a formal presentation on the MA to doctoral students in the JPW3000 seminar on 16 January, 2002.

This was followed up with informal discussions with other graduate students throughout the winter semester and with the elective representatives of Graduate Women's Studies Students organization.

4. Program meeting of WGSII Core Faculty, Women Studies 10 April, 2002

A draft of the MA proposal had been sent out earlier to all core faculty for feedback. This meeting was called to consolidate this feedback and agree upon changes that needed to be done before the document was submitted to SGS.

5. Dean Michael Marrus; Jane Alderdice; Joan Cherry, Associate Dean SGS II; Prof. Margrit Eichler, Director WGSII; Sheila Neysmith former Graduate Coordinator GCWS; and Tara Goldstein Graduate Coordinator GCWS – September 2002

Met to discuss the draft of the MA proposal submitted to SGS in the spring 2002. Following this meeting, Dean Marrus asked Associate Dean Cherry to review the revised proposal, consult with scholars in Women's Studies and Gender Studies, and prepare a report to him on the proposed direction of a free standing MA in Women's Studies and Gender Studies. The report was completed April 2, 2003.

6. Program meeting of WGSII Core Faculty, Women's Studies and Gender Studies – 15 May, 2003

Tara Goldstein (Coordinator, GCWS) led discussion concerning Associate Dean Joan Cherry's review of the Proposal for an MA in Women's Studies and Gender Studies (2 April, 2003). Faculty and staff agreed to rewrite the proposal following Dean Cherry's suggestions and struck a committee to do so: Tara Goldstein, Coordinator, GCWS (Chair), Alison Keith, Judith Taylor, June Larkin (Undergraduate Coordinator), Shahrzad Mojab (Director WGSII, after 1

July, 2003). The MA Proposal sub-committee also undertook to assess the resource implications of offering an MA degree and to seek divisional support in the academic planning exercise 2003-04.

7. Program Meeting, Core Faculty, Women's Studies and Gender Studies – 7 January, 2004

Met to discuss responses to the latest draft and to provide final direction. Tara Goldstein revised the MA Proposal to reflect the changes and sent a six page summary of the MA Proposal to Sandra Acker, Associate Dean SGS Division II, noting the changes that had been made to respond to Associate Dean Cherry's report.

8. Jane Alderdice, Policy, Program & Liaison Coordinator; Sandra Acker, Associate Dean Division II; Shahrzad Mojab Director, Women and Gender Studies Institute; Tara Goldstein, Coordinator GCWS; and Alison Keith, incoming Coordinator GCWS – 22 April, 2004

Met to discuss the six-page summary of the MA Proposal. SGS supported the content and structure of the revised MA program outlined in the summary. Jane Alderdice provided Shahrzad Mojab with a binder including the template for submitting a new graduate program to the OCGS.

9. Susan Pfeiffer, Vice-Dean (Graduate Education and Research), Faculty of Arts and Science and Shahrzad Mojab, Director WGSi – 10 June, 2004

Met to discuss the future status of potential MA Women's Studies and Gender Studies Graduate Students regarding funding, enrollment management and space access.

10. Jonathan Freedman, Vice-Dean (Graduate Education and Research), Faculty of Arts and Science, Shahrzad Mojab, Director WGSi, and Alison Keith, Coordinator GCWS – 25 October, 2004

Met to discuss funding of potential MA Women's Studies and Gender Studies Graduate Students.

11. Jonathan Freedman, Vice-Dean (Graduate Education and Research), Faculty of Arts and Science, and Alison Keith, Coordinator GCWS – 14 December, 2004

Met to discuss projected funding requirements in order to make the University of Toronto guaranteed funding package available to incoming students in the proposed MA program, which FAS has approved in principle. Vice-Dean Freedman confirmed that FAS would commit funding to a cohort of ten students for the first three years of the program (see attached budget information).

12. Meric Gertler, Vice-Dean (Graduate Education and Research), Faculty of Arts and Science, and Alison Keith, Coordinator GCWS – 21 October 2005

Met to finalize the WGSi MA Budget. (See attached Budget.)

**Proposed Effective Date:**

*(Effective dates may NOT be retroactive. SGS reserves the right to alter the effective date – see Governance Form Note 2. Program changes are usually effective as of September, while changes to names of graduate units or programs are usually effective as of July.)*

09                    2006  
Month                Year

**Financial and/or Planning Implications:**

*(Provide details of financial implications – most proposals have financial implications, although sometimes minimal. In cases where the financial impact is substantial, provide a budget statement or other documentation.)*

Effective July 1, 2005, the Institute for Women's Studies and Gender Studies (IWSGS) was renamed Women and Gender Studies Institute (WGS) and converted from an Extra-Departmental Unit Type-2 (effectively a college program and financially dependent on New College) into an Extra-Departmental Unit Type-1 in the Faculty of Arts and Science, with autonomy as a hiring unit and full authority over graduate appointments. As an independent budgetary unit in Faculty of Arts and Science, WGS is now financially independent from New College (see attached budget information).

The Faculty of Arts and Science has agreed that a cohort of ten MA students in Women and Gender Studies will be covered by the University of Toronto graduate funding guarantee. These ten students will be supported for one year each, according to the principles set out in the Guidelines for Graduate Funding and Enrolment Management in the Faculty of Arts and Science. Under these guidelines, the responsibility for financing the graduate funding guarantee is jointly shared between the graduate unit and the Faculty of Arts and Science. At current rates, the MA program in Women and Gender Studies will be expected to generate as its contribution TA funding equivalent to \$6500 per student (excluding those students holding major external awards such as SSHRC or OGS scholarships).

**Contact name, e-mail address and telephone #:**

*( name and contact information of the Chair or designate from the department, or SGS, who will serve as the official department spokesperson on the proposal – this is the person who will attend the meetings to discuss the proposal)*

Professor Alison Keith  
Coordinator, Graduate Collaborative Program in Women's Studies (GCWS)  
Ph: 416-585-4561  
Fax: 416-585-4584  
Email: akeith@chass.utoronto.ca

**Submitted by:**

*(person must be submitting with the approval of the Chair of graduate unit or Dean of SGS)*

Professor Shahrzad Mojab  
Director, Women and Gender Studies Institute

Professor Alison Keith  
Coordinator, Graduate Collaborative  
Program in Women's Studies

**Date:** 10/27/2005