



TO: Academic Council

FROM: Brad Maclsaac, AVP Planning & Analysis

RE: 2018-2019 Academic Governance Meeting Space

DATE: March 20, 2018

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Recent updates to the UOIT by-laws, which are set to be implemented September 2018, have resulted in an increase to the membership of Academic Council. In order to accommodate the increased membership a larger meeting space is required at the north location. As we finalize our capital projects and begin to schedule classes/ special bookings, we are seeking advice from Academic Council on the location for these meetings.

While there are still a number of moving pieces the two main options are: a tiered-style fix seating room in the UA (Science) Building or a flat movable seating room in the J-portable (Simcoe Building).

The two rooms will hold approximately the same amount of stakeholders so the focus is on the quality of the space. Due to limited space at UOIT we are facing competing demands on meeting rooms versus classrooms. We want to ensure our space decision respects the importance of our lead academic governing body.

Due to the timing of the Academic Council meetings (one Tuesday every month from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.), it displaces courses that could be scheduled over two time slots (2:10 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 3:40 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Our rooms of 60 seats and above in 2017 were utilized 117% of the targeted 45-hour week. To lose the two schedule blocks would affect our ability to effectively schedule classes.

During the discussion on the new SIRC building we heard from members that a focus should be on moving more classrooms out of portable structures and into buildings. For this reason, an intermediary option that would allow for a focus on student learning would be to temporarily accommodate the Academic Council meetings in J-portable. Not only would this free up learning space for courses, but would also allow for a boardroom style room set up as oppose to a tiered structure.



