UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS COUNCIL

REPORT NUMBER 26 OF THE CAMPUS COUNCIL

October 3, 2017

Professor Paul Kingston, Chair Ms Mari Motrich

Professor Bruce Kidd, Vice-Professor Sonja Nikkila

President and Principal, UTSC Ms Lynn Tucker

Mr. Andrew Arifuzzaman, Chief Mr. Larry Whatmore*

Administrative Officer

Professor William A. Gough, Vice-

Principal, Academic and Dean

Mr. Fareed M. Amin

Mr. Conor Anderson

Dr. Catherine Bragg

Ms Gigi Chang

Professor Tarun Dewan

Ms Sue Graham-Nutter*

Dr. Brian Harrington

Professor Elaine Khoo

Ms Marilyn Kwan

Ms Brenda Librecz

Dr. Jennifer McKelvie

Ms Nazia Mohsin

Secretariat:

Ms Sheree Drummond Mr. Anwar Kazimi Ms Rena Prashad

Absent:

Mr. Preet Banerjee Mr. George Fadel

Mr. John Kapageridis

Ms Lydia V.E. Lampers-Wallner

Mr. John Paul Morgan Dr. Tayyab Rashid

*Telephone Participants

In attendance:

Ms Liza Arnason, Assistant Dean, Student Life, Community Outreach & International Experience

Ms Melanie Blackman, Coordinator, Community Development

Ms Deena Hassan, Vice-President, Operations, Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)

Ms Mariam Issa, Student member, UTSC Campus Affairs Committee

Ms Nafisa Mohamed, Vice-President, Campus Life, SCSU

Ms Varsha Patel, Assistant Dean, Student Success

Mr. Desmond Pouyat, Dean of Student Affairs

Ms Shelley Romoff, Director, Communications and Public Affairs

Professor Rania Salem, Teaching Staff member, UTSC Academic Affairs Committee

Ms Kavita Siewrattan, Executive Director, SCSU

Ms Sitharsana Srithas, President, SCSU

Ms Meredith Strong, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Students & Student Policy Advisor

Ms Kimberley Tull, Manager, Community Development and Engagement Professor Sandy Welsh, Vice-Provost, Students

1. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed members and guests to the first Council meeting of the 2017-18 governance year. He introduced himself and invited members to introduce themselves as well.

He extended a special welcome to the Secretary and Deputy Sectary of the Governing Council, Ms Sheree Drummond and Mr. Anwar Kazimi, and to members of the UTSC Academic and Campus Affairs Committee in attendance.

2. Orientation of Members

The Chair, Ms Drummond, and Ms Rena Prashad, Governance Coordinator, provided an Orientation presentation¹ to the Council. The presentation included the follow key points:

- The distinction between university administration and governance;
- An overview of the Governing Council and how the various Boards and Committees of the Governing Council fit into the unicameral system of governance at the University;
- Council membership composition and areas of responsibilities;
- Expectations of Council members;
- The role of Assessors;
- Types of decisions made by the Council, and guidelines on attendance at meetings; and
- Meeting preparation, agendas, cover sheets, and the Diligent Boards governance portal.

3. Report of the Vice-President & Principal

The Chair introduced and invited Professor Bruce Kidd, Vice-President and Principal, UTSC to present his report.

a. Student Presentation- Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)

Professor Kidd invited the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) President, Ms Sitharsana Srithas, to present² an overview of the SCSU and their plans, priorities, and goals for the year.

¹ Presentation- Orientation of Members

b. Principal's Report

Professor Kidd emphasized the importance of supporting and fostering a culture of inclusion, equity, and diversity at UTSC during a time where many in the global community initiated hatred and division. He remarked that diversity at UTSC stimulated excellence and innovation, and that to effectively affirm inclusion, equity, and diversity it was necessary to help reduce barriers for those who face them. Professor Kidd reminded the Council to stand as allies for all those who face a struggle for dignity and justice.

Professor Kidd provided the Council with an overview of his plans and priorities for the year. His presentation³ included the following key points;

- UTSC was moving ahead to realize the 'Calls to Action' of the Report of the University of Toronto Truth and Reconciliation Steering Committee. The campus welcomed Elder Wendy Phillips to the Office of the Vice-President and Principal. Professor William Gough, Vice-Principal, Academic and Dean, had undertaken a review of all courses with Indigenous content, and was exploring the possibility of offering an Indigenous language course. By July 1st, three faculty members and four Indigenous staff members were expected to join the campus community to begin the process of creating an Indigenous Centre on campus.
- Efforts were being made to strengthen the UTSC International Strategy within the context of the University's International Strategic Plan. This year UTSC planned to develop strategies for recruiting students from a broader range of countries and introduce additional international co-op and work placement opportunities for domestic students. Professor Kidd had created the Principal's International Advisory Group to help accomplish the goals set out in the UTSC International Strategy;
- The Highland Hall infrastructure project was well under way with occupancy planned for September 2018. A Request for Statements of Qualifications for the UTSC Student Residence closed over the summer months, and a concept plan had been developed for an accessible walking trail in the valley. He also reported that UTSC would continue its work with Anchor Institution partners to promote growth and development in the eastern Greater Toronto Area (GTA); and
- There were plans to further promote University Federalism and the concept of 'one University, three campuses'. These efforts were critical to strengthen the University brand and the synergies between the three campuses, and to bring clarity around the distinctiveness of each campus.

² Presentation- Student Presentation- Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU)

³ Presentation- Principal's Report

A member asked what active role Council members could have in advancing Professor Kidd's plans and priorities. Professor Kidd encouraged all members of the Council to share the UTSC story within their personal networks, and he invited members with specific suggestions to have an individual conversation with him.

4. Strategic Topic: 150 Neighbours

The Chair invited Professor Kidd to introduce the strategic topic. He reported that the 150 Neighbours project was a Canada 150 initiative designed to change the narrative about Scarborough, through the voices of Scarborough.

He invited Ms Kimberley Tull, Manager, Community Development and Engagement, Ms Melanie Blackman, Coordinator, Community Development, and Ms Shelley Romoff, Director, Communications and Public Affairs, to share details on the project to the Council. Their presentation⁴ included the following key points:

- The project was made possible through grant funding (\$100K) from the Ministry of Canadian Heritage;
- A portion of the grant funding entrusted to UTSC was disseminated to ten community
 partners who identified 3-4 of their initiatives to participate in two day workshops to
 develop and/or enhance skills (i.e. 'Take it to the Streets' digital video stories).
 Community partners also hosted community events (i.e. 'Celebrate Your Neighbour'walkathons, barbeques, and award ceremonies);
- A photo-documentary series was developed to profile 150 individuals who have worked diligently to enhance Scarborough. The social media driven project began on July 1st and would conclude on November 28th (i.e. 150 days). 98 profiles had been posted on the website to date, and it was expected that 150 profiles would be posted by the deadline to meet the goal of profiling 150 individuals in 150 days;
- An end of year event was planned for December 5th as a launching point for Canada 151. Canada 151 efforts included seeking out further funding opportunities to support the community partnerships that were established through the project.

In response to a comment regarding the impact of the two day workshops, Ms Blackman explained that participants developed a digital story telling skill, which they could in turn share within other individuals in their community group (e.g. train-the-trainer model). In addition, Ms Tull remarked that the workshops provided participants with an opportunity for knowledge exchange and a platform to build new community partnerships.

A member asked whether the project extended into the academic units at UTSC. Ms Romoff explained that Communications and Public Affairs hired interns from the Joint Journalism program with Centennial College to assist with writing the photo-documentary profiles.

⁴ Presentation- Strategic Topic: 150 Neighbours

A member asked whether profiles were still being accepted, and Ms Romoff remarked that Communications and Public Affairs continued to welcome submissions for review and consideration.

In response to a comment regarding the perceptions of Scarborough by the general public, Ms Tull remarked that it was important for Council members to share the good news stories of Scarborough with fellow neighbours in the GTA in order to shift the narrative about the community.

A member commented that the project was strongly aligned with the work of the Scarborough Community Renewal Organization (SCRO) who were actively engaged in promoting, renewing, and rebranding Scarborough.

In response to a comment regarding the broader impact of the project in the community, Ms Blackman explained that participants developed job readiness, interviewing, writing and digital media editing skills. Ms Tull remarked that UTSC had reinvested funding to support 38 community initiatives across Scarborough, and that the photojournalist for the project was hired by the Office of The Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), Scarborough—Guildwood.

5. Draft Policy- University-Mandated Leave of Absence

The Chair invited Professor Sandy Welsh, Vice-Provost, Students, to present⁵ the draft *University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy* to the Council for information and discussion. Professor Welsh reported that the University had been considering the development of such a *Policy* for a few years, and that it was regarded as a best practice by peer institutions.

She explained that the *Policy* was intended for a very small proportion of students, who in the context of mental health or other similar personal problems, met the threshold for intervention where their behaviour caused concern regarding their own safety or the safety of others, or whose behaviour negatively impacted the learning environment of others.

The *Policy* outlined that students were first encouraged to agree to a Voluntary Leave, but in situations where a University-mandated leave was necessary, the University would invoke the *Policy* to outline fair processes including a review and appeal mechanism. Professor Welsh emphasised that in the absence of a *Policy*, students exhibiting behavioural concerns were subject to the sanctions outlined under the *Student Code of Conduct*, which were disciplinary measures. To conclude, Professor Welsh remarked that the *Policy* did not preclude legal or criminal proceedings outside of the University.

In response to a comment regarding the supports available to a student on a University-mandated Leave of Absence, Professor Welsh explained that the Health and Wellness Centres would help connect a student to appropriate health professionals in the community if they weren't already receiving treatment.

⁵ Presentation- Draft Policy- *University-Mandated Leave of Absence*

Members raised questions regarding the readiness of students to return to their studies. Professor Welsh explained that a mental health assessment of the student would be conducted and reviewed by a health professional to determine a student's readiness to return to their studies.

A member commented on the perceived punitive nature of including a Leave of Absence notation on a student's transcript. Professor Welsh remarked that through the consultation process it was suggested that a notation would provide a transparent rationale for discontinuous gaps on a transcript.

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 6) be approved.

- **6. Report of the Previous Meeting: Report Number 25** Thursday, May 25, 2017
- 7. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 8. Reports for Information
- a) Report Number 26 of the UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (Wednesday, June 14, 2017)
- b) Report Number 26 of the UTSC Academic Affairs Committee (Thursday, September 14, 2017)
- c) Report Number 26 of the UTSC Agenda Committee (Monday, September 25, 2017)
- d) Report Number 25 of the UTSC Campus Affairs Committee (Wednesday, September 13, 2017)
- **9. Date of the Next Meeting** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at 4:10 p.m.

10. Question Period

No questions were raised.

11. Other Business

No other business was raised.

The Council moved in camera.

IN CAMERA

12. Appointments: 2017-18 UTSC Campus Council Nominating Committee

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried

YOUR COUNCIL APPROVED,

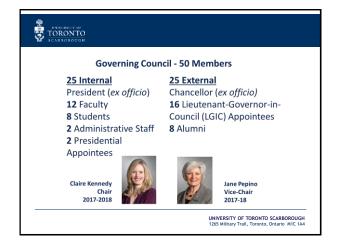
THAT Dr. Brian Harrington (teaching staff member of the UTSC Campus Council) and Mr. Conor Anderson (student member of the UTSC Campus Council) be appointed to serve on the UTSC Agenda Committee when the Committee serves as a nominating committee of the UTSC Campus Council for the 2017-18 governance year.

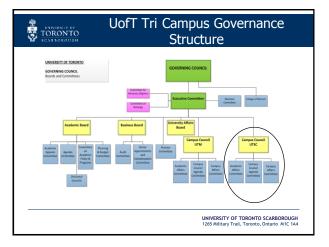
The Council returned to open session.	
The meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.	
Secretary	Chair

October 11, 2017

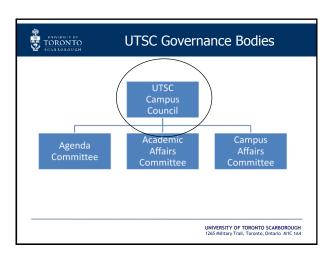


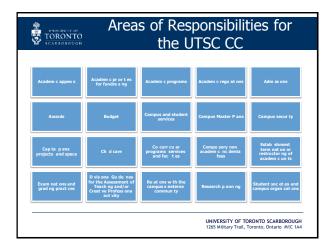


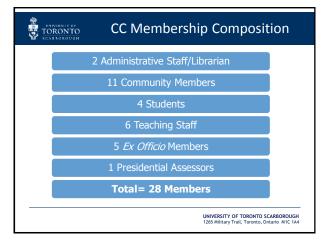












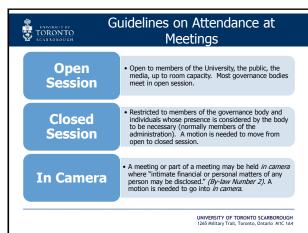




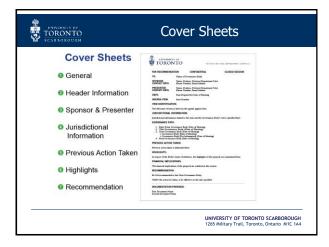














The Role of the Secretariat/Office of the UTSC Campus Council

- Provide support to the Committee Chair and Committee members:
 - Advises members on all governance matters related to the Committee;
 - Communicates Committee decisions to impacted parties;
 - A neutral liaison between the administration and governance; and
 - Manages governance records and maintain Council and Committee membership

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Contacting the Secretariat

Ms Rena Prashad

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More Information on University Governance

UTSC Governance

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/governance/

Governing Council

http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/site3.aspx

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Thank you

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UTSC Campus Council

Report of the Vice President & Principal Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017

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Indigenous Awareness and TRC Initiatives

❖ Welcomed Elder Wendy Phillips to the Office of the Vice President & Principal and actively recruiting Indigenous faculty & staff



Established a UTSC TRC Indigenous Coordinating Group to align and coordinate the activities with respect to TRC Indigeneity at UofT Scarborough

Establishing advisory body of Indigenous elders, faculty, staff and community members, to help implement the CTAs

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STUDENTS

PARTNERSHIPS















ADVANCEMENT AND REPUTATION





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Next Steps: Principal's International **Advisory Group**

Launch of Principal's International Advisory Group

- Advise and advance the University of Toronto Scarborough's international strategy and partnerships
- Develop goals and strategies in context of UofT's International Strategic Plan through the creation of working groups
 - Students, Partnerships, Advancement & Reputation
- · Provide a forum for discussion on topics of relevance on the international agenda
- Make recommendations and provide advice and implement activities in the context of a UTSC & and UofT international strategy
- Provide advice on the coordination and implementation of international activities including identifying gaps, barriers and opportunities.
- Identify areas for collaboration & leverage existing opportunities.
- · Provide input into indicators for review of UTSC's international activities.
- Provide input and advice on the development of communication and coordination tools.
- Advance UTSC's signature, unique offering

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Capacity Building

- Continue to work with Anchor Institution partners to ensure growth and development of region
- Continue to realize the capacity-building goals of the UTSC strategic plan through the master and secondary plans
 - ❖ Highland Hall scheduled to open in the spring of 2018
 - New residence, with 'passive house' design will double residence beds and provide students with a comprehensive residence experience
 - Discussions on new capital projects including a general-purpose academic building are in process
 - Planning underway for a new valley trail...

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U of T Federalism

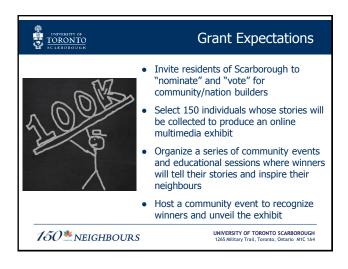
- •Strengthen the narrative of 'one university three campuses'
 - •Affirms the overarching strengths and synergies of the tri-campus university, especially international
 - •Recognizes the different social locations, character and contributions of the three distinct campuses
- •Untangle and clarify St. George and tri-campus responsibilities (and attributions) in the tri-campus portfolios
- •Encourage further progress towards embedding graduate education at UTM and UTSC as a way of strengthening overall tri-campus synergies and global position

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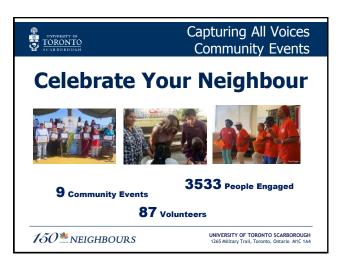








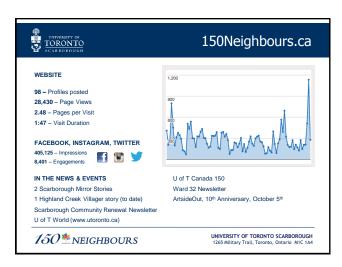






















DRAFT

University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy

Presentation to UTSC Campus Council October 3, 2017





Principles of Draft Policy Include:

- All students in good standing at UofT should have the opportunity to pursue their academic aspirations.
- The University has the right to address conduct of a Student where it is necessary to do so in order to protect that Student and/or other members of the University, or to comply with legal duties, including statutory duties and those arising where it has a duty of care.
- A Leave of Absence from the University under the Policy is not to be treated or be perceived as punitive or disciplinary.



Application and Scope

- Provides a way in which a Student may be placed on a Leave of Absence when it becomes apparent that due to mental health or other similar personal issues, the Student:
 - may pose a risk of harm to themselves, others, causing significant disruption to the educational process or the University community in general, or;
 - is unable to engage in activities required to pursue an education
- In circumstances where accommodations and/or supportive resources have not been successful or are not feasible.



Application and Scope

- Nothing in the new Policy precludes:
 - operation of any other voluntary leave policies or guidelines adopted by divisions.
 - application of the obligations under regular codes applicable to specific professions.
 - acting in accordance with duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, or its general duty of care, or under any applicable University policies.



Threshold for Intervention

Scenario 1: A Student's behaviour poses a risk of harm to self or others, including but not limited to a risk of imminent or serious physical or psychological harm or harm that involves more than a minimal impairment of the educational experience of fellow students.

or

Scenario 2: While not posing a risk of harm to self or others as described in Scenario 1, the Student is unable to engage in activities required to pursue an education at the University notwithstanding accommodations or supportive resources that may be available.



