

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

REPORT NUMBER 35 OF THE CAMPUS COUNCIL

April 16, 2019

Present:

Paul Kingston, Chair
Preet Banerjee, Vice-Chair
Wisdom Tettey, Vice-President and
Principal
Andrew Arifuzzaman
Tarun Dewan
Liben Gebremikael
Jason Glover*
Brian Harrington*
Soaad Hossain
Elaine Khoo
Lydia Lampers-Wallner
Sonja Nikkila*
Tayyab Rashid
Lynn Tucker

Secretariat:

Emma Thacker
Rena Prashad

Absent:

Fareed Amin
Conor Anderson
Catherine Bragg
George Fadel
William Gough
Sue Graham-Nutter
Brenda Librecz
Mari Motrich
Rose Patten, Chancellor
Silma Roddau
Annie Sahagian

*Telephone Participants

In attendance:

Cheryl Regehr, Vice-President and Provost

Jennifer Curry, Director, Office of the Vice-President and Principal

Arda Erturk, Student Representative, Council on Student Services

Karima Hashmani, Director, Equity and Diversity

Joseph Hermer, Associate Professor, Sociology

Marg Lacy, Senior Manager, Academic Advising and Career Centre

Jeff Lennon, Director, Academic Planning and Analysis

Hassan Mahmood, Senior Budget Analyst

Desmond Pouyat, Dean, Student Affairs

Phanikiran Radhakrishnan, Associate Professor, Organizational Behavior & Human Resources

Nadia Rosemond, Senior Manager, Student Life and International Experience

Larry Whatmore, Assistant Director, Business Operations

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He extended a warm welcome to the Vice-President and Provost, Cheryl Regehr and Jeff Lennon, Director, Academic Planning and Analysis. The Chair acknowledged the recent elections results, and congratulated the student winners.

2. Report of the Vice-President and Principal

Professor Tetey reminded Council members that as part of the strategic planning exercise, eight working groups had been formed to address various key priorities. Two of the working groups, Indigenous Peoples & Truth and Reconciliation and Equity and Diversity, were invited to share their progress to date.

a. Working Group Presentation- Indigenous Peoples & Truth and Reconciliation¹

Nadia Rosemond, Senior Manager, Student Life & International Experience and Joseph Hermer, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology shared the area of focus, strategies and projected outcomes of the working group. The areas of focus included the following:

- Students, Curriculum, and Co-Curriculum;
- Ethical relationship based practices (includes leadership, research, teaching, consultation, and accountability);
- Faculty and Staff (education of existing staff and faculty, the desire to have the Indigenous lens permeate their work; recruitment of Indigenous faculty and staff); and
- Space (physical, historic and emotional dimensions).

The presentation had a focus on 'treaty citizenship'. A member asked if the concept of treaty citizenship was new or specific to the University of Toronto. The working group co-chairs responded that it was not new, however the concept was part of a growing perspective to move practices beyond land acknowledgement.

b. Working Group Presentation - Equity and Inclusion²

Professor Tetey invited Phanikiran Radhakrishnan, Associate Professor, Department of Management and Karima Hashmani, Director, Equity and Diversity to share details about the progress of the working group.

The presenters shared the key areas for consideration, the stakeholder consultations to date, and the additional data that had been referenced. The working group was considering several key questions and issues, such as how to ensure equity and inclusion at the University and how to

¹ Presentation- Indigenous Peoples & Truth and Reconciliation

² Presentation- Equity and Inclusion

establish a common set of shared practices. In addition, the working group was considering mechanisms for accountability, and intentional contributions to promote a sense of belonging among all stakeholders.

Challenges and opportunities were also discussed, such as the opportunity to integrate and connect with faculty currently doing research in this area. A member asked if there were any additional student groups that represent various communities that might be consulted, and commented on the process to determine which group's feedback was sought. The working group co-chairs responded that the process of collecting stakeholder feedback was ongoing. Professor Tetey also commented that other mechanisms for feedback were available such as the online submission tool in addition to the recent Town Hall where 400 students were engaged and provided feedback.

c. Principal's Report³

Professor Tetey expressed his gratitude to the working groups and provided an update on the development of the Strategic Plan. Professor Tetey reviewed the four imperatives for developing the Strategic Plan:

- Advance a culture of leadership that is bold, empathetic, shared, transparent, inclusive, and transformational, thereby enabling UTSC's collective aspirations;
- Promote and support an inclusive, healthy learning and working environment;
- Strengthen, grow, and sustain local and global networks and partnerships that advance UTSC's mission; and
- Augment the University's global standing through scholarly prominence and exceptional learning in unique areas of established and emerging strength.

Professor Tetey noted the progress to date on development of the Strategic Plan. He commented that Phase 1 (Develop Priorities) was complete, and Phase 2 (Working Group Reports) was well underway. Many consultations (over 55) had occurred across the various working groups, with a framework that sought to include both prevailing and alternative views, across both internal and external stakeholders. Professor Tetey indicated that the Strategic Plan development process was iterative and would continue to welcome ongoing feedback. Lastly, he discussed the next stage, which would be to review the working group recommendations, move through governance and finalize the Strategic Plan, which would wrap up over Summer and Fall of 2019.

Professor Tetey reported that a four-point action plan to address mental health had been developed, and this included the following actions:

- Establishment of Presidential and Provostial Task Force on student mental health;
- Undergraduate Student Educational Experience (USEE) Expert Panel to consider issues of learning cultures, competitiveness, student wellbeing/supports;
- U of T and health care partners would work in concert to strengthen ability to collaborate and to refer students requiring specialized care; and
- Stress importance to Provincial Government of the need for additional resources.

³ Presentation- Principal's Report

Professor Tetley asked members to be as empathetic to students as possible, as stress and pressure increased at this time of year.

Professor Tetley reported on his recent Delegation to China (April 4 – 14, 2019) which saw much success, including the signing of new co-op agreements and a forthcoming scholarship announcement. In addition, the Delegation met with several prospective students and parents. The Delegation also provided an opportunity to thank many University of Toronto supporters in China and to build further relationships.

A member asked if alumni feedback would be sought out during the consultation phase of the Strategic Plan. Professor Tetley confirmed that yes, alumni would be approached. Another member asked if those who provided online feedback were to be contacted. Professor Tetley responded that yes, the feedback was acknowledged and would be forwarded to the appropriate working group for engagement. Another member suggested that an alumni Town Hall may support engagement and feedback. Professor Tetley agreed it was a good idea and commented that it was important to both maximize opportunities to provide feedback and recognize that coming to campus required a time commitment.

3. UTSC Campus Operating Budget & Allocation of Funds – UTSC⁴

The Chair welcomed the Vice-President and Provost, Cheryl Regehr and Jeff Lennon, Director, Academic Planning and Analysis. Professor Regehr introduced the item by first noting that the budget model was currently under review. The presentation addressed the following topics: 2019-20 Operating Budget Overview, revenues and expenses, student enrolments, Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), strategic priorities, and risks. The presentation highlights included the following points:

- The budget at the institutional level was balanced at \$2.77 billion of revenues and expenses;
- The provincially mandated tuition fee framework would impose a 10% cut to domestic tuition fees for 2019-20, which would result in a \$65 million revenue loss for the University. Fees would remain frozen at that level in 2020-21;
- Revenue sources had changed over time, with a smaller proportion coming from government funding (24% in 2019-20), and domestic tuition revenue (21% in 2019-20) and an increase in the proportion from international tuition (34% in 2019-20);
- Compensation continued to be the largest expense in the budget, estimated at \$1.74 billion for 2019-20, which was a \$98 million increase from 2018-19;
- While the University planned to decrease overall domestic enrolment by approximately 2% over the next five years, domestic enrolment at UTSC was expected to increase by 5.4% over the same period;
- The University planned to modestly increase its proportion of international undergraduate enrolment from 24.8% in 2018-19 to 25.6% by 2023-24;

⁴ Presentation- Budget

- As a result of the Provincial government changes to OSAP, fewer students would qualify for OSAP. However, the University would continue its commitment to financial aid and the Student Access Guarantee (SAG);
- The University Fund would include \$7.1 million to support divisions hardest hit by the tuition fee reduction, ensuring that no division would experience a year-over-year budget cut greater than 3%. The remaining \$10 million would be allocated to various initiatives aligned with the institutions priorities around equity and diversity, re-imagining undergraduate education and research and innovation;

A member asked if there would be increased funding towards international student supports, to align with the projected increase in international students on campus. Professor Regehr responded that in the year prior, an International Student Experience Fund was developed to enhance the student experience.

A guest asked about the impact of the provincial governments Student Choice Initiative on campus life across the University and if strategies were being discussed to ameliorate the impacts. Professor Regehr responded that the opt out process was new to the University of Toronto, and at this time the University was itemizing all the student fees so that students can be given a choice to opt out of fees deemed to be non-essential under the Ministry policy. Opt out rates were currently unknown and buffering funds for non-essential services, goes against the spirit of the Student Choice Initiative.

A member asked about the forecasted budget for mental health supports. Professor Regehr responded that \$3 million in base budget had been set aside over the last two years for health and wellness counsellors and accessibility advisors. There were efforts to meet a rising demand of services and to connect with external services as outlined in the four-point action plan to address mental health.

A member asked about the graduate employment data provided and asked if it could be broken down by campus. Professor Regehr responded that no, the data was collected from third party sources (e.g., Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities) and did not differentiate by campus.

A member asked about faculty diversity hiring, and if all racialized groups were being considered. Professor Regehr responded that while the first rounds of diversity hiring support were open to hires from any underrepresented group, the focus of the current support program was on Indigenous and Black faculty hires. Professor Regehr added that the Toronto Initiative for Diversity and Excellence (TIDE) group, chaired by Maydianne Andrade, Canada Research Chair and Vice-Dean, Faculty Affairs & Equity at UTSC, was looking at this issue for the entire institution.

A member asked about tracking retention for racialized groups. Professor Regehr responded that there was a project underway to track retention and graduation data, however the University did not track race. This was an ongoing topic of discussion. Professor Tettey commented about a current University retention initiative that was looking at students who are just shy of graduating, to consider what supports may assist students in completion.

A member asked how the University may support students to have more ‘grit’, and about access to University. Professor Regehr responded to say that there were bridging programs to support greater access, including an initiative with the Toronto District School Board.

4. Operating Plans and Fees: UTSC Student Affairs and Services⁵

Brian Harrington, Chair, UTSC Campus Affairs Committee (CAC), introduced the item and provided a summary of the deliberations that took place at the February 14th UTSC CAC meeting. Dr. Harrington reminded members that a procedural error was made for this item, which was to divide the item into three separate motions. He noted that this contravened the sense of the proposal, and as such the motion at the last CAC was not in order. Further to this, Dr. Harrington noted that the proposal had previously been approved by the Council for Student Services (CSS). Finally, he clarified to members that they were permitted to vote in favour or against the proposal, but reminded them that the representative body of students had already approved the proposal in its entirety through the CSS process and that should be taken into account within the university governance processes.

The Chair invited Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs, to present the UTSC Student Affairs and Services 2019-20 Operating Plans and Fees, to the Council.

Mr. Pouyat’s presentation outlined the purpose of the operating plans, which included: continuance of strong core programming and services (e.g. counselling, mental health, advising and career development, accessibility accommodations), efficiencies in service delivery, and modest inflationary increases to support student services, initiatives, clubs, and events. He described the priorities across the Student Affairs and Services portfolio and the robust CSS process, which began in September 2018 and concluded in February 2019. In conclusion, Mr. Pouyat shared the outcome of the CSS vote with the Committee and the proposed budget increases (an overall increase of 2.54%) for Health and Wellness, Athletics and Recreation, and the Student Services Fee.

A student member asked if the motion was a collective vote. The Chair responded that, yes, the fees were brought forward as a single motion, and not individually, referring to the introduction of the item by UTSC CAC Chair, Dr. Brian Harrington.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COUNCIL APPROVED,

THAT subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee;

THAT, the 2019-20 operating plans and budgets for the UTSC Student Affairs and Services (including the Health & Wellness Centre, Athletics & Recreation, and Student Services), as presented in the documentation from Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs, be approved; and

⁵ Presentation- Operating Plans and Fees, Student Affairs and Services

THAT the sessional Health & Wellness Fee for a UTSC-registered or UTSC- affiliated full-time student be increased to \$70.37 (\$14.07 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$1.38 (\$0.27 for a part-time student) or 2.0 %; and

THAT the sessional Athletics & Recreation Fee for a UTSC-registered or UTSC- affiliated full-time student be increased to \$145.93 (\$29.18 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$2.86 (\$0.57 for a part-time student) or 2.0 %; and

THAT the sessional Student Services Fee for a UTSC-registered or UTSC- affiliated full-time undergraduate student be increased to \$188.81 (\$37.76 for a part-time student), which represents a year over year increase of \$5.81 (\$1.16 for a part-time student) or 3.17 %.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion duly made, seconded and carried,

YOUR COUNCIL APPROVED,

THAT the consent agenda be adopted and that the item requiring approval (item 5) be approved.

5. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 34- Thursday, March 7, 2019

The report of the previous meeting 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. Reports for Information

Members received the following reports for information:

- a) Report Number 35 of the UTSC Agenda Committee (April 8, 2019)
- b) Report Number 36 of the UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (March 27, 2019)
- c) Report Number 32 of the UTSC Campus Affairs Committee (March 28, 2019)

8. Date of the Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.

9. Question Period

A member spoke to the various implications of the provincial government funding cuts, and commented that there was an additional concern that had not been noted – transportation. Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Administrative Officer, agreed that transport was an issue for UTSC and responded that there had been some progress with various levels of government on transit and expansion of the Scarborough LRT, however at this point, there were no plans for further transit and infrastructure development.

10. Other Business

No other business was raised.

The Council moved *in camera*.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

11. Appointments: 2019-20 UTSC Campus Council Community Members

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried,

YOUR COUNCIL APPROVED,

THAT the appointment of Mr. George Fadel, be approved to serve a three-year term as a community member on the UTSC Campus Council, effective July 1, 2019; and,

THAT the appointment of Ms Gillian Mason, be approved to serve a three-year term as a community member on the UTSC Campus Council, effective July 1, 2019; and,

THAT the appointment of Ms Dorinda So, be approved to serve a three-year term as a community member on the UTSC Campus Council, effective July 1, 2019; and,

THAT the appointment of Mr. Andrew Tam, be approved to a serve three-year term as a community member on the UTSC Campus Affairs Committee, effective July 1, 2019.

The Council returned to open session.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

April 29, 2019