



**FOR INFORMATION**

**PUBLIC**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** UTSC Campus Council

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**DATE:** March 26 for April 14, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Report on the Review of the *Code of Student Conduct (Code)*.

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The UTM and UTSC Campus Councils receive information on matters within its areas of responsibility, including recommendations for changes in policies, plans or priorities that would address such issues.

Under Section 5.1.4 of the University Affairs Board Terms of Reference: "*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