

FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTM Academic Affairs Committee

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PRESENTER: --
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DATE: May 3, 2023 for May 10, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: 8

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Annual Report: Committee On Standing (COS), Office of the Registrar, 2021-22

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under section 5.7 of its terms of reference, the Academic Affairs Committee receives reports from its subcommittee on academic appeals.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

- 1. UTM Academic Affairs Committee [For Information] (May 10, 2023)**

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The annual report for 2020-21 was provided for information to the UTM Academic Affairs Committee on May 9, 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The purpose of the information package is to inform the Academic Affairs Committee of the work of Committee on Standing (COS) specifically providing details concerning the focus of the work, the numbers of cases considered and the outcomes. It is not intended to create a discussion regarding individual cases or their specifics, as they were dealt with by a body, which was bound by due process and fairness. The COS reviews appeals for petitions decisions made by the Office of the Registrar.

The report covers the period between September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022

The report highlights the types of petitions assessed by the Office of the Registrar, totaling 6828 in the given period.

The COS met 8 times to review 109 appeals. 28 were granted and 80 were refused; 8 appellants then submitted 8 appeals to the Academic Appeals Subcommittee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

Annual Report: Committee On Standing, Office of the Registrar, 2021-22

Annual Report: Committee on Standing, 2021-22

Prepared by: the Office of the Registrar

The University of Toronto Mississauga Office of the Registrar (OR) adjudicates petition requests on behalf of the Committee on Standing (COS) as well as manages the hearing of first appeals of refused petitions to the members of COS. In addition to the Assistant Registrar, Academic Standards and Petitions, there is also the Academic Standards and Petitions Coordinator. The membership is comprised of faculty members, the Dean of Student Affairs, and a current student at UTM. Representatives from the OR attend hearings in a non-voting capacity, with the exception of the Registrar and Director of Enrolment Management, who serves as the Chair of COS and who is pleased to provide this summary report for September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

Petitions and Committee on Standing - An Overview

The OR processed 6828 petition requests on behalf of the COS in 2021-22. The largest number processed was for **first deferral of unwritten UTM examinations** which comprised 39.21% and the second largest was for **late withdrawals** which comprised 12.46% of the requests closely followed by **course overloads** at approximately 11%. These numbers are actually more consistent with what we had pre-pandemic in all three categories (once you take into consideration the natural growth of UTM); the area with the most significant increase from pre-pandemic to post-pandemic would be the **extension of time** category which had 335 requests (4.94% of the total petitions) for 2018/19 versus 606 requests (8.88% of the total petitions) for 2021/22. Exception to degree requests have also seen a significant jump in numbers from 5.88% pre-pandemic to 9.40% post-pandemic. The difference in numbers for the deferrals between 2020/21 (a little over 1600 petitions) and 2021/22 can be attributed to the gradual transition into in-person examinations from online examinations as the University was returning to in-person operations.

Petition Type	# of Petitions	Granted	Refused	Deferred	Cancelled
Late Withdrawal	851	553	283	0	15
Extension of Time	606	319	178	0	109
First deferral of unwritten UTM examination	2677	2622	21	0	34
Further deferral of unwritten UTM examination	587	513	52	1	21
First/Further Deferral of unwritten St. George/UTSC examination	124	105	6	0	13
Lift of 1 year suspension	105	11	67	0	27
Lift of 3 year suspension	16	4	10	0	2
Return early from 3 year suspension	15	3	7	0	5
Lift of refused further registration	4	0	1	0	3
Exception to Degree	642	376	224	5	37
Late enrolment	382	171	187	0	24
Course overload	754	382	231	21	120
Other	65	9	14	8	34
Total	6828	5068	1281	35	444

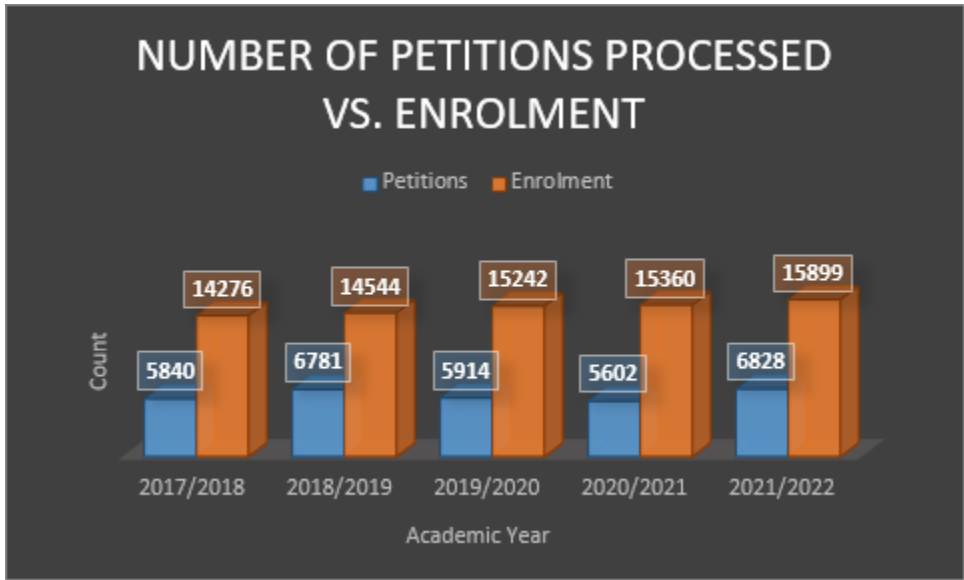


Figure 1. Number of Petitions Processed vs. Enrolment 2017-18 to 2021-22

Regular and Deferred Exams

There were approximately 75,239 final examinations for the December 2021, February 2022, April 2022, June 2022 and August 2022 regular and special (deferred) exam periods. For the April 2022 regular exam period, approximately 34,354 students were scheduled to write but only 18,982 in-person exams were prepared by the OR as the rest would have been administered by the departments.

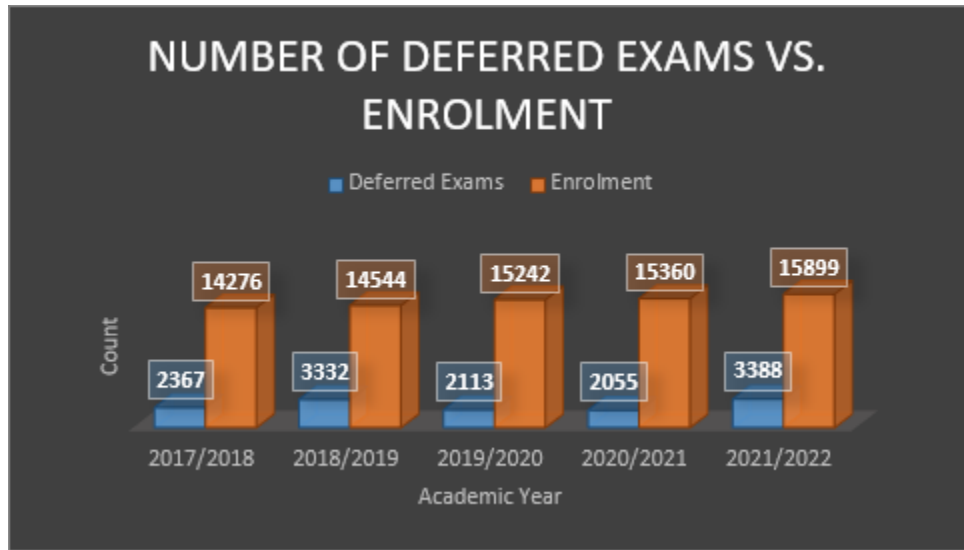


Figure 1. Number of Deferred Exams vs. Enrolment 2017-18 to 2021-22

Committee on Standing Cases

The COS will review an appeal with new information (not presented in the original petition request) within 90 days of the original petition decision date. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the OR. All appeals are heard by the COS before the student can appeal to the UTM Academic Appeals Subcommittee.

The COS met 8 times to review 109 appeals; 28 were granted and 80 were refused. 8 appellants then went on to submit 8 appeals to the Academic Appeals Subcommittee.

Appeal Type	# of Appellants	# of Appeals	Appeals Granted	Appeals Refused	# Appeals Deferred
Late withdrawal without academic penalty	14	31	13	18	0
Lift of Suspension (One Year, Three Year, Refused Further Registration)	15	15	3	12	0
Deferral of unwritten examination	8	11	2	9	0
Extension of Time	18	31	9	21	1
Exception to Degree and Credit/No Credit (removal or granting)	16	18	1	17	0
Other	3	3	0	3	0
Late Enrolment	0	0	0	0	0
Total	74	109	28	80	1

Late Withdrawal without Academic Penalty (WDR) vs. Late Withdrawal after the Drop Deadline (LWD)

During 2019-20, LWDs were not processed in large numbers due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the University's temporary changes in policy to accommodate students. One of those changes was an extension to April 22, 2020, of the last day to drop a course from the academic record, for all Winter Term S and Y courses. The numbers for 2020-21 and 2021-22 are a return to more normal patterns observed in sessions prior to COVID-19.

Academic Year	WDR	LWD	Total	LWD% vs. Enrolment
<u>2017-2018</u>	779	2599	3378	19%
<u>2018-2019</u>	907	2670	3577	24%
<u>2019-2020</u>	430	1707	2137	14%
<u>2020-2021</u>	577	2225	2802	18%
<u>2021-2022</u>	851	2650	3501	22%