

Memorandum to: Staff in the Research and Innovation 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: September 4, 2026

Re: **Call for Nominations for Membership of the President's
Advisory Committee on the Appointment of a Vice-President,
Research and Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives**

On December 16, 2021, the [Governing Council appointed Professor Leah Cowen as Vice-President, Research and Innovation, and Strategic Initiatives](#), effective January 1, 2022 until December 31, 2026. Professor Cowen is interested in being reappointed for another term.

I am writing to call for nominations of individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee. The membership will comprise:

- 7 – 9 members of the faculty, including academic administrators,
- 1 to 2 graduate students,
- 1 member of the administrative staff,
- 1 representative from the affiliated teaching hospitals, and
- 1 representative from an external innovation-promoting agency.

The Committee will undertake a review and advise me on the Research and Innovation portfolio and on priorities that should be considered for the Vice-President. In addition, the Committee will consider whether to recommend the reappointment of Professor Cowen.

Ms Sheree Drummond, Secretary of the Governing Council, will serve as secretary to the Committee.

Nominations for membership on the Advisory Committee should be sent by **noon** on **Friday, September 18, 2026**, using the confidential online form available at: [Call for nominations: President's Advisory Committee](#).

Questions should be directed to Sheree Drummond at sheree.drummond@utoronto.ca.