

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**REPORT NUMBER 186 OF THE PLANNING AND BUDGET COMMITTEE
Wednesday, April 3, 2019**

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto

Your Committee reports that it met on Wednesday April 3, 2019, at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall with the following members present:

David Dubins, Chair

Cara Krmpotich, Vice-Chair

Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and Provost

Scott Mabury, Vice-President, Operations and
Real Estate Partnerships

Trevor Rodgers, Assistant Vice-President,
Planning & Budget

Maria Cristina Cuervo

Joseph R. Desloges

Gary D. Goldberg

Ira Jacobs

Ernest W.N. Lam

Ben Liu

Maureen MacDonald

Mary Pugh

NON-VOTING ASSESSORS:

Gilbert Delgado, Chief of University, Planning,
Design & Construction

Saher Fazilat, Chief Administrative Officer, UTM

SECRETARIAT:

Tracey Gameiro, Secretary

REGRETS:

Ramona Alaggia

Christina Amon

Andrew Arifuzzaman

Adalsteinn (Steini) I. D. Brown

Sheila Brown

Christine E. Burke

Andrea Chiappetta

William A. Gough

Ron Levi

Litos (Hanze) Li

Douglas McDougall

David Palmer, Vice-President,

Advancement

Bogdan Stovba

Vivek Goel

IN ATTENDANCE:

Archana Sridhar, Assistant Provost, Office of the Vice-President and Provost

Adrienne De Francesco, Executive Director, Capital Projects, University Planning,
Design & Construction

Elizabeth Cragg, Director, Office of the Vice-President University Operations

IN CAMERA ITEM 7 IS RECOMMENDED TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD FOR APPROVAL. ITEM 3 WAS APPROVED. ALL OTHER ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION.

OPEN SESSION

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He noted there was one item for approval and one for recommendation, and encouraged member participation in all discussions.

2. Assessors' Reports

The Committee received a report from the Vice-President & Provost, Professor Regehr.

Professor Regehr provided an update on the federal budget and on the province's Student Choice Initiative (SCI).

Federal Government - Budget 2019

The Provost reported that the federal government released its 2019 budget on March 19, 2019, and noted that this would be the last budget for the Liberal government before the October 2019 federal elections.

The Provost remarked that the administration was pleased to see significant investments in skills for Canadians and for post-secondary students, especially in the areas of:

- Work-integrated learning;
- International education;
- Research scholarship and fellowships;
- Indigenous student supports; and
- Life-long learning benefits.

Addressing each of these areas, the Provost highlighted various aspects of *Budget 2019*, including:

- Starting in 2020-21, there would be an additional \$150 million provided over four years to Employment and Social Development Canada to create partnerships with innovative businesses to create work-integrated learning opportunities. The Provost noted that the University had leveraged the President's role as Chair of U-15 and Co-Chair of the Business/Higher Education Roundtable to advocate extensively for such initiatives.
- Increased funding for the federal granting councils to create additional master's level and doctoral scholarship awards through the Canada Graduate Scholarship program.
- Starting in 2019-20, a number of investments would be made to ensure that Indigenous students had better access to post-secondary education; and more support to ensure that they could succeed during their studies.

- An investment of \$1.7 billion over five years, in the Canada Training Benefit program aimed to help working Canadians get the skills they needed to adapt in a changing workplace.
- An investment of \$147.9 million in the International Education Strategy to help Canadian post-secondary students gain useful experience to succeed in a global economy through the development of a pilot outbound student mobility program.
- Federal granting councils would be provided funding to expand the parental leave coverage for students and postdoctoral fellows who received granting council funding.
- There was a proposal to amend the *Canada Student Financial Act*, so that student loans would not accumulate any interest during the six-month non-repayment (the “grace period”) after a student loan borrower left school.

In closing this part of her Report, the Provost expressed the administration’s disappointment that *Budget 2019* had fallen short of the recommendations made in the *Naylor report* for support for the indirect costs of research. However, she re-affirmed the University’s commitment to working with the government to improve the Canadian research ecosystem and ensure the full costs of research are supported.

Provincial Government - SCI

The Provost reported that the University would continue to meet with student groups to discuss the SCI – the initiative that required students be provided with the ability to ‘opt-out’ of fees deemed ‘non-essential’.

Addressing the question of whether the budget model would need to be revised to support student activities in the face of the SCI, the Provost explained that re-allocating student fees to services that students had been opted out of would not fit the spirit of the legislation nor respect the decision of the students making that choice. The Provost assured members that a very careful review would be undertaken of those activities that did not receive funding to assess if there were other ways to provide those services.

In response to a member’s question regarding reductions to provincial research grants (e.g. Connaught, Trillium), the Provost stated that the University had received no indication regarding the future of provincially funded grants, and that it awaited the soon to be released Ontario budget (set for April 11, 2019), for further information. The Provost indicated that she would be happy to speak to those points at the next Committee meeting.

3. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 185 – February 27, 2019

Report Number 185, from the meeting of February 27, 2019 was approved.

4. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

There was no business arising from the report of the previous meeting.

5. Date of the Next Meeting – Thursday, May 9, 2019, 4:10 – 6:10 p.m.

The Chair reminded members that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.

6. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

The Committee moved *IN CAMERA*.

10. Capital Project: *Student Commons located at 230 College Street*—Total Project Cost Increase and Sources of Funding

On motion duly moved, seconded and carried

YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED

THAT the Vice-President, Operations and Real Estate Partnerships' recommendation regarding the Student Commons capital project located at 230 College Street, as outlined in the memorandum dated March 27, 2019, be approved.

The Committee returned to Open Session.

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and participation.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

April 4, 2019