



**JOINT REPORT
GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE &
CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Report to Academic Council
at its meeting of October 18, 2011

FOR ACTION

1. Program Nomenclature – Revised Protocol

The Graduate Studies Committee and the Curriculum and Program Review Committee jointly recommend:

That Academic Council approve the revised protocol on Program Nomenclature as set out in the appendix.

Rationale

In May 2004, Academic Council approved a policy that defines the nomenclature for UOIT programs and primary areas of study. At the time, program development at the university was in its early stages, focussing primarily on the undergraduate degree level offerings, which is reflected in the nomenclature policy that was developed. Since that time, our programs have extended to include the full range of academic programs through to the PhD level, and including non-degree diplomas and certificates. The range of options within our programs has also reached a level of stability where we are better able to define the types of options that are associated with different programs and identify the minimum requirements and the level of disciplinary or interdisciplinary depth that each entails. As such, it is timely to review and renew our nomenclature framework to ensure that it remains inclusive of all the programs on offer and those yet to be conceived, and at the same time brings clarity and consistency to the form and structure of our collective offerings.

The revised protocol is intended to provide guidance to colleagues in the development of new programs and program options within a well-defined framework. Its definitions incorporate the relevant components of the provincial quality assurance framework and distinguish between undergraduate and graduate offerings in terminology and program structure. The protocol also specifies the way the various program options are recorded on student transcripts and parchments. It is hoped that, through the adoption of this new protocol, program proposers can more readily name and bring to fruition an increasingly rich and rigorous array of program options at all levels of study consistent with our mission and mandate.