



FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTM Campus Council

SPONSOR: Trevor Young, Vice-President & Provost, Division of the Vice-
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PRESENTER: Cheryl Regehr, Professor, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work
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DATE: April 6 for April 13, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Report on the Review of the *Code of Student Conduct*: Summary of Consultation and Feedback

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under Section 5.1.4 of its Terms of Reference, the following matters fall under the purview of the University Affairs Board:

“The Board is responsible for policy concerning multi-campus services campus and student services on the St. George campus and University-wide policies that apply to the St. George, UTM and UTSC campuses. It is also responsible for overseeing their operation.”

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **UTM Campus Council [for information] (April 13, 2026)**
2. UTSC Campus Council [for information] (April 14, 2026)
3. University Affairs Board [for information] (April 23, 2026)
4. Executive Committee [for information] (May 4, 2026)
6. Governing Council [for information] (May 13, 2026)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The last review of the *Code* and its processes took place in 2002. Previous administrative updates to ensure alignment with new policies were approved by Governance in 2019, but few changes have been made to the *Code*'s content.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Consultation

The University's *Code* is an essential component of the way we safeguard the rights, and identify the responsibilities, of members of our community. The *Code* is not a substitute for the *Criminal Code of Canada* or any other applicable law or regulation, but rather a tool that may be employed to protect the rights of U of T students and the integrity and safety of all University activities.

The recent introduction of a policy review framework from the University's Governing Council, as well as sector best practices, suggest the need to undertake an assessment of the *Code* by relevant stakeholders to ensure its continued efficacy.

The consultation phase of this review took place between November 7, 2025 – February 20, 2026, and was chaired by Professor Cheryl Regehr.

Consultation

The consultation process included the following components:

- **Email solicitation** for feedback from Governing Council, senior faculty and administrative leaders, and student societies representing students on all three campuses.
- **Engagement sessions** from November 2025-February 2026 were held with key partners, including the following:
 - Academic administrators, including Vice-Presidents, Vice-Provosts, Principals, Deans, Academic Directors, and Chairs.
 - Staff members and staff groups involved in operationalizing the *Code*, including Deans of Students, Registrars, the student crisis response and academic progress teams on the three campuses, the Office of Safety and High-Risk, Campus Safety.
 - University legal counsel and the Office of the Ombudsperson.
- **Open consultation sessions** from January-February 2026 were held with the following groups:
 - Students, faculty, and staff & librarians at all three campuses.

- **An online, anonymous form** through which students, staff, and faculty members could submit written feedback was open and accepted responses over the consultation period until February 28, 2026.

The *Code* review team held 44 hours of consultations over 12 weeks.

Summary of What Was Heard

The following issues were identified:

- Lack of relevance of *Code* to university life.
- Concerns about behaviour that “does not meet the threshold of the *Code*.”
- Decentralized structure for reporting, case management, investigating, and decision-making is problematic.
- Intersections between the *Code* and mental health concerns.

In response to the feedback provided, Professor Regehr is proposing four recommendations:

1. Update the structure of the Code.
2. Clarify and broaden the scope of the Code.
3. Create a central “Student Conduct Office” with oversight by the Vice-Provost, Students.
4. Create a new mental health diversion pathway.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- There are no direct implications for the University’s operating budget at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

- For information

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

- Presentation slides