MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA ACADEMIC
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE of Erindale College Council meeting held on Wednesday,
December 1, 2010 at 2:10 p.m. in Room 3214, William G. Davis Building.

Present: Nick Woolridge (in the Chair), X. Shi, P. Destrochers, L. Florence, S. Bernstein, S.
Radovic, U. Krull, A. Mullin, M. Smith, T. Braukman, A. Lange, A. Wensley, M. Mavrinac,
Regrets: D. Crocker
Guests: M. Berger, P. Macdonald, I. Binder, S. Metro, D. Lecies

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (November 3, 2010)

The report of the last meeting was approved.

2. Reports of Committees and Officers

a) 2011-12 Curriculum Reports: Items for Approval
   (Overview of major changes, for reference)

   i. Humanities – Professor Pascal Michelucci

Professor Michelucci noted that, apart from routine course-level changes, there were no
substantive changes in the Humanities curriculum report and moved the following motion:

It was duly moved and seconded,
THAT the Academic Affairs Committee approve the Humanities 2011-12 Curriculum
changes. (P. Michelucci/A. Mullin)

The Chair opened the floor.

The motion was called to question and was approved.

   ii. Sciences – Professor Mary Lou Smith

Professor Smith noted that the substantive changes in the Sciences report were one program
addition and one program deletion. She noted that the program addition was a Computer
Science Minor and that the Science Education program was deleted.

It was explained that Computer Science Minor (ERMIN1688) is envisioned to be of interest
to CTEP students. It will offer them the option to earn a second teachable in computer
science. CTEP students must take a major in math, chemistry or French, and the equivalent
of a minor in education, leaving them the option of completing a specialist (rather than a
major) or to pick up a second minor. The proposed minor in computer science will provide
most of the coursework necessary for CTEP students to be eligible to teach the 10th grade
computer science course.

It was further explained that the proposed minor does not introduce any new courses; most
of the impact of increased enrolment will be in the first and second years where additional
students can be accommodated by increasing the number of available tutorial sessions.
Thus, the resource implications are minimal.
Furthermore, the Science Education program (ERMIN0307) has been deleted. It was explained that this program was designed in 2001-02 and the professor spearheading the program has since retired. Enrollment in the program has decreased since the retirement of this faculty member and the introduction of the C11EP program. The 15 students currently registered in the program will be grandparented into the program following its discontinuation.

It was duly moved and seconded, THAT the Academic Affairs Committee approve the Sciences 2010-11 Curriculum changes. (M. Smith/A. Wensley)

The Chair opened the floor.

A member commented that he was delighted with the change that divided the first year chemistry course into two half courses. Another member added that it has been accomplished in other programs, such as Biology and has been considered successful. Professor Graham added that student satisfaction and success went up after a similar change. Professor Macdonald added that the plan is to offer the two half courses over the summer so students can catch up if they fall behind but cautioned that it will not be offered during the 2011 summer due to the expected laboratory renovation. A member asked if students could take the two half courses at different campuses. Professor Macdonald commented that it will be possible however we are a distinct institution and therefore students should consult an academic advisor. A member asked if the two first year half courses would have prerequisites or if they could be taken in any order. Professor Macdonald noted that they are not independent courses and are still sequential. The first half course is the prerequisite for the second half course.

In response to an inquiry on how students can be sure they have met their course requirements with the proposed changes it was communicated that the understanding was that students would be grandparented however a caution was given that the best route is for students to consult an academic advisor.

The motion was called to question and was approved.

iii. Social Sciences – Professor Graham White

Professor White noted that there was one substantive change in the Social Sciences report which is the addition of the Interactive Digital Media - Specialist program (ERSPE2172). He called on Professor Wensley to explain the program.

Professor Wensley advised members that it is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program, the curriculum for which provides students with a foundation in the generation, diffusion, and critical analysis of the social impact of new and emerging technologies. The program is run jointly with the Faculty of Information (commonly known as the iSchool) at the University of Toronto. The program will be administered by UTM and faculty teaching in the program will be drawn from the Faculty of Information and faculty associated with the Institute of Communication, Culture and Information Technology.

Given the synergies between the teaching and research strengths of the Faculty of Information and the existing CCIT programs, the joint undergraduate program will leverage these complementary strengths. Further it will provide a comprehensive and well-structured specialist program, which has been of particular interest to students. From the standpoint of the Faculty of Information, the new specialist program allows the Faculty to utilize its
research and teaching strengths at the undergraduate level. The program will also provide a unique set of opportunities for undergraduates to gain knowledge and expertise encompassing digital technologies and the multifaceted interactions among these technologies, people, institutions and society.

It was duly moved and seconded, THAT the Academic Affairs Committee approve the Social Sciences 2010-11 Curriculum changes. (G. White/U. Krull)

The Chair opened the floor.

A member mentioned she was pleased to see the direction of the new program. She asked if it was in conjunction with Sheridan. Professor Wensley answered that it would not be. He recognized the significance of the Sheridan Certificate and assured members that students would be counseled on what to take to ensure they obtain a Sheridan Certificate should they want it.

The member asked if it would be a deregulated fee program. Professor Wensley answered that it would be.

A member directed a question to anthropology namely the addition of the course First Year Seminar in Anthropology (ANT199Y5), asking if this course was similar to the offering at the St. George campus. Professor White answered that it was his understanding that it would not be equivalent to the 199 course offered at St. George. It is more about linking students to faculty members. Professor Lange added that it was her understanding that it is the only one offered. Another member added that it would be an H course and would only be open to those that have done well in the fall. Further it was explained that it is not a credit towards the program, it is a credit towards the degree.

A member questioned why the course Anthropology and Aboriginal Peoples (ANT304H5) was being deleted. Professor White explained that the course content was far wider than the anthropology faculty was able to support.

The motion was called to question and was approved.

Professor Macdonald asked if it was possible to include some wording changes to the first level chemistry course. The members agreed that since the proposed changes were for clarity and were not substantive they were approved.

Professor Lange thanked all that worked on the curriculum process and the committees. The Chair added his appreciation to all involved in the process.

There was no new business. The Chair announced that the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Nick Woolridge
Chair

Donna Coulson
Acting Secretary