

TASK FORCE ON GOVERNANCE

Call for Submissions

Memorandum

To: Members of the Governing Council
Members of the Academic Board
Members of the Business Board
Members of the University Affairs Board
Members of Faculty and College Councils
Members of the College of Electors
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors and Chairs
Professionals, Managers and Confidential Staff
President of UTFA
Presidents of Employee Unions
Presidents of APUS, GSU, UTSU and SCSU
President of UTAA
Chairman of PIAC

From: Rose M. Patten, Chair of the Task Force on Governance

Re: Towards 2030 Task Force on Governance

Towards 2030 is an initiative launched to respond to the question: “Looking to and beyond our second centennial, how can we ensure that our institution reaches new levels of excellence?” The Task Force on Governance, as part of this initiative, will consider whether the University’s governance – its foundation, structure and operation – are meeting the institution’s needs and obligations. With the evolution of the three campuses new complexities have emerged that were not contemplated when the Governing Council and its Board and Committee structures were established. Now, there is a need to re-think our practices and consider key questions with respect to our internal accountability framework. The core issue we hope to address is how governance at the University of Toronto might be improved to maximize efficiency, balance, and accountability.

As part of this process, the Task Force is seeking input from those who have participated in governance processes at the University and whose knowledge and experience would be a valuable resource in contributing to the discussion of these issues. We welcome your advice.

Attached below is a link to the Task Force on Governance website. There, you will find a series of questions on which we would like your input. Please take the time to complete the brief questionnaire.

Thank you very much for your contribution to this important initiative. Please contact us at t2030.governance@utoronto.ca if you have any additional questions or comments.

<http://www.towards2030.utoronto.ca/governance/index.html>

Towards 2030 Task Force on Governance

Questionnaire

The *Towards 2030* Task Force on Governance welcomes your views on the following questions. The University's administration has the responsibility to develop strategy, policy, positions and conclusions on matters affecting the institution; governance has the responsibility to add value, provide insight, and in many cases, grant approval in its consideration of matters brought forward by the administration.

1. How can we ensure an appropriate forum in governance for discussion of strategic questions (for example, emerging strategic issues and major strategic priorities undertaken)?
2. Of the current topics or matters which come to the Governing Council or its Boards or Committees, which do you believe to be the most important in terms of governance decision-making? Which would be the least important?
3. In your experience, what are the areas of overlap or duplication between or among Governing Council's Boards and Committees and divisional councils? How could we create a more streamlined and agile set of governance processes with reduced repetition? Are the Boards, Committees and divisional councils optimally structured to enable this?
4. Does the current oversight and accountability for each of the three campuses have appropriate levels of authority to ensure good governance, respecting centralized and decentralized decision-making?
5. Similarly, does the delegated authority of divisional councils on the St. George campus provide mechanisms for sufficiently rigorous reviews and oversight?
6. Additional comments?

Please submit your responses by January 11, 2008.