Minutes of the ERINDALE COLLEGE COUNCIL meeting held on Friday, December 4, 2009 at 3:15 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Room 3130, South Building

In attendance: M. Berger, C. Westgate

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (November 6, 2009)

The report of the previous meeting was approved.

2. Reports of Standing Committees and Officers

   a) Resource Planning & Priorities Committee: Report of the November 23, 2009 meeting – Professor Robert Reisz

Professor Reisz reported that on November 23, 2009, the Committee received preliminary budget reports from the four ancillaries of parking, food, residence and conference services. Regarding the residences, it was reported that the department anticipates that the 2009-10 budget would come in $96,620 better than plan and would continue to allow the department to come out of Operating Debt in year 4 of opening Oscar Peterson Hall, and Fund Debt in year 9, as previously planned. The detailed 2010/11 budget will be available for consideration in January of 2010.

Regarding food services, it was reported that the ancillary experienced tremendous challenges with the cost of products due to the inflationary increases of food last year and the less than inflationary increases that were taken by Chartwells on campus. Retail Prices across campus went up approximately 3% and Colman Commons pricing went up approximately 1%. These forces resulted in pressure on the Contribution Margin / Net Revenue Line versus budget. The detailed 2010/11 budget will be available for consideration in January of 2010.

Regarding conference services, it was reported that the 2009-10 accommodation income was greater than projected due to higher registration numbers of a client. Conference income food, facilities/space rental was also higher due to this same client’s increase in registration numbers. Increased accommodation numbers resulted in higher cleaning expenditures. Early income estimates for 2010-11 were lower than anticipated, however it was noted that this could change depending on some current ongoing negotiations with two potential youth groups. It was also reported that the availability of outdoor space was an issue during the past year due to the loss of field space.
The Resource Planning and Priorities Committee also received the annual report of the Grounds Monitoring Subcommittee, attached hereto as Appendix A, which was presented by Ms. Aubrey Iwaniw, environmental project coordinator, on behalf of the group’s Chair, Professor Nick Collins.

i) Parking update from the Transportation and Parking Subcommittee – Paul Donoghue, CAO For Information

The Chief Administrative Officer reported that discussion at the Transportation and Parking subcommittee focused mainly on the parking supply issue. Mr. Donoghue noted that up until September of 2009, the campus had an excess of parking spots. However, because of the construction of the Instructional Centre on top of Lot #2, 309 spots were lost, and the addition of the Health Sciences Complex has meant the loss of another 140 parking spots. Only a handful of these lost spaces would be returned to the parking supply once the two buildings were finished. As a result of this shortage, temporary measures such as creating some parking spots through the existing tennis courts, the old baseball diamond and at Alumni House have been implemented. In addition, UTM needs to provide 130 temporary parking spots for construction purposes. All of this combines for pressure on spaces that has resulted in a level of service that is below acceptable levels. This shortage of spots has not only affected the UTM community, but also community events, some of which have had to be cancelled or deferred.

The CAO noted that the increase in parking demand was not in proportion to an increase in the campus population primarily as a result of measures such as the UPass, and to a smaller extent, carpooling. Mr. Donoghue emphasized that discussions on increased transit service would continue with Mississauga Transit, but that the campus had to find another way to replace at least 250 parking spots.

Mr. Donoghue reported that the subcommittee agreed that this shortage must be addressed by the fall of 2010. In the past the U of T Mississauga community discussed the three options and associated costs available of creating parking spots: paving a new surface parking lot at $2500 per spot; an underground lot approaching $50,000 per spot; and constructing an above ground structure, which for 250 spaces would total approximately $6.5M. These discussions have led to the conclusions that the campus cannot afford to construct an additional underground lot (for cost reasons as well as a lack of a suitable location), and that paving green space has long been ruled out as an unacceptable alternative due to environmental costs. The construction of an above ground parking structure therefore remains as the only alternative.

Mr. Donoghue announced that a plan has been formulated to construct a single-level parking deck above a portion of the largest surface parking lot, #8. By building above an existing lot, the environmental impact will be minimal and will require no additional infrastructure and present no storm water management issues.

At an estimated cost of $6.5 M, the proposal is for the parking ancillary to carry the cost of the total project cost, financed by an internal university loan and amortized over a ten-year period; this could be done without extraordinary parking fee increases beyond the 3% per annum already planned. Mr. Donoghue explained that the alternative to internal financing would be entering into a financial partnership with a third-party, but this would likely result in a 9.5 to 10% interest on a loan instead of the 8% with internal financing.
To close his report, Mr. Donoghue read a short excerpt from the report of the Chair of the Transportation and Parking subcommittee, Professor Scott Munro: “In closing, the TPS further appreciates that incurring a mortgage on a parking structure would strike some members of the wider University community as being outside the normal reason to borrow money, which is to enhance teaching infrastructure such as classrooms, laboratories and libraries. In response to such a perception, we would point out that enhancement of access to infrastructure must go hand-in-hand with new infrastructure developments. This is precisely what this proposal does and it does so in a way that does not burden the operating budget of the University.”

The Chair opened the floor to questions on all of the ancillary presentations.

In response to a member’s question, Mr. Donoghue noted that discussions with GO Transit and Mississauga Transit would continue for expanded services and additional routes, but that these efforts in and of themselves would not address the campus’ needs with respect to parking demand.

In response to a member’s question regarding the proposed completion date of the parking deck, the CAO explained that if necessary governance approvals could be completed by March 2010, site preparation could begin soon after the end of classes, and the project could be completed by the beginning of classes in September of 2010. He added that the parking deck can be built utilizing precast technology, whereby the bulk of the structural elements are completed, in advance, off-site. Once site preparations are complete, the structure can then be erected in a much reduced time period.

In response to a member’s question about the difference between a parking deck and a garage, Mr. Donoghue explained that a deck was not an enclosed structure.

b) Report of the Chief Administrative Officer - Paul Donoghue

i) South Building Office Addition For Information

The Chief Administrative Officer reported that the campus has had a long struggle with the availability of office space, which has impacted its ability to recruit faculty. He added that the Medical Academy has a small allotment of offices, but not nearly enough to meet the campus’ current and near future needs.

The Space Planning and Management Committee has come up with a proposal to build a five level addition to the South Building. He noted that the architect has done an excellent job of blending the addition into the existing building. Mr. Donoghue showed an architectural rendering of the addition and explained that the structure would provide an extra 17 or 18 office spaces. Construction would start in January, with a projected completion date of August 2010.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

In response to members’ questions, Mr. Donoghue noted that the cost of the addition is set at less than $1.6M, and that the construction would not affect existing spaces.

c) Academic Affairs Committee: Report of November 23, 2009 meeting – Professor Angela Lange
The Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee explained that only major curriculum changes are submitted for approved by Council, while minor changes are reported for information. Curriculum reports in their entirety can be accessed off the Council web site at the following link: [www.utm.utoronto.ca/council](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/council) and are attached hereto as Appendix B.

Professor Lange summarized the 2010-11 curriculum changes. She noted that overall most of the changes made to curriculum this year were minor, i.e. some new courses, some deleted courses, description changes, etc. There were two major changes: the deletion of two programs 1) Health Sciences Communication Major and 2) Human Communication and Technology (see major curricular changes below.)

In the Sciences Curriculum Report, there are very few changes. Five new courses are added which are mostly topic courses in computer science. 11 courses are deleted due to either changes in curriculum and therefore no need for the course or removal of courses that have not been taught for years. Housekeeping changes to programs and courses include updating course offerings, clerical errors, renumbering courses and description changes. Most of these changes have no resource implications, but a few changes will need extra TA support. (see page 24 of the report)

In the Social Sciences Curriculum Report, again there are very few changes. There are 22 new courses, some of which replace cancelled courses, some covering new emerging areas, and courses offered by new faculty. There are 12 deleted courses, either due to faculty not being available to teach these courses or signifying courses that have not been taught for several years. Housekeeping changes include changes to programs such as updating of courses, some wording changes, clerical errors, and changes to courses involving reweighting, numbering, course descriptions, and name changes. Most of these changes have no resource implications with 2 courses needing extra funding for teaching of the course and 3 courses requiring books from the library.

There are few changes made within the Humanities Curriculum Report. There are 41 new courses offered, but not many are completely new: some replace cancelled courses, covering new emerging areas, courses by new faculty, courses currently taught by St. George and being adopted at UTM, and many represent changes in designation. For example, some French courses are now also being taught in English (FRC) and many have been organized in different streams, i.e. Functional French (FSL) and French Studies (FRE), some FGI (French German and Italian) courses changed to LTL (Language Teaching and Learning course). There are 22 deleted courses – either due to faculty not available to teach, courses that have not been taught for several years, or changes in designation. Housekeeping changes to programs include updating of courses, some wording changes, clerical errors corrected, and changes to courses involving course descriptions, name changes, and prerequisite changes. Resource implications were only listed for one course (see page 33).

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

In answer to a member’s question about student consultation in the curriculum process, Professor Lange noted that there were five full-time students serving on the AAC. With respect to involvement beyond the governance committees, student presence depends on how each department runs their curriculum committees.

i) **Major Curriculum Changes for 2010-11** – Prof. Angela Lange *For Approval*
A document summarizing major curriculum changes is attached hereto as Appendix C. Professor Lange noted that the Academic Affairs Committee approved two program deletions at its meeting on November 23, 2009.

As a result of the external review for the Institute of Communication and Culture (ICC) in 2008, the external reviewers recommended that the Health Science Communication Major be discontinued. The original intention of this Major was to serve as a feeder into the Masters program in BioMedical Communication, but this has not been successful, as evidenced by the fact that the Health Sciences Communications Major (ERMAJ1095) has had historically low enrolments. The current enrolment in this program is 12 students; these students will be grandfathered into the program. The chief impediment to the success of this program has been that students in Culture, Communication, and Information Technology (CCIT) generally have not been able to satisfy the minimal Science requirement to enter the program. With the planned transfer of the BioMedical Communications faculty to the Department of Biology from the Institute of Culture and Communication, it was felt that this program was no longer viable. It is intended, however, that the existing HSC-designated courses remain in the CCIT curriculum and be re-designated as CCT courses, renumbered where appropriate. These changes are to be implemented during the 2010 curriculum review cycle. It is also envisaged that a module be developed in the planned Communications, Information and Media specialist program around these courses focusing on the creation and use of digital media in health communication.

Professor Lange reported that also as a result of the external review for the Institute of Communication and Culture (ICC) in 2008, the external reviewers recommended that the Human Communication and Technology Specialist be discontinued. The Human Communication and Technology Specialist (ERSPE1230) has had historically very low enrolments. The current enrolment in this program is 5 students; these students will be grandfathered into the program. Students interested in combining Culture, Communication and Information Technology (CCIT) studies with Psychology have opted to take a double Major in CCIT and Psychology in preference to the HCT Specialist program. It is also envisaged that a number of focused CCIT courses will be developed to “bridge” Psychology and CCIT, specifically for the students who are majoring in CCIT and Psychology.

It was duly moved and seconded,
THAT
Erindale College Council approve the major curriculum changes for the 2010-11 academic year, as detailed in the memorandum distributed with the agenda. (A. Lange /G. Averill)

The Chair opened the floor to discussion.

In response to a member’s question, Professor Lange confirmed that for both of these program deletions, students would be grandfathered and would be able to continue taking courses.

The motion was carried.

3. Vice President and Principal’s Report

Professor Orchard expressed his appreciation to the Women’s Centre, UTMSU, and Campus Police for holding a moving ceremony in memory of the Montreal Massacre.

a) Pathways to Employment in Biotechnology
Professor Orchard announced that the University of Toronto Mississauga, in partnership with U of T’s School of Continuing Studies and AstraZeneca Canada Inc., will offer a program in biotechnology for internationally trained professionals, beginning in January 2010.

On Nov. 25 at AstraZeneca Canada Inc, the provincial government announced $2.5 million to fund the new Pathways to Employment in Biotechnology bridge training program. The program will offer an intensive 12-week certificate in Canadian Biotechnology Enterprise to bridge highly trained immigrants in life sciences and technologies to employment in Mississauga, Canada's third largest biotech industry cluster. Participants will take courses in biotechnology, occupation-specific language training, and workplace culture and communications training. The program will also offer employment services, mentoring and personal coaching.

Professor Orchard emphasized that U of T Mississauga was a proud partner in this endeavour, uniquely positioned to play a significant role in the pathways program, in particular because of the campus’ strength in Biotechnology through the Masters in Biotechnology Program. He thanked the School of Continuing Studies, Professor Ulrich Krull and members of the Masters of Biotechnology Program for introducing this initiative.

b) United Way Campaign

Professor Orchard reported that the United Way Campaign was in full swing and thanked the campaign’s co-chairs, Paul Handley and Anthony Wensley, for leading the campaign. He also thanked members of the UofT Mississauga community for participating in many events in support of the United Way and those departments that worked so hard in organizing them. The events included a pumpkin carving contest, a library book sale, and a greenhouse plant sale through the Biology department. Another excellent event was the UofT Mississauga Student Music Club event, which showcased the musical talents of students in the Student Centre. All of these events have raised much needed funds for the United Way campaign.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

The Manager of Campus Police, Mr. Len Paris made an announced that there had been several incidents of laptop theft in the library recently, and reminded students not to leave their laptops unattended in public areas for any length of time.

The Chair announced that the next meeting of Erindale College Council was scheduled for Friday, January 29, 2010, with the ancillary budgets up for consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. (G. Averill/A. Birkenbergs)