



Memorandum to: Staff in the International portfolio
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 Melanie Woodin, President

Date: December 11, 2025

Re: **Reappointment of Professor Joseph Wong as Vice-President,
International**

I am pleased to announce that the Governing Council has approved the reappointment of Professor Joseph (Joe) Wong as Vice-President, International. Professor Wong's second term will be for five-years over a five-and-a-half-year period, from July 1, 2026 to December 31, 2031, to include a six-month administrative leave. Professor Wong was first [appointed](#) as the Vice-President, International in April 2021.

During his first term, Professor Wong has championed the University of Toronto's increased global engagement across multiple dimensions. A key focus of the 2022 International Strategic Plan was the diversification of the regions from which the university recruits talented students, of corporate partnerships and of academic partnerships, and on developing values-driven partnerships with academic, philanthropic, government and other partners. Key initiatives include expanding academic partnerships in Africa, India, and increasingly in Latin America, and the Caribbean. Leveraging strong relationships with Canada's federal government and its foreign ministry, Professor Wong has aligned UofT's international strategy to enhance Canada's impact around the world.

Professor Wong led the development of the Africa Health Collaborative with eight African partner universities, along with nine academic tri-campus divisions at UofT, for which the University received generous support with a \$94.6 million ten-year grant from Mastercard Foundation in 2021. Working closely with the School of Cities, he also oversaw the launch of the UofT India Foundation in Mumbai, with a focus on urban sustainability.

As Vice President International, Professor Wong has been committed to ensuring international students are welcomed to the U of T and supported during their academic journey. Collaborating with the Government Relations Office, Professor Wong has been a consistent advocate for international students with the provincial and federal governments. He has championed initiatives that give voice to international students' experiences such as the documentary *The First 48 Hours*, and created the International Student Experience fund, which supports initiatives that foster a supportive environment on U of T's campuses. Professor Wong has also focussed on supporting increased global learning opportunities for all students, including the development of Global Classrooms, as well as increased mobility opportunities for students.

Professor Wong has earned a reputation as a collaborative, respectful leader, who leads with authenticity, personal warmth and scholarly rigour. I am grateful to him for his service to the University to date in this role and look forward to continuing to work with him as a member of the senior leadership team.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the stakeholders who took the time to engage in the consultations for this process, and the members of the [Advisory Committee](#) for their thoughtful advice and guidance.