



FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE ACADEMIC BOARD

TO: Planning and Budget Committee

ITEM 6 (c.) – GOVERNING COUNCIL –
May 23, 2013

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DATE: April 4, 2013 for April 17, 2013

AGENDA ITEM: 6

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Report of the Project Planning Committee for the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building at the University of Toronto Scarborough

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Committee considers reports of project planning committees and recommends to the Academic Board approval in principle of projects (i.e. site, space plan, overall cost and sources of funds). Proposals for capital projects exceeding \$10 million must be considered by the appropriate Boards and Committees of Governing Council on the joint recommendation of the Vice President and Provost and the Vice President, University Operations. Normally, they will require approval of the Governing Council. Execution of such projects is approved by the Business Board.

BACKGROUND:

The University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) continues to be a leader in delivering innovative and experiential learning opportunities that prepare graduates with the knowledge, skills and experience that will give them the advantage in an ever-changing, knowledge-based economy. As the student population continues to expand to meet system demands, UTSC requires additional facilities to accommodate both students and faculty. Since 2000, UTSC has experienced an unprecedented surge in enrolment that has transformed and expanded the campus to over 11,200 students. UTSC's growth targets would see an additional 1,900 new undergraduate students join the campus over the next four years. UTSC is also planning to double the number of graduate students conducting the majority of their research on campus. To keep pace with this expansion, an additional 73 FTE new faculty are to be hired, of which approximately 30% will require laboratory facilities.

At present, the campus cannot accommodate additional faculty requiring wet lab research facilities. To address this shortage, and to accommodate the expanding research culture and infrastructure needs at UTSC as a result of rapid student growth, including graduate student growth, a new science building is being proposed.

The most recent science facility, the Science Research Building (SRB), opened in 2008 and reached its capacity immediately upon opening. With the addition of the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building (ESC), UTSC will be able to keep pace with student and faculty requirements for research facilities. More to the point, a sophisticated new science facility will enable UTSC to solidify its

growing reputation as a leading hub for scientific scholarship in Canada, and as a destination of choice for aspiring researchers of today and tomorrow.

In 2008/09 UTSC developed plans for a multi-phased Instructional Centre and Laboratory Complex. The first phase, the Instructional Centre (IC), funded through the Federal Government's Knowledge Infrastructure Program, opened in 2011 and provided new classroom and teaching spaces designed to meet the needs of two high demand programs (Management and Computer and Mathematical Sciences). The facility also provided high-quality secondary spaces for non-wet lab and administrative departments. The new Environmental Science and Chemistry Building represents the second phase of this planned infrastructure project.

As well as the need for additional space, it should be noted that the aging infrastructure of the original Science Wing (SW) has become extremely dated and cannot be easily or efficiently adapted to meet the needs of contemporary research programs. This project will allow for vacated laboratories in the SW to be repurposed to provide additional capacity for teaching, research and student spaces as faculty, currently in less than optimal labs in the SW, will move into vacated lab spaces in the SRB with higher quality facilities. The new Environmental Science and Chemistry Building with its co-effects in the Science Wing and the Science Research Building will allow the campus to address its expansion needs.

The Report of the Project Planning Committee was reviewed by the Vice-President and Provost and the Vice-President, University Operations at meetings of the Provost's Advisory Group and the Executive Committee of CaPS (Capital Projects and Space Allocation Committee) and is being recommended for consideration.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Environmental Science and Chemistry Building will become the scientific anchor for the North Campus development and will be home to the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences (DPES). DPES is a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary department (Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics and Astrophysics). The Environmental Science and Chemistry Building will house two of the three disciplines (Chemistry and Environmental Science) and will serve as the hub for research and teaching in these two disciplines. It will be situated adjacent to the recently completed Instructional Centre. The Environmental Science and Chemistry Building will house a number of research and teaching laboratories, including a TRACES instrumentation centre and a Chemical store, with office and meeting space for DPES. It will also include other non-DPES spaces including a student study room, a librarian office, a police office, and a catalyst centre (containing seminar rooms and multi-purpose bookable space).

The building will have a gross area of 10,116 square metres, or 5,058 nasm. The building is proposed to have five levels with a basement that is linked underground to the adjacent Instructional Centre. It will be designed to meet a minimum of LEED silver standard as well as meet the Toronto Green Building Standard with a desire for Voluntary Tier 2.

The site is located in what is currently Parking Lot G, immediately adjacent to the recently completed Instructional Centre, northwest of the Ellesmere and Military Trail intersection. As the second building on the north campus lands, the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building will continue the pedestrian-scaled development along Military Trail consistent with the UTSC 2011 Campus Master

Plan. An underground connection will be provided to the Instructional Centre, as both facilities will share the IC loading/servicing docks.

SCHEDULE:

Governing Council approval	May 2013
Design and Construction	June 2013 – June 2015
Occupancy	July 2015

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Be It Recommended to the Academic Board:

1. THAT the Project Planning Report for the Environmental Science and Chemistry Building at the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), dated March 29, 2013, be approved in principle; and
2. THAT the project scope totaling 5, 058 net assignable square meters (10, 116 gross square meters) to be funded by UTSC Operating Funds, Graduate Expansion Funds and Borrowing, be approved in principle.