Date: October 16, 2018

To: Senate

From: Senate Committee on Academic Standards

Re: **2017/18 Annual Report**

The Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Academic Standards define its scope and relationship with Senate and other Senate committees. Each fall term the committee presents an annual report to Senate on its business and proceedings over the previous academic year.

The Senate Committee on Academic Standards met eight times in 2017/18: September 18, 2017, October 18, 2017, November 8, 2017, January 8, 2018, February 5, 2018, March 12, 2018, April 9, 2018 and May 24, 2018. During the course of the year, the committee approved the convocation lists of faculties, approved a posthumous degree, made recommendations to Senate, initiated projects in areas of the committee's concern, and received proposals for input from other Senate committees and campus constituencies. Within these areas, the committee considered a number of issues over the course of the year, including:

- Approval of the convocation lists of the faculties
- Approval of posthumous degrees
- Recommendations to Senate:
    - Faculty of Engineering to change to the program requirements for Computer Science programs
- Continued Projects in 2017/18
    - review of academic concession regulations
    - annual grading patterns report
    - report and recommendations regarding grading patterns
    - report on editorial changes to the academic calendars
    - revisions to the undergraduate grading scale
    - Exam Cancellation Policy
    - provided input on initiatives
    - proposals from other Senate committees

Approval of the convocation lists of the faculties:

The committee approves, on behalf of Senate, the granting of degrees. At its October 2017 and May 2018 meetings, the committee approved the fall and spring convocation lists respectively. The deans of the faculties or a designate were in attendance.

At the October 2017, January 2018, and March 2018 meetings, the committee considered requests for posthumous degrees.

Recommendations to Senate:

To approve revisions to the program requirements for Computer Science programs, Faculty of Engineering

At the January meeting, the committee considered a proposal outlining changes to the program requirements for Computer Science programs effective May 1, 2018. The proposal was approved by Senate at its February 2018 meeting.

To approve the deferral of revisions to the program requirements for Computer Science programs, Faculty of Engineering

At the April meeting, the committee considered a request from the Faculty of Engineering to defer the implementation of the proposal previously approved by the committee and Senate to September 2019. The faculty subsequently requested that the proposal not go forward to Senate.

Continued Projects in 2017/18

Review of Academic Concession Regulations

At the September meeting, the committee was provided with an update on the work done by the VPAC working group on academic concessions. It was noted that the working group would continue working over the course of the fall, while providing updates to the committee, and provide any recommended changes to the regulations for the committee for its approval and recommendation to Senate.

At the March meeting, the committee was provided an update on the consultations that had been undertaken by the working group and the feedback received. Committee members provided further feedback.

Grading Patterns Report Portal

The committee received the annual Grading Patterns Report at its November 2017 meeting. The report was provided to Senate at its December 2017 meeting.

Report and Recommendations Regarding Grading Patterns

At the November meeting, the committee was provided with an update on the implementation of recommendations made by Senate related to the creation of resources and workshops for instructors, Chairs/Directors and Deans.

Exam Cancellation Policy

At the October meeting, the committee reviewed and provided feedback on a draft Exam Cancellation Policy.

At the February meeting, the committee reviewed the policy with committee's feedback incorporated. It was suggested that it would be used to have guidelines for instructors that would assist in implementing the policy. It was noted that the policy was being presented to the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance for its feedback and that a plan to proceed would be developed in light of feedback from both committees.

At the April meeting, the committee had been provided an update of the feedback received by the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance.

At the May meeting, the committee had been updated on the next step which was to consider the creation of guidelines to support the implementation of the policy. A subcommittee was formed and would begin meeting in the fall.

Revisions to the Undergraduate Grading Scale

At the February meeting, the committee reviewed and provided feedback on proposed changes to the Undergraduate grading scale.

At the March meeting, the committee reviewed and provided feedback on the process for consultation including those who should be consulted.

At the May meeting, the committee was provided an update on the consultation process and that work would continue over the course of the summer and a further update would be provided in the fall.

Report on Editorial Changes to Academic Calendars

At the September meeting, the committee was provided a report from the Office of the Registrar on substantive editorial changes to the January 2018 Academic Calendars. Committee members agreed to receive these type of reports prior to the publication of each calendar.

At the April meeting, the committee was provided a report on the editorial changes to the September 2018 Academic Calendars. It was agreed that one of the changes proposed was not editorial and would need the approval of Senate.

Provided input on initiatives:

Provided Feedback on Proposals from Other Senate Committees

At the January 2018, the committee reviewed a number of proposals from the Senate Committee on Admission, Re-registration and Transfer:
- Faculty of Engineering, Computer Science – change to admission requirements for transfer applicants (New applicants and applicants from other faculties)
- Faculty of Education, BA Recreation and Health Education – Year 1 Admission Requirements

- Faculty of Education, BSc Kinesiology – Year 1 Admission Requirements

At the April meeting, the committee reviewed a proposal from the Senate Committee on Admission, Registration and Transfer on the Discovery Studies calendar entry.

Respectfully submitted,

2018/2019 Senate Committee on Academic Standards
Sara Beam, Chair, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Janni Aragon, Faculty of Social Sciences
Laurie Barnas, Associate Registrar
Neil Burford, Faculty of Science
Gillian Calder, Faculty of Law
Nathan Daisley, Student Senator
Kathy Gaul, Faculty of Education
Andrea Giles, Acting Executive Director, Coop Education and Career Services
Jordan Gilson, Student Senator
Robert Hancock, Convocation Senator
Catherine Harding, Faculty of Fine Arts
Cindy Holder, Associate Dean, Academic Advising (Faculties of HUMS, SCIE, and SOSC)
Sabrina Jackson, Acting Director, Graduate Administration and Records
Susan Lewis, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts
Michele Martin, Division of Medical Sciences
Jo Roy, GSS Representative
Richard Rush, Division of Continuing Studies
Esther Sangster-Gormley, Faculty of Human and Social Development
Henning Struchtrup, Faculty of Engineering
Wendy Taylor, Acting Registrar
Kenneth Thornicroft, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business
Nancy Wright, Associate Vice-President Academic Planning
Claire Wood, UVSS Representative
Ada Saab, Secretary, Acting Associate University Secretary

2017/2018 Senate Committee on Academic Standards
Sara Beam, Chair, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Laurie Barnas, Associate Registrar
Gillian Calder, Faculty of Law
Rosaline Canessa, Faculty of Social Sciences
Gillian Dornan, GSS Representative
Kate Fry, Student Senator
Nicole Greengoe, Registrar
David Harrington, Faculty of Science
Susan Lewis, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts (VPAC designate)
Peter Liddell, Convocation Senator
Michele Martin, Division of Medical Sciences
Norah McRae, Executive Director, Cooperative Education and Career Services
Michael Nowlin, Faculty of Humanities
Abdul Roudsari, Faculty of Human and Social Development
Richard Rush, Division of Continuing Studies
Ada Saab, Director, Graduate Admissions and Records
Henning Struchtrup, Faculty of Engineering
Ken Thornicroft, Peter B. Gustavson School of Business
Nancy Wright, Associate Vice-President Academic Planning (President's nominee)
Carrie Andersen (Secretary), Associate University Secretary