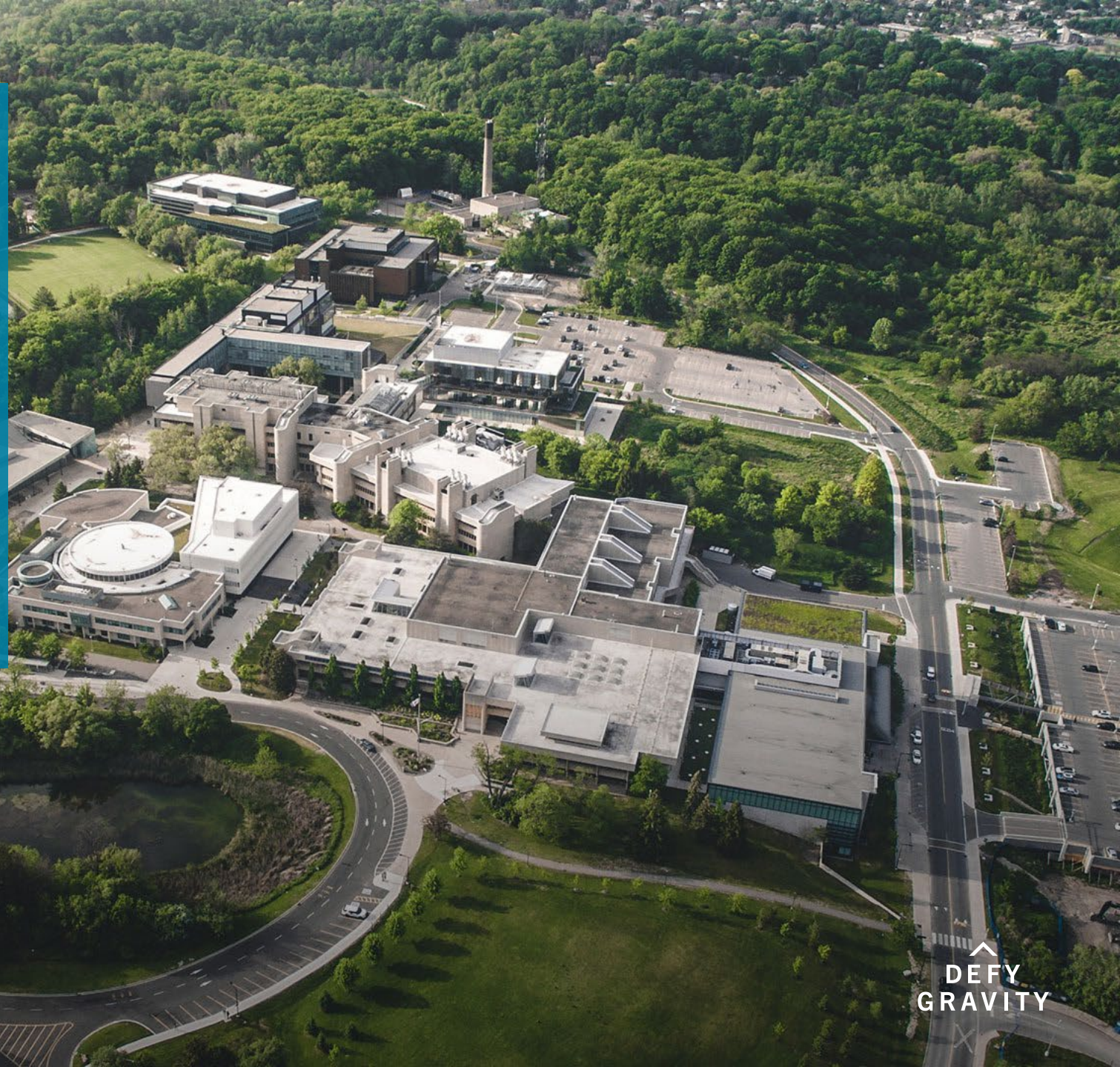
Report to the UTM Academic Affairs Committee

September 10, 2026

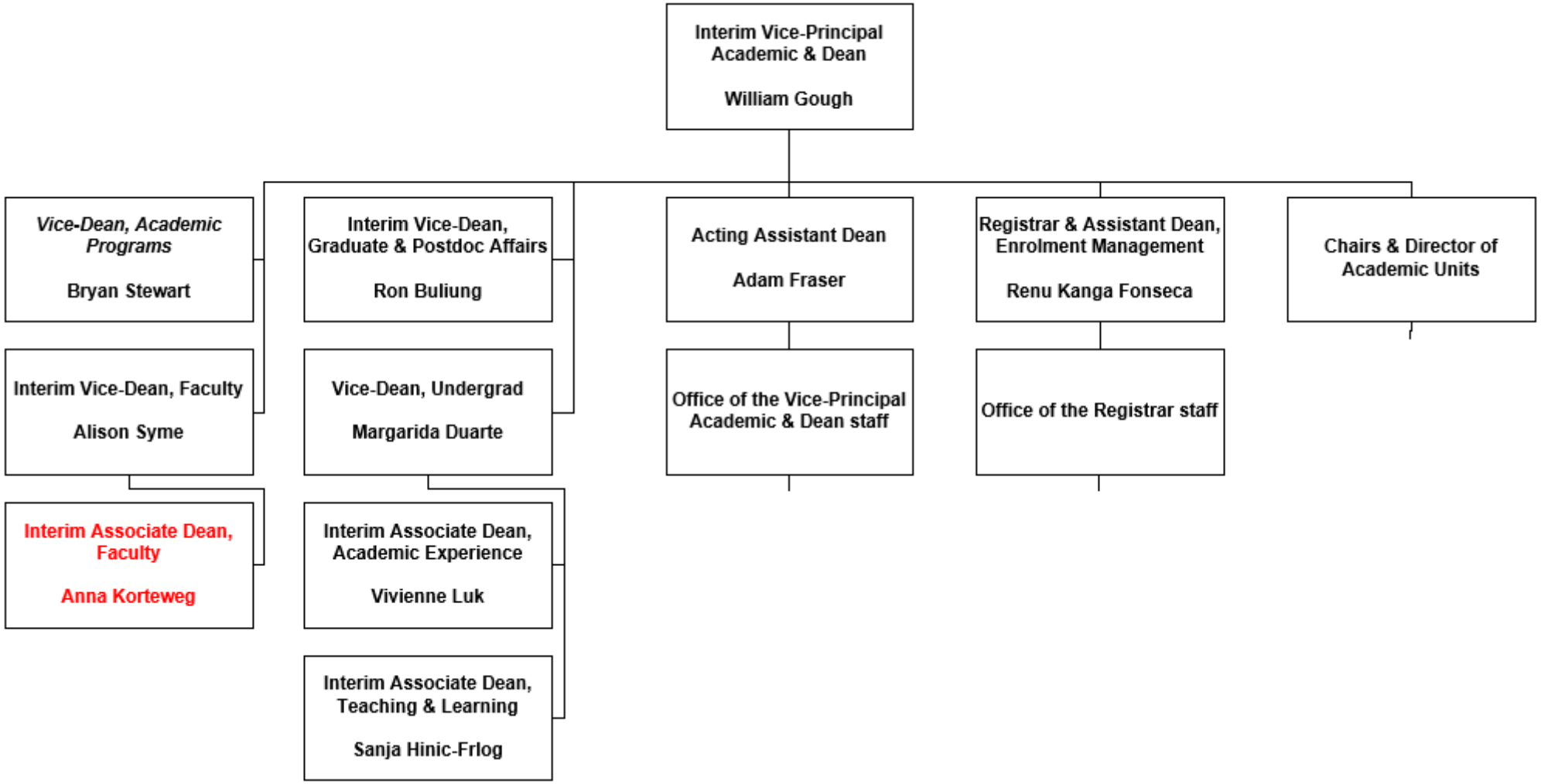
Professor William A. Gough
Vice-Principal Academic & Dean



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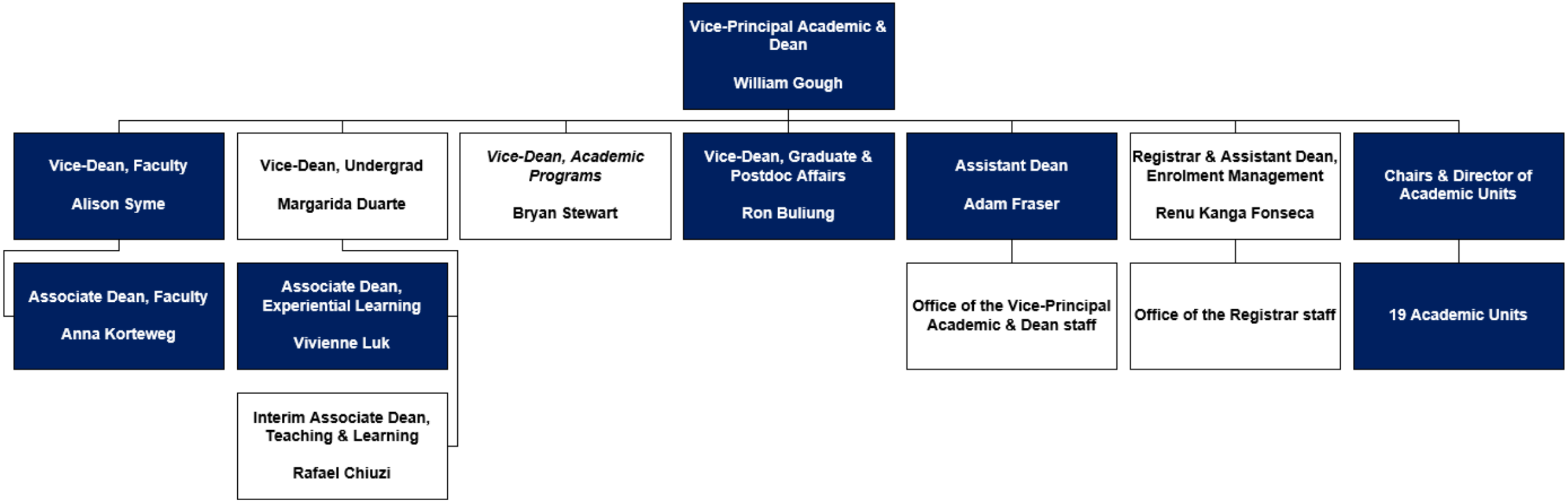
DEFY GRAVITY

OVPAD Organizational Chart, 2025-2026



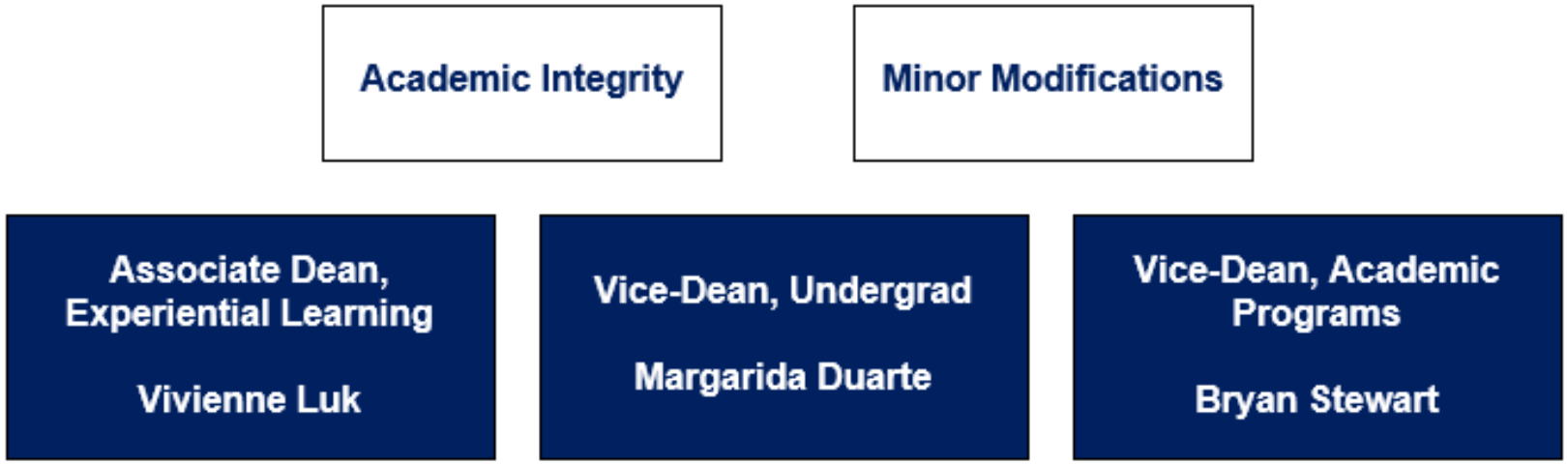
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OVPAD Organizational Chart, 2026-2027



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Realignment of Roles



Advancing Our Academic Priorities



UTM's Academic Plan & Strategic Enrolment Management

- Develop a renewed Academic Plan aligned with UTM's Strategic Framework, and with Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) as a backbone structure.
  - Develop a SEM framework encompassing recruitment, admissions, retention, and student success.
  - Advance the International Foundations Program and develop a UTM International Strategic Plan.
  - Implement equity-focused recruitment strategies and improve enrolment yield and melt management.

Equity, Accessibility, and Reconciliation

- Expand Indigenous curriculum and language reclamation initiatives.
- Launch Indigenous and Black Graduate Student Awards.
- Improve access to experiential learning for students living with disabilities.

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Advancing Our Academic Priorities



Experiential and Professional Learning and Career Readiness

- Roll out 9 new co-op internship streams.
- Launch UTM-based program in nursing; develop proposal for similar collaboration with pharmacy; collaboration with Faculty of Music.
- Strengthen UTM's experiential learning profile by expanding employer partnerships, regional collaborations, and experiential learning opportunities.

Academic Quality, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence

- Establish sustainable governance for curricular innovation, including Category 3 Certificates.
- Advance technology-enabled assessment and learning, including the implementation of electronic examinations.
- Develop an AI working group.

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Emerging Graduate and Postdoctoral Scholar Initiatives

Graduate Students

- ~1200 students, professional masters (484), research stream masters/doctoral (701).
- **Engagement:** Department listening tour.
- **Funding:** Indigenous and Black graduate student admissions awards, UTM professional master's programs.
- **Leadership:** Graduate student leadership programming and curricula. Annual series, 4-5 sessions.
- **Mentoring:** International graduate student panel @UTM welcome week.

Postdoctoral Fellows

- ~71 postdoctoral scholars, 17 countries, 14 units.
- **Funding:**
- Unified application process, UTM PDF & Research Excellence Postdoctoral Fellows Program (REPFP).
- Expanding access, OVPAD coverage of Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) 5K stipend.
- **Partnerships:** Strengthen and grow the Postdoctoral Scholars Community of Practice for departmental managers.

Faculty Complement Updates

- **National Impact+ Competition**
  - hire of Impact+ Research Chair in CPS/CMC, starting July 1, 2027; associated Impact+ Emerging Leader position search in process

- **2025–26 hires (limited to filling vacant lines + 1 growth position)**
  - 20 searches resulting in 16 hires, 12 tenure stream, 3 teaching stream, 1 non-tenure stream CLTA

- **2026–27 searches (limited to filling vacant lines)**
  - 15 searches authorized



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New ROPAPP System

- **Experiential Education Unit (EEU) is leading the development and implementation** of a new system to support administration of UTM's Research Opportunity Program (ROP).
- The new ROPAPP will **replace the legacy system** and is being built on **Symplicity CSM**, a platform widely used across U of T.
- The system will **streamline administrative processes and enhance workflows** for students, faculty, and staff.
- Development is a **collaborative effort** involving EEU, the Office of the Registrar, I&ITS, and the Research Team in the Office of the Vice-President and Principal.
- **Summer 2026:** User acceptance testing with faculty and students.
- **Late Fall 2026:** Dedicated training sessions.
- **January 2027:** Full launch for the **2027–28 ROP season**.



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External Reviews

- Supporting **nine** UTQAP reviews in 2026-27
  - **Four** reviews proceeding to governance
    - IMI, ICCIT, ANT, POL
  - **Five** site visits planned for Fall/Winter
    - BIO, IFS, PHL, PBS, ISUP
- Launching **one** review for 2027-28
    - ECO



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Academic Changes Completed in 2025-26

30+
CIP
Options

Focus:
Business
Data
Analytics

Certificate:
Ancient
Languages

Certificate:
AI &
Society



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Academic Changes on the Horizon

- **New EDU:B:** Centre for Indigenous Studies
- **New programs**
  - PhD in Communication & Technology
- **Major modifications**
  - Specialist in Computational Physics
  - Minor in Indigenous Studies
  - Minor in Global South Asia
  - New CIP Streams
- **Minor modifications**
  - New Focuses (CPS, MCS)
  - New Category 2 Certificates



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Enrolment Overview

Registered and invited students as of September 2, 2026

Undergraduate	Newly Admitted	Returning	Total
Domestic	2,725 (2,634 FT | 91 PT)	9,557 (8,261 FT | 1,296 PT)	12,282
International	953 (912 FT | 41 PT)	2,759 (2,370 FT | 389 PT)	3,712
Total	3,678	12,316	15,994

Graduate	Newly Admitted	Returning	Total
Domestic	155 (127 FT | 28 PT)	136 (99 FT | 37 PT)	291
International	31 (25 FT | 6 PT)	19 (17 FT | 2 PT)	50
Total	186	155	341

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