



Memorandum to: Governing Council
Academic Board
Business Board
University Affairs Board
UTM Campus Council
UTSC Campus Council
Principals, Deans, Academic Directors and Chairs
Professionals, Managers and Confidential Staff
President of UTFA
Presidents of Employee Unions
Presidents of APUS, GSU, SCSU, UTMSU and UTSU

From: Professor Meric Gertler, President

Date: April 6, 2021

Re: **Appointment of Professor Joseph Wong as Vice-President,
International**

I am very pleased to announce that the Governing Council has approved the appointment of Professor Joseph (Joe) Wong as Vice-President, International, effective April 7, 2021 until June 30, 2026. Professor Wong has been serving as the Interim, Vice-President, International since July 1, 2020.

The Advisory Committee on the Vice-President, International, which I chaired, undertook a comprehensive international search. Based on the criteria articulated in the [position profile](#), we determined that Professor Joe Wong was exceptionally well qualified for the position.

Professor Wong is Professor of Political Science and the Ralph & Roz Halbert Professor of Innovation at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. Having served as U of T's first Associate Vice-President and Vice-Provost, International Student Experience, and most recently as the interim Vice-President, International, Professor Wong has played a key leadership role in advancing the University's internationalization strategy. A political scientist, teacher and scholar of global affairs, Professor Wong is an innovator and pioneer of the global classroom approach. He has attracted millions of dollars in external funding for research, student training and teaching, and has worked in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

Professor Wong is the author of several books and dozens of articles in leading academic journals, including two forthcoming volumes with Princeton University Press and Cambridge University Press. He has also advised international organizations and governments in Asia, Europe, Latin America and Africa on matters of public policy.

In 2015, Professor Wong launched The Reach Project to foster interdisciplinary collaboration among students and faculty from across U of T to address innovation and global poverty reduction. Professor Wong has played an instrumental role in the success of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at U of T, ensuring world-class educational experiences for talented students from sub-Saharan Africa.

Prior to joining the Office of the Vice-President, International, Professor Wong was Director of the Asian Institute at the Munk School. A former Canada Research Chair, his current research focuses on poverty and innovation in the Global South. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.A., both in Political Science, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a B.A. (Hons.) in Political Science from McGill University.

I look forward to continuing to work with Professor Wong in advancing the University's international agenda. Please join me in congratulating him on his appointment.

I would like, finally, to thank the members of the [Advisory Committee](#) for their involvement in this critical process and for their thoughtful advice and guidance.