

## BOARD REPORT

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**SESSION:**

Public   
Non-Public

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Decision   
Discussion/Direction   
Information

**TO:** Board of Governors

**DATE:** June 29, 2022

**FROM:** Laura Elliott, Academic Council Liaison to the Board of Governors

**SUBJECT:** 2021-2022 Academic Council Annual Report

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Academic Council is the academic governing body for Ontario Tech and it plays a significant role in university governance. It is the role of Academic Council to oversee the academic work of the university, and to advise and make recommendations to the Board on important matters. As Academic Council's Board liaison, I am pleased to report on the tremendous work done by Council this year and provide a summary of Academic Council's considerable accomplishments.

As one of the university's governance bodies, Council previously engaged in strategic discussions focused on Blended Learning: Challenges & Opportunities, Guiding Principles, and Ontario Institutions' Approach to the Future of Learning & Mental Health. In 2021-22, Council reviewed the outcomes of the discussions for further takeaways.

### Recommendations to Board of Governors

Academic Council recommended the following proposals for approval by the Board of Governors:

- Master of Financial Data Analytics
- Master of Arts in Social Practice and Innovation
- Master of Applied Science & Master of Engineering in Software Engineering
- Age with Dignity Campus of Care and Best Practices Research Centre
- Diploma in Public Policy
- Steering Committee Terms of Reference

- Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering and Management in Energy Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering and Management in Industrial Engineering

### **Governance Initiatives**

- Appointment of Vice-Chair of Academic Council
- Approval of Faculty Council Vice- Chair Nominations
- Review & approval of updated Research Board Terms of Reference (now Research Committee)
- Updated Steering Committee Terms of Reference
- Renewal of delegation of authority to Steering Committee

### **Curriculum & Program Changes**

Academic Council approved the following major program modifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Biological Science – Marine Biology Specialization
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Engineering Co-op
- Master of Engineering in Nuclear Engineering UNENE Administered Program, Minor Program Adjustment
- Criminology and Justice Minor
- Bachelor of Commerce, Advance Entry
- Bachelor of Commerce Bridge
- Bachelor of Engineering in Nuclear Engineering
- Bachelor of Health Sciences in Kinesiology
- Kinesiology Advanced Entry
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology New Pathways Programs
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology New Minor Program
- New Indigenous Studies Minor
- Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies Advanced Entry & Minor Programs
- Bachelor of Arts in Educational Studies

### **Conferral of Degrees**

Academic Council confirmed the eligibility for graduation of those students who fulfilled all degree requirements at the end of the Summer and Fall Terms 2021 and Winter Term 2022 and who were recommended for graduation by their Faculty. This included approving to graduate our eligible nurses early so that they could join health care service agencies on the front lines to assist with the pandemic response.

### **Reports Received**

Academic Council received the following reports from the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Graduate Studies Committee:

- Cyclical Program Review – Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science – Master of Engineering Management and Graduate Diploma in Engineering Management
- Cyclical Program Review – Faculty of Education – Bachelor of Education 18-month follow up report
- Cyclical Program Review – Bachelor of Science in Applied and Industrial Mathematics
- Cyclical Program Review – Bachelor of Engineering in Nuclear Engineering
- Cyclical Program Review – Bachelor of Engineering in Automotive Engineering
- Cyclical Program Review – Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering
- Cyclical Program Review – Bachelor of Engineering in Software Engineering
- Cyclical Program Review – Master of Applied Science
- Cyclical Program Review – Doctor of Philosophy in Nuclear Engineering

## Scholarships

The Committee finalized the selection of recipients for the major scholarship awards for 2022-23, and the following is the status of their application and scholarship:

### **Chancellor's Scholarship:**

**Pritika Lally, Whitby (Donald A. Wilson SS)**

Offer of admission to Life Sciences  
*Scholarship Accepted*

### **President's Scholarship:**

**Zainab Khalid, Oshawa (Maxwell Heights SS)**

Offer of admission to Life Sciences  
*Scholarship Accepted*

**Habiba Shafey, Oshawa (Maxwell Heights SS)**

Offer of admission to Kinesiology  
*Scholarship Accepted*

### **Founder's Scholarship:**

**Khushi Dhalla, Richmond Hill (Richmond Hill HS)**

Offer of admission to Human Health  
*Scholarship Accepted*

**Ilhaam Dawood, Toronto (Cedarbrae Collegiate)**

Offer of admission to Health Science  
*Scholarship Accepted*

### **FIRST Robotics Scholarship:**

**Keegan Sunderland, Bolton (Humberview SS)**

Offer of admission to Mechatronics Engineering  
*Scholarship Offered*

### **Global Leadership Scholarship:**

**Rahma Khan, Saudi Arabia (Al Hassan Int. Sch.)**

Offer of admission to Forensic Psychology  
*Scholarship Accepted*

The Committee reviewed 136 complete domestic applications for the major scholarship awards who met the grade qualification of 85% minimum based on completed and mid-term U/M level or equivalent courses.

Each qualified applicant was first read independently by three committee members and scored on an evaluation rubric. The top 25 scoring applications were then read by all seven evaluators and resulted in a ranking of these individuals and offers being made. Alternate offers of the scholarships were made to the next eligible candidates if the scholarship offers were declined.

A different Committee reviewed 57 complete international applications for the Global Leadership Scholarship who met the grade qualification of 85% minimum based on completed and mid-term U/M level or equivalent courses. Each qualified applicant was read independently by three committee members, scored based on an evaluation rubric and resulted in a ranking of these individuals and offers being made. The Global Leadership Award was offered to the next eligible candidates if the scholarship offer(s) were declined.

### **2022 Honorary Degree Recipients**

The Honorary Degrees Committee awarded honorary doctorates to the following recipients:

- Jeffrey Boyce & Julia Boyce
- Dr. Naheed Dosani
- Christian Lassonde
- Rania Llewellyn
- John Tavares
- Phyllis Webstad

### **Academic Council Elections**

Academic Council held an election in April 2022 to fill the vacant positions for 2022-2023. The election was held in accordance with the Academic Council Procedures for the Election of Teaching, Non-Academic Staff and Student Representatives instituted in 2015 by Council. The elections ran smoothly and no complaints were received regarding the conduct of the elections.

### **Governance Education**

Academic Council members were invited to attend an orientation session on September 22, 2021 and focused on the university's legislation, by-laws and Rules of Order.

### **Consultations**

Academic Council was consulted on the following:

- Credit Card Procedure
- Expenses Policy
- Procedures on the Over-Expenditure of Research Funds
- Procurement of Goods and Services Procedures

- Expenses Procedure
- Procedures to Prevent and Address Discrimination and Harassment By or Against Students
- Disconnecting from Work Policy
- Administrative Guidelines for Determining the Academic Schedule (amendment)
- Learning Management System Policy
- Learning Management System Procedure
- Experiential Learning Directives

### Other

Academic Council approved the following:

- Toronto District School Board English Language Proficiency Partnership
- Research Committee Terms of Reference (formerly Research Board)
- University's participation in the Black or Indigenous Heritage Student-Athlete (BIHS) Bursary program.
- Ontario Tech Institutional Quality Assurance Process Policy Documents
- FESNS Reconfiguration Review Committee
- York Catholic District School Board Partnership
- Global Education Language Institute ELP Partnership