

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

**REPORT NUMBER 162 OF THE COMMITTEE ON
ACADEMIC POLICY AND PROGRAMS**

May 14, 2013

To the Academic Board,
University of Toronto.

Your Committee reports that it met on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 at 4:10 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Simcoe Hall, with the following present:

Professor Douglas McDougall (Chair)
Professor Elizabeth Peter (Vice-Chair)
Professor Cheryl Regehr, Vice-Provost,
Academic Programs
Professor Brian Corman, Vice-Provost,
Graduate Education and Dean,
School of Graduate Studies
Professor Karen D. Davis
Professor Joseph Desloges
Mr. Michael Dick
Professor Zhong-Ping Feng
Mr. Aidan Fishman
Professor Paul Kingston

Mr. David Kleinman
Ms Michelle Mitrovich
Professor Emmanuel Nikiema
Dr. Graeme Norval
Professor Russell Pysklywec
Ms Judith C. Poë
Ms Ioana Sendroiu
Ms Maureen Somerville
Professor Suzanne Stevenson

Secretariat:
Ms Cristina Oke (Acting)

Regrets:

Mr. Omar Gamel
Professor Rick Halpern
Professor Peter Lewis
Professor Janet Paterson
Ms Tisha Tan
Professor Steven Thorpe
Dr. Sarita Verma
Professor Sandy Welsh

In Attendance:

Ms. Justine Garrett, Office of the Vice-President and Provost
Professor Avrum Gotlieb, Acting Vice-Dean, Graduate Affairs, Faculty of Medicine
Dr. Jane E. Harrison, Director, Academic Programs and Policy, Office of the
Vice-President and Provost
Ms Laurie Harrison, Director, On-line Learning Strategies, Office of the Chief Information Officer
Ms Josie Lalonde, Associate Director, Student Systems and Records, School of Graduate Studies
Ms Silvia Rosatone, Director, Office of Convocation

ALL ITEMS ARE REPORTED FOR INFORMATION.

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He thanked members of the Committee for their work during the year, especially for the Reviews of Academic Programs.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair congratulated Professor Regehr on her recent appointment as Vice-President and Provost, effective September 1, 2013. He thanked her for her work as the senior assessor to the Committee, and presented her with a token of appreciation for her contribution to governance.

1. Academic Presentation: Online Courses

Professor Cheryl Regehr introduced Ms Laurie Harrison, Director of Online Learning. Ms Harrison gave a powerpoint presentation describing the University's online learning strategies, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A.

Presentation

Key points of the presentation included the following:

- The University does not intend to become an online university.
- The University's online learning strategies include:
 - Fully online courses through the Online Undergraduate Course Initiative (OUCI);
 - Open UToronto (open.utoronto.ca);
 - Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs);
 - Inverted Classroom Model –lectures provided on-line and other work completed in the classroom;
 - Hybrid course model – in-class time reduced and online time increased.
- The three objectives of OUCI are to:
 - Increase access to undergraduate courses for students in first entry programs at the University of Toronto;
 - Increase the number of students from other universities enrolling in University of Toronto courses for credit transfer;
 - Allow access to University of Toronto courses by international students who may wish to consider full time enrolment at the University.

Discussion

The following points were raised in discussion:

- Are University of Toronto students concerned that students from other institutions have access to U of T courses through OUCI?
 - The online OUCI programs are primarily for U of T students.
 - Low enrolment courses benefit from additional registrants.
- Does a student have to be registered on the campus offering an online course?

No. On-line courses will facilitate the enrolment of students in courses offered at different campuses.
- Is there a notation indicating that a course has been taken online?
 - There is no notation for online courses.
 - The course objectives and requirements are the same as those for in class courses; only the mode of delivery is different.

1. Academic Presentation: Online Courses (cont'd)

Discussion (cont'd)

- Is the residency rule for students still in effect?
 - Although the residency rule is still in effect, over the years it has been re-interpreted to reflect changing program design/ course design and student needs.
- What type of evaluation is used in online courses?
 - Evaluation may include written papers and tests.
 - Proctored examinations can be set up anywhere in the world.
 - For MOOCs, students receive a certificate of completion.
- Do online courses have an enrolment limit?
 - The course leader determines how many students are in an online course.
- How will costs of online courses be covered in the future, and how will MOOC teaching be credited to professors?
 - To date, MOOCs have been an experimental model for which professors have volunteered extensive amounts of time.
 - Online for credit courses are treated under workload policy in the same manner as other University of Toronto courses.
 - For credit online courses are funded jointly by the OUCI and the relevant division. MOOCs are similarly jointly funded on an experimental basis. Two of our MOOCs received funding from the Gates Foundation.
 - Departments looked at the long-term benefits from such courses.

2. Academic Programs: Annual Report on Major Modifications to Degree, Diploma and Certificate Programs Approved by Divisional Councils

The Chair reminded members that the councils of the academic divisions had delegated authority to approve modifications to and transcript notations within existing degree programs. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs received for information an annual report on modifications to existing programs that were defined in the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) as major modifications, and an annual report on the establishment and termination of transcript notations. In addition, a list of administrative changes and minor modifications to programs was included for reference and to provide a complete perspective on on-going changes. The Chair noted that there were no transcript notations being brought forward at this time.

Professor Regehr commented that a considerable number of academic changes were reflected in the report, indicating the nature and breadth of academic change during the past year.

3. Wording on Parchment: Joint Educational Placement for Doctoral Studies

The Chair explained that Section 4.7 of the Terms of Reference of the Committee gave it the authority to approve policy matters affecting earned degrees, diplomas and certificates, including their design and issuance of replacements. The item being brought forth for approval concerned the wording on the parchment to be received by graduating students participating in a Joint Educational Placement for Doctoral Studies.

Professor Corman noted that the Joint Educational Placement was an option for full-time doctoral students that had been reviewed by the Council of Graduate Deans, the Graduate Education Council and the Provost's Advisory Group, and had been in place since 2011.

3. Wording on Parchment: Joint Educational Placement for Doctoral Studies (cont'd)

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the following proposed notation be added to the parchment to acknowledge student participation in a Joint Educational Placement for Doctoral Studies as described in the Agreement for a Joint Education Placement - Doctorate, effective immediately:

“Awarded as a single degree under a Joint Placement arrangement with the (collaborator) institution.”

4. Summary of Clinical Department External Reviews, 2012-2013

The Chair reminded members that the Committee had general responsibility for monitoring the quality of education and the research activities of the University, and received annual reports on the reviews of academic units and programs. Two external reviews of clinical departments had been commissioned by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in 2012-13. The submission included a table that summarized the review outcomes, decanal response and implementation plan for each review. The report on the reviews of clinical departments was being brought forward to the Committee for information.

At the invitation of the Chair, Professor Gotlieb commented that the Faculty had been pleased with the positive reviews and the suggestions for changes over the next five years.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly moved, seconded, and carried

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and items approved.

5. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report 161 – April 16, 2013

Report Number 161 of the meeting of April 16, 2013 was approved.

6. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

There was no business arising from the Report of the previous meeting.

7. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 4:10 p.m.

8. Reports of the Administrative Assessors

There were no reports from the Administrative Assessors.

9. Other Business

The Chair thanked the Vice-Chair for her hard work and advice during the year. He also thanked Dr. Harrison and Ms Garrett for their work, including coordinating the flow of business, advising the divisions on what was needed in terms of governance consideration of their proposals, and drafting cover sheets, and acknowledged the work of the Secretariat in supporting the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

May 24, 2013