



Brian D. Lawson
Chair of the Governing Council

To: University of Toronto community
Presidents of APUS, GSU, SCSU, UTMSU and UTSU

CC: Governing Council
Academic Board
Business Board
University Affairs Board
UTM Campus Council
UTSC Campus Council

From: Brian Lawson, Chair of the Governing Council

Date: May 19, 2022

RE: Extension of President Meric S. Gertler's Second Term

I am very pleased to announce that, at its meeting today, the Governing Council approved an extension to Professor Meric S. Gertler's second term as President, from June 30, 2023, to June 30, 2025.

The recommendation to extend President Gertler's second term was informed by a review process, approved by the Executive Committee, that involved confidential consultations with governors and senior leaders. There was unequivocal support for President Gertler continuing in his role and a shared view that an extension was in the best interests of the University as it provides important continuity and stability in leadership and momentum as the University emerges from the pandemic. There was a clear and strong consensus that President Gertler has provided exceptional leadership over the course of his Presidency to date.

President Gertler became the [University's 16th President](#) on November 1, 2013 and was reappointed to a [second term](#) in May 2017 following a comprehensive review. He is one of the world's foremost urban theorists and policy practitioners, renowned for his research on the geography of innovative activity and the economies of city-regions. Prior to his appointment as President, he served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science from 2008 to 2013. He is a well-respected leader in the Canadian post-secondary sector, serving currently as the Chair of the Board of Directors of Universities Canada, and a globally recognized higher education leader, most recently serving as host of the 2021 Times Higher Education World Academic Summit – *How Powerful is Place?*

A graduate of McMaster University (BA), the University of California, Berkeley (MCP) and Harvard University (PhD), President Gertler holds honorary doctorates from Lund University, Sweden, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, and Université de Montréal. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Academy of Social Sciences (UK), the Royal Canadian

Geographical Society and a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. He was appointed to the Order of Canada in December 2015.

The Chair-Elect, Janet Ecker, and I are extremely grateful that President Gertler is willing to continue his extraordinary leadership at this critical juncture for the University. Please join me in warmly congratulating President Gertler and thanking him for his continued service.