

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 396 OF
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 11, 2006

To the Governing Council,
University of Toronto.

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the Boardroom, Simcoe Hall, with the following members present:

Ms Rose M. Patten (In the Chair)
Mr. John F. (Jack) Petch, Vice-Chair
Professor C. David Naylor,
President
Ms Holly Andrews-Taylor
The Honourable William G. Davis
Ms Susan Eng
Dr. Shari Graham Fell
Mr. Ran Goel
Professor Michael R. Marrus
Mr. Timothy Reid
Professor Arthur S. Ripstein
Mr. Robert S. Weiss

Non-Voting Member:

Mr. Louis R. Charpentier

Secretariat:

Mr. Henry Mulhall, Secretary

Regrets:

Mr. P.C. Choo
Professor Barbara Sherwood Lollar

In Attendance:

Dr. Robert M. Bennett, Chair, University Affairs Board and member of the Governing Council
Professor Raymond Cummins, Chair, Academic Board and member of the Governing Council
Professor Vivek Goel, Vice-President and Provost and member of the Governing Council
Ms Jacqueline Orange, Chair, Business Board and member of the Governing Council
Ms Catherine Riggall, Vice-President, Business Affairs
Dr. Chris Cunningham, Special Advisor to the President

On motion duly moved and seconded,

IT WAS RESOLVED

THAT, pursuant to sections 28 (e) and 33 of *By-Law Number 2*, consideration of item 1 take place *in camera*, with the Board Chairs admitted to facilitate the work of the Committee.

1. Senior Appointment

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE ENDORSED AND FORWARDED

To the Governing Council for consideration the recommendation for a senior appointment contained in the memorandum from the President dated May 10, 2006.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

That, pursuant to Section 38 of By-Law Number 2, the recommendation for the senior appointment be considered by the Governing Council *in camera*.

The Committee returned to closed session.

2. Report of the Previous Meeting

Report Number 395 of the Executive Committee meeting held on April 21, 2006 was approved.

3. Business Arising from the Report of the Previous Meeting

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

4. Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting

The minutes of the Governing Council meeting held on May 1, 2006 were not yet available for distribution, but would be provided for information prior to the next meeting of the Executive Committee on June 15, 2006.

5. Business Arising from the Governing Council Meeting

There were no items of business arising from the previous meeting.

6. Report of the President

(a) Federal Government Relations

The President reported that the Federal Budget announced on May 2, 2006 had contained some welcome measures in support of post-secondary education, including the unanticipated provision of \$40 million in new base funding for the indirect costs of research. The University would gain new revenues from this provision, as funding of indirect costs at the University were currently well under 20% and would rise to nearly 23% under the existing formula. The President advised that the University believed the existing formula was unfair to research-intensive institutions, and had lobbied for a revision. Alternative formulae could result in an additional \$3-4 million of funding for the current year. The President noted that this issue would be discussed further during his meeting with federal decision makers at the time of the Alumni Event in Ottawa on May 29, 2006. The University, along with its research-intensive university partners, had also recently begun discussions regarding the science and technology framework, and was participating in a consultative forum in June with the Minister of Industry, Maxime Bernier. In all these discussions, the University was developing a particularly productive working relationship with the Universities of Alberta and Calgary.

6. Report of the President (cont'd)

A member noted that a total of \$100 million in increased funding for research had been announced in the Federal Budget, including the \$40 million allocated for the indirect costs of research. He asked what impact the additional \$60 million would have on the University. The President responded that these base funds had been allocated to the three federal granting councils (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC), and the impact on the University would depend upon its success rate in making competitive applications for grants.

(b) Performance Indicators

The issue of continued participation in *Maclean's* magazine's survey of recently graduated students had become a bellwether for the broader issue of performance reporting in the post-secondary education sector. There was a growing consensus among the executive heads of universities that league tables were not particularly useful metrics, and the challenge was to develop broader performance measures that would be more useful to the entire range of the institutions' stakeholders. The Provost had recently chaired the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) Task Force on Quality and Productivity, and the President was chairing the COU follow-on Taskforce on Quality Measurement. Work was underway to develop a common 'report card' for the Province's universities. The University, along with McMaster University and the Universities of Calgary and Alberta had informed *Maclean's* that it would not be participating in its graduate survey in light of their concerns about the survey's scientific validity, in particular the low response rates used, and the lack of rigorous analysis that was carried out. The magazine would, however, have access to publicly available information on the University's website concerning the student experience and student satisfaction. No decision had yet been made with respect to whether the University would continue to participate in *Maclean's* annual fall rankings of Canadian universities, but the President expressed considerable skepticism about the value of the exercise.

7. Item for Confirmation by the Executive Committee**(a) Constitution: Faculty of Arts and Science**

(Arising from Report Number 143 of the Academic Board [May 4, 2006])

Professor Cummins reported that the revisions to the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Science were the result of a lengthy period of review and consultation within the Faculty. There had been a thorough discussion at the Academic Board of this item. Several members had commented favourably on the increased participation of students in the proposed Arts and Science Council. A member had asked for clarification of the process for approval of graduate curriculum. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science had explained that a three-campus Graduate Curriculum Committee had been established by the Faculty, and had been given delegated authority by the Arts and Science Council for all matters pertaining to graduate programs. Questions were raised at the Academic Board concerning the total membership of the Council and the inclusion of College Registrars as both elected voting members and non-voting *ex officio* members. The Dean had acknowledged that the number of members would be impacted by the number of College Registrars who were elected as voting members of the Council. The Academic Board had passed the motion unanimously.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE CONFIRMED THE DECISION OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

THAT the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts and Science, approved by the Faculty Council and General Committee on April 3, 2006, be approved.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 143 of the Academic Board as Appendix "A".

8. Item for Endorsement and Forwarding to Governing Council

(a) Policy on Student Housing

(Arising from Report Number 135 of the University Affairs Board [April 25, 2006])

Dr. Bennett reported that, at its meeting on April 25, 2006, the University Affairs Board had considered the proposal to renew the *Policy on Student Housing*, which had last been reviewed in 1989. Professor Farrar had informed the Board that this policy change had arisen from the work of the Task Force on Student Housing, which had made numerous recommendations to the administration. At the University Affairs Board meeting, questions had been raised about the status of the first year guarantee, the membership of the Housing Committee, and the means by which waiting lists would be managed. The Board had approved the *Policy* unanimously.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE ENDORSED AND FORWARDED to the Governing Council for consideration the recommendation

THAT the proposed *Policy on Student Housing* be approved, replacing the existing *Policy on Student Housing* as passed on March 9, 1989.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 135 of the University Affairs Board as Appendix “A”.

9. Governing Council / Executive Committee Meeting Dates, 2006-07

The Vice-Chair informed members that By-Law Number 2 required that at least five regular meetings of the Governing Council be held during each academic year. The dates and times of such meetings were to be determined annually in advance by the Executive Committee not later than June 30th preceding the period of such meetings. The Executive Committee could cancel at most one of the regular meetings of the Governing Council in each academic year, for lack of sufficient business.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

the 2006-2007 meeting dates for Council, as well as its own dates, as set out in the memorandum from the Secretary of the Governing Council dated May 9, 2006.

| Cycle | Executive Committee Usual time: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Location: Board Room | Governing Council Usual time: 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Location: Council Chamber |
|-------------|---|--|
| Orientation | | Friday, September 8, 2006, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. |
| Cycle 1 | Wednesday, October 18, 2006 | Thursday, November 2, 2006 |
| Cycle 2 | Thursday, November 23, 2006 | Thursday, December 14, 2006 |
| Cycle 3 | Thursday, January 18, 2007 | Thursday, February 1, 2007 |
| Cycle 4 | Thursday, March 8, 2007 | Thursday, March 29, 2007 |
| Cycle 5 | Thursday, April 12, 2007. | Thursday, April 26, 2007 |
| Cycle 6 | Thursday, May 17, 2007 | Wednesday, May 30, 2007 |
| Cycle 7 | Thursday, June 14, 2007 Monday, June 25, 2007, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Monday, June 25, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. |

10. Assistant Vice-Presidential Position Name Change

The Provost reported that in March 2005 the Governing Council had approved the creation of the position of Assistant Vice-President, Space and Facilities Planning, following a review of the scope and structure of the Vice-Provost, Space and Facilities Planning portfolio upon the conclusion of the term of Professor Ron Venter. It was now being proposed to change the position title to Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning. The change was intended to avoid confusion with the similarly named position of Assistant Vice-President, Facilities and Services. In addition, the new name would make clearer the distinction between the Campus and Facilities Planning Office (in the Vice-President and Provost's portfolio) and the Capital Projects office (in the Vice-President, Business Affairs portfolio). The former was responsible for institutional planning which was closely tied to academic and budget planning; the latter was responsible for the implementation of capital projects. The proposed name was also intended to clarify that the mandate of the portfolio related to all aspects of campus planning, including open spaces, across the three campuses. The name change would also coincide with the upcoming move of the Campus and Facilities Planning office to the McMurrich Building.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE ENDORSED AND FORWARDED to the Governing Council for consideration the recommendation

THAT the position of Assistant Vice-President, Space and Facilities Planning be renamed Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning.

The Chair informed members, that, as it would be recommended as the last item of business on the agenda to cancel the May 24, 2006 meeting of the Governing Council for lack of sufficient business, and, as the item just recommended to Governing Council was a time sensitive one, it was proposed that it be considered by email ballot by the Governing Council, with the result being read into the record at the June 29, 2006 Governing Council meeting.

11. Reports for Information

Members received one report for information.

- (a) Report Number 135 of the University Affairs Board (April 25, 2006)

12. Date of the Next Meeting

Members were reminded that the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee was scheduled for Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 12:30 p.m.

13. Other Business**(a) Governing Council Meeting of May 24, 2006**

The Chair recommended that the May 24, 2006 meeting of the Governing Council be cancelled for lack of sufficient business.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the Governing Council meeting of May 24, 2006 be cancelled.

13. Other Business (cont'd)**(b) Update on the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson**

The Vice-Chair reminded members that the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson had been established at the March 9, 2006 meeting of the Executive Committee with a twofold mandate: to conduct a review of the Office of the Ombudsperson, and to make a recommendation regarding the appointment of an Ombudsperson. Since that time the Committee had met four times, received a number of written submissions, met with individuals, conducted a town hall meeting on each of the University's three campuses, and produced a draft version of its report. The Committee would bring its report on the review phase of its work to the Executive Committee at its June 15, 2006 meeting. The Secretary added that the Review Committee, following consideration of this report by the Governing Council at the end of June, would begin to address the second half of its mandate, the task of making a recommendation regarding the appointment of an Ombudsperson. In light of this timing it was agreed that a brief extension of the incumbent's appointment would be necessary and appropriate in order to allow the Committee to complete the search phase of its work, and that a recommendation regarding the extension should be brought to the Governing Council at its final meeting in June.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

May 25, 2006