



February 2, 2021

Dear faculty

Once again, I thank you for your excellent work in extraordinary circumstances. As mentioned in last week's letter, I am writing to you to provide details about the mode of academic course delivery for the Summer session.

There is a general consensus across the University that in spite of the promise that vaccines are generating, we will experience restrictions during the Summer session that will require largely remote delivery of our courses. As we are this term, in-person courses and course elements that are deemed essential can be offered. In this context, essential refers to course elements that cannot be offered remotely. Planning for such in-person elements should begin as soon as possible, through consultation between department Chairs & Academic Director and the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean. As in other terms, Vice-Dean Jamie Donaldson will be the point person on this.

We do recognize the heavy demands on your time and will offer as much support as we can. Although we don't anticipate a large number of such offerings, it is critical that we schedule them carefully to avoid concentrations of students, and to ensure that expectations with respect to on-campus presence are clear to instructors and teaching assistants. We will also continue to provide some space for students who need access to Wi-Fi and computers, as we have been doing since the start of the pandemic. Your dedication enables us to remain committed to offering the best possible experience to our students, while following public health guidelines. A reminder that no activities involving international travel should be planned; current restrictions for university-related international travel have been extended through August 31, 2021.

With respect to the Fall session, we are in the process of determining what the mix will be between online and in-person offerings. It is becoming increasingly clear that the return to some new version of "normal" will require a stepped approach, so it is not our expectation that the Fall will look like a pre-COVID semester. We are committed to making a call about the 2021-2022 academic year as soon as is practicable, and to communicate clearly the basis for that decision.

Thank you again for all of your Herculean efforts to furthering the academic mission of the campus.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. A. Gough'.

William A. Gough
Vice-Principal Academic & Dean
University of Toronto Scarborough