

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
REPORT NUMBER 400 OF
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 23, 2006

To the Governing Council,
University of Toronto.

Your Committee reports that it held a meeting on Thursday, November 23, 2006 at 5:00 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 David Naylor, President
Mr. P.C. Choo
The Honourable William G. Davis
Miss Coralie D'Souza
Ms Susan Eng
Dr. Shari Graham Fell
Professor Ellen Hodnett
Professor Arthur S. Ripstein
Ms Estefania Toledo
Mr. Robert S. Weiss

Non-Voting Member:

Mr. Louis R. Charpentier

Secretariat:

Mr. Henry Mulhall, Secretary

Regrets:

Mr. Timothy Reid
Professor Barbara Sherwood Lollar

In Attendance:

Dr. Claude Davis, Chair, University Affairs Board and Member of the Governing Council
Professor Michael R. Marrus, Chair, Academic Board and Member of the Governing Council
Professor Vivek Goel, Vice-President and Provost and Member of the Governing Council
Ms Catherine Riggall, Vice-President, Business Affairs

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, Vice-Presidents and Special Advisor to the President admitted to facilitate the work of the Committee.

1. Report Number 49 of the Committee for Honorary Degrees

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE ENDORSED AND FORWARDED

to the Governing Council for consideration the recommendations contained in Report Number 49 of the Committee for Honorary Degrees.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT pursuant to Section 38 and 40 of *By-Law Number 2*, the recommendations be considered by the Governing Council *in camera*.

The Committee returned to closed session.

2. Report of the Previous Meeting

Report Number 399 of the Executive Committee meeting held on October 18, 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 of November 2, 2006

The Chair noted that, owing to the fact the meeting of the Executive Committee that day had been scheduled approximately one week earlier than normal, the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Governing Council were not yet available. The Minutes would be included in the agenda packages mailed to Governors prior to the next Governing Council meeting.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting

Neither the Chair nor any members were aware of any items of Business Arising from the previous meeting of the Governing Council. Were any items to arise once the Minutes were finalized, they would be dealt with at the next meeting.

6. Report of the President

(a) Provincial Update

The President reported that there was increased pressure on the provincial post-secondary education budget. This was being caused in part by enrolment growth as the 'echo generation' moved through the system, and participation rates rose. In addition, budget resources were being encumbered into discretionary funds. This included funds that had been anticipated for quality improvements, but which now looked likely to be used for other purposes such as volume enhancement. Discussions were continuing with officials in the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to maintain the quality agenda.

(b) Federal Update

It was not anticipated that major initiatives related to post-secondary education would be included in the economic update scheduled to be released by the federal government that day. These were anticipated, rather, to be part of the federal budget expected in the late winter or

6. Report of the President (cont'd)**(b) Federal Update (cont'd)**

spring. The University, along with its G13 research intensive sister institutions and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) was actively advocating with federal officials for measures in support of research and post-secondary education more generally.

(c) Searches

Four executive searches were underway. The new positions of Assistant Vice-President, Government, Institutional and Community Relations, and Assistant Vice-President, International Relations would report to the Vice-President, University Relations. The search for a Vice-President, Advancement was about to be announced. Finally, the President and Vice-President and Provost were co-chairing the search for the new Vice-President and Principal of the University of Toronto at Scarborough (UTSC), and were pleased with its progress.

(d) Committee Structure

The President reported that efforts were being made to simplify the structure of the central administration of the University, and to streamline the processes by which it interacted with the governance structure. The intention was to reduce the number of committees, and to increase the speed with which items of business could proceed through the system.

(e) Admissions Issues

A taskforce on merit-based scholarships was working to establish the criteria by which to assess non-academic merit in such areas as the creative arts and athletics. This was not currently being carried out in a consistent manner across the University. Such assessment could involve the increased use of admissions interviews, the logistics of which were a challenge in such a large institution. A member suggested that alumni might be used to assist with interviews, as was done at other universities. The President took this suggestion under advisement, and noted that alumni might be particularly useful in conducting interviews for international applicants.

(f) Varsity Centre Update

The President reported that work on the Varsity Centre was progressing well, as were continuing fundraising efforts in support of the project. The possibility of adding a field house to the project was being explored, but greater clarity was needed with respect to costs and possible sources of funding, including fundraising.

(g) University of Toronto Asset Management Corporation (UTAM)

The UTAM Board of Directors had held a productive Annual Strategy Meeting on November 8, 2006. Discussions were ongoing to clarify and enhance the relationship between UTAM and the University, and there was the possibility that an external reviewer might be engaged to examine this issue.

(h) CUD-O and Performance Measures

The Common University Dataset for Ontario (CUD-O), designed to facilitate inter-institutional comparisons, had been released on November 9, 2006. The response had been generally positive, and there was now a possibility that it might be expanded nationally. The University's

6. Report of the President (cont'd)**(h) CUD-O and Performance Measures (cont'd)**

annual Performance Indicators Report was scheduled to be released in January, and would include a condensed summary of the significant findings presented in an accessible format. This would serve to highlight some of the most important issues related to the University's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities.

(i) Vision 2030

The President and Vice-Presidents were working to catalyze a broad dialogue to develop a long-term vision of how the University might develop over the next 25 years. Some issues would surface from the Performance Indicators Report. Other issues would be more broadly strategic, including, for example, those related to the appropriate ratio of undergraduate to graduate students, and the University's tri-campus structure. The goal was to have the first planning document, *Towards 2030*, released in the spring.

(j) Hart House Incident

At the request of the President, the Chair invited Professor Goel to report on an incident which had occurred during a mayoral debate at Hart House on October 23, 2006. The *Policy on the Disruption of Meetings* required that the Governing Council should be kept informed, either directly or through its Executive Committee, of threatened or actual denials of freedom of speech, and of any measures that had been taken to deal with the situation. The Hart House debate had been disrupted when an uninvited candidate had asked to participate, had caused a disturbance, and then refused to leave the room when asked to do so. In dealing with the situation, the student organizers had been assisted by Hart House staff and the University Police. Professor Goel noted that the *Policy* called for a measured approach to such situations, where the Chair was to urge the individual to cease and depart, and if it appeared that this was unlikely to occur without a threat of violence, to adjourn the meeting. In dealing with the incident at Hart House the *Policy* had been followed, and the debate eventually took place after a 40-minute delay. Contrary to what had been reported in the news media, it was not University policy to cancel events rather than remove disruptive individuals. An investigation of the incident was being carried out by the Office of Student Affairs and by the University Police. Measures were also being taken to prepare members of the University community, including student leaders, to deal appropriately with any such incidents in the future.

7. Items for Endorsement and Forwarding to Governing Council**(a) Framework for Graduate Expansion**

*(Arising from Report Number 146 of the Academic Board [November 15, 2006]-
Item 5)*

Professor Marrus reported that there had been a thorough discussion of this item at the Board. Members had asked whether sufficient space resources, as well as funding for student support, would be available, and what effect there might be on the ratio of domestic to international graduate students.

7. Items for Endorsement and Forwarding to Governing Council (cont'd)

(a) Framework for Graduate Expansion (cont'd)

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

THAT the proposed graduate expansion as described in the Framework for Graduate Expansion 2004-05 to 2009-10 be approved.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 146 of the Academic Board as Appendix “A”.

(b) School of Public Policy and Governance: Establishment

(Arising from Report Number 146 of the Academic Board [November 15, 2006]- Item 6)

Professor Marrus reported that thorough discussion of this item had occurred at the Committee level before it reached the Academic Board, and consequently no questions had been raised by members of the Board.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

THAT the School of Public Policy and Governance be established as a new modified EDU:2 teaching and research entity, effective immediately.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 146 of the Academic Board as Appendix “B”.

(c) Capital Project: Project Planning Report: Medical Academy at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM)

(Arising from Report Number 146 of the Academic Board [November 15, 2006]- Item 7)

Professor Marrus reported that no questions had been raised by members of the Board with respect to this item. The Board had discussed the UTM Medical Academy in detail when it had recommended approval of its establishment at its meeting of February 16, 2006.

The Chair noted, in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Business Board, that the Business Board had also considered this item at its November 9, 2006 meeting. Subject to Governing Council approval of the project, the Business Board had approved its execution.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

- a. THAT the Project Planning Report for the Medical Academy at the University of Toronto at Mississauga be approved in principle;
- b. THAT space vacated in the South Building and including an adjacent addition be made available to the UTM Medical Academy;

7. Items for Endorsement and Forwarding to Governing Council (cont'd)**(c) Capital Project: Project Planning Report: Medical Academy at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) (cont'd)**

- c. THAT improvements and renovations at the Medical Sciences Building to support the distributed learning model of the UTM Medical Academy be approved in principle;
- d. THAT the project scope of 3415 nasm for the Academy having a total project cost of \$20.107 million be approved; and
- e. THAT \$20.107M funding required for the UTM Medical Academy comprise:
 - i) provincial funding in the form of annualized payments having a present value of \$14.7 million, and
 - ii) \$5.407 million short term debt carried by the Faculty of Medicine and the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 146 of the Academic Board as Appendix “C”.

(d) Declaration of Property as Surplus to the University’s Requirements

(Arising from Report Number 146 of the Academic Board [November 15, 2006]-Item 8)

A member noted that the documentation indicated that the property was being operated as a surface parking facility without full occupancy, and asked what percentage of occupancy was being achieved. Ms Riggall agreed to provide this information to the member.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

THAT the property 240 McCaul Street be declared surplus to University requirements.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 146 of the Academic Board as Appendix “D”.

(e) Statement on Equity, Diversity and Excellence

(Arising from Report Number 138 of the University Affairs Board [November 7, 2006]-Item 3)

Dr. Davis reported that the University Affairs Board had recommended approval of the *Statement on Equity, Diversity and Excellence* at its November 7, 2006 meeting. Professor Hildyard had explained that, following endorsement of the proposed *Equity Statement* by the Board at its May 2006 meeting, it had been decided that further consultation would be appropriate. This resulted in a revised and improved statement which combined the three concepts of equity, diversity and excellence, likely the first time that this had been done in a Canadian context. There had been no discussion by the University Affairs Board.

7. Items for Endorsement and Forwarding to Governing Council (cont'd)

(e) *Statement on Equity, Diversity and Excellence* (cont'd)

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

THAT the proposed *Statement on Equity, Diversity and Excellence* be approved.

Documentation is attached to Report Number 138 of the University Affairs Board as Appendix "A".

8. Report of the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson

The Vice-Chair referred members to the cover memorandum which highlighted the most significant recommendations contained in the Review Committee's final report. These included: a reaffirmation of the important role of the Ombudsperson; the need for the Ombudsperson to focus his or her activities on high level matters, including significant cases that required active intervention, as well as the identification of areas where policies and procedures might need review; the development of a new staffing and budget plan for the Ombudsperson's Office that would provide a case officer to carry out the necessary, but secondary, work of providing information and referrals; efforts to improve the visibility of the Ombudsperson service, especially (but not only) at UTM and UTSC; and finally, revisions to the Terms of Reference for the Ombudsperson's Office.

A member asked if the Committee had considered whether UTM and UTSC needed their own ombudspersons, and if so, why this had not been mentioned in the Report. The Vice-Chair responded that the Committee had discussed this issue, and had decided to allow the new Ombudsperson to address it once he or she was in office. The most appropriate arrangement by which to provide Ombudsperson services at UTM and UTSC would in part depend upon the new staffing plan for the Office, and the degree to which this allowed greater time for the Ombudsperson to work at these campuses. A member noted that the recommendations of the Report represented a significant departure from current practice in the Ombudsperson's Office, and would allow the Ombudsperson to have a higher profile across the University's three campuses.

A more general discussion of tri-campus issues followed. A member stated that these significant issues should be discussed openly and regularly. The President responded that the discussion of most major issues at the University now included consideration of their implications for the institution's three-campus structure. He cited as current examples the proposed graduate expansion, the hiring of new faculty, admissions and enrolment issues, the reorganization of Student Services, institutional branding, and governance restructuring. All were being discussed in a tri-campus context.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE RECEIVED

the Report of the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson.

8. Report of the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson (cont'd)

On motion duly moved and seconded,

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

THAT the recommendations contained in the Report of the Committee to Review the Office of the University Ombudsperson, 2006 be approved.

9. Report of the Ombudsperson and Administrative Response

The Chair noted that the report of the Ombudsperson and the Administrative Response were presented annually to the Governing Council for information and for comment. The Executive Committee was being asked to endorse the Report and Response and to place them on the agenda of the next meeting of the Governing Council. The Secretary of the Governing Council would be available to take questions on the Report at the Governing Council meeting, and the Provost would do so with respect to the Administrative Response.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the Report of the Ombudsperson and Administrative Response be placed on the agenda of the Governing Council meeting on December 14, 2006.

10. Reviews of Academic Programs and Units – Annual Report

Professor Marrus reported that this review process was a crucial component of accountability for the University, and a significant item of information for consideration by the Governing Council. In accordance with the Accountability Framework for Reviews, the Agenda Committee had considered the Report of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs, as well as the Review Summaries. Good questions had been asked, and it had been determined that there were no matters that required the attention of the Academic Board.

On motion duly moved and seconded,

YOUR COMMITTEE APPROVED

THAT the Reviews of Academic Programs and Units – Annual Report be placed on the agenda of the Governing Council meeting on December 14, 2006.

11. Reports for Information

Members received the following reports for information.

- (a) Report Number 145 of the Academic Board (October 4, 2006)
- (b) Report Number 152 of the Business Board (October 10, 2006)
- (c) Report Number 137 of the University Affairs Board (September 26, 2006)

Excerpts were also provided of Report Number 146 of the Academic Board (November 15, 2006) and of Report 138 of the University Affairs Board (November 7, 2006), containing information on the items going forward to the Governing Council for approval.

12. Date of the Next Meeting

Members were reminded that the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee was scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

13. Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Secretary

Chair

December 1, 2006