



**To:** Staff in University of Toronto Communications  
Advancement Staff  
Governing Council  
Academic Board  
Business Board  
University Affairs Board  
UTM Campus Council  
UTSC Campus Council  
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors, and Chairs  
Professionals and Managerial Staff  
Confidential Staff  
President of UTFA  
Presidents of Employee Unions  
Presidents of APUS, GSU, SCSU, UTMSU and UTSU  
President, University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA)

**From:** Professor Meric Gertler, President

**Date:** September 9, 2022

**Re:** **Appointment of David Palmer as Interim Vice-President, Communications**

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On July 21, 2022 it was [announced](#) that David Estok will be retiring from his position as Vice-President, Communications effective September 30, 2022. I am very pleased to announce that, at its meeting on September 7, 2022, the Governing Council approved the appointment of David Palmer as Interim Vice-President, Communications, effective October 1, 2022, and until a new Vice-President, Communications is appointed.

David Palmer serves as the Vice-President, University Advancement and will continue in that role while serving in this interim role. David is a widely respected and experienced member of the Vice-Presidential team, providing stellar leadership of the Division of University Advancement (DUA) since his initial appointment in 2007. His leadership has been recognized by his peers locally, nationally and globally. As Vice-President, Advancement he has worked closely with U of T Communications (UTC) on brand development and marketing. In particular, the Defy Gravity brand campaign was developed jointly between UTC and DUA. Moreover, UTC and DUA work collaboratively on major products like *U of T Magazine*.

A recruitment process for the Vice-President, Communications will begin this fall with a call for nominations for an Advisory Search Committee to be circulated to the University community in the coming weeks. In addition, following a Request for Proposals, an executive search firm will be retained to provide support for this recruitment.

I am most grateful to David Palmer for agreeing to lead UTC during this transition period.