



MEMORANDUM

To: Campus Leadership Forum
Chairs and Academic Director
UTSC Executive Group

Cc: Professor Melanie Woodin, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
Professor Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean, University of Toronto Mississauga

From: Professor William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean 

Date: 8 September 2020

Re: Appointment of Special Advisor, Transitional Year Programme (TYP)
University of Toronto Scarborough

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean has appointed Professor Jessica Fields as the Special Advisor to the VP Dean on the Transitional Year (TYP) Programme – University of Toronto Scarborough as of 1 July 2020.

Professor Fields has a Master's in English and a second Master's in Sociology, and a PhD in Sociology, all from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She joined San Francisco State University in 2001 and was tenured in 2007. Her research focuses on sexuality education. She has received several grants for her research including a Ford Foundation major grant, and two Social Science and Humanities Research major grants. Her past administrative experience at San Francisco State University includes Graduate Studies Director of Sexuality Studies, Interim Director of the Public Research Institute, and Acting Director of the Center for Research on Gender and Sexuality. While at San Francisco State, Professor Fields was an advisor to Project Rebound, which provides academic and social supports to formerly incarcerated students integrating into a university setting. Through the National Institute of Mental Health-funded Career Opportunities in Research Program, she also trained and mentored undergraduate students of colour preparing for doctoral programs. She joined U of T Scarborough in July 2019 as the inaugural Director for the Interdisciplinary Centre for Health and Society and since then has seen it through governance approval as the newly created Department of Health and Society (DHS).

As Special Advisor to the VP Dean on TYP, she will work closely with the VP Dean to lead campus-wide programming related to TYP, and to assist in the development of a long-term plan to ensure ongoing excellence in this area at U of T Scarborough. She will work closely with colleagues in the Department of Community Development & Engagement, the Registrar's Office, the Academic Advising & Career Centre, and Student Experience and Wellbeing on various access strategies