



**Memorandum to:** Faculty, Students, and Staff, University of Toronto Scarborough  
Governing Council  
Academic Board  
Business Board  
University Affairs Board  
UTM Campus Council  
UTSC Campus Council  
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors and Chairs  
Professionals, Managers and Confidential Staff  
President of UTFA  
Presidents of Employee Unions  
Presidents of APUS, GSU, SCSU, UTMSU and UTSU

**From:** Professor Meric Gertler, President  
Professor Trevor Young, Vice-President and Provost

**Date:** June 27, 2024

**Re:** **Appointment of Professor Linda Johnston as Vice-President,  
University of Toronto and Principal, UTSC**

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We are pleased to announce that the Governing Council has approved the appointment of Professor Linda Johnston as Vice-President, University of Toronto, concurrent with her appointment as Principal, University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), which was approved by the Agenda Committee at its meeting on June 25, 2024. Professor Johnston's appointment, effective July 1, 2024 until December 31, 2029, is for a five-year term over five and half years to include a six-month administrative leave.

Professor Johnston has been serving as Acting Vice-President and Principal, UTSC since January 1, 2024. During this time she has quickly earned the respect and support of the UTSC leadership team and wider community and has demonstrated a genuine passion for and dedication to the campus. She is committed to implementing and building on the clear vision for UTSC that has been established by the UTSC community under the leadership of outgoing Vice-President and Principal Wisdom Tettey. She brings an appreciation of the comprehensive nature of the campus and a deep commitment to its overall academic mission. In addition, she has been highly engaged in the Scarborough Academy of Medicine and Integrated Health (SAMIH), a transformative initiative that is scheduled to launch in 2026.

Professor Johnston served as the Dean of the Lawrence Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing from August 2014 to December 2023. As Dean she fostered and promoted excellence at all levels of the Faculty, which is currently ranked #1 in Canada and #5 in the world according to QS

rankings by subject. She forged important relationships with peer institutions internationally, promoted the Faculty as a key player in Toronto's Academic Health Science Network (TAHSN), and developed new points of collaboration with the University's nine fully affiliated hospitals.

She previously served as Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Queen's University Belfast, transforming the School's level of teaching, research productivity, and international engagement. She is internationally recognized for her contributions to nursing and patient care. Professor Johnston is an Honorary Professor at the University of Melbourne (Australia), Visiting Professor at Soochow University (China), and Distinguished Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Professor Johnston received her PhD and Bachelor of Science from the University of Sydney. She undertook her undergraduate nursing education in the United States and has worked in neonatal intensive care in the United States, Australia, and the Middle East.

We look forward to continuing to work with Professor Johnston as a member of the Vice-Presidential team. Please join us in congratulating her on her appointment.

As Professor Johnston will be taking a short leave that had been planned for when she completed her six-month term as Acting Vice-President and Principal, we are pleased that Professor Bill Gough has agreed to serve as Acting Vice-President and Principal from July 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024. This appointment was approved by the Governing Council and the Agenda Committee. Professor Gough will have just completed his term as Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, UTSC. We are very grateful to him for being willing to step in to this Acting role after his lengthy service as Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean.

Finally, we would like to thank the members of the [Advisory Committee](#) for their thoughtful advice and guidance.