



MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty and Librarians, U of T Scarborough
From: Katherine R. Larson, Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs
Date: 26 May 2021
Re: **Campus Curriculum Review - Listening Circles**
Note: *For distribution broadly*

Dear faculty and librarians,

I am writing on behalf of the Campus Curriculum Review Working Circle to invite you to attend a listening session on **Monday, June 7th, 3:00-4:30pm** or **Tuesday, June 8th, 1:30-3:00pm** to share your experiences and input related to the goals of the campus-wide curriculum review that is currently underway. A core priority of U of T Scarborough's 2020-25 Strategic Plan, [Inspiring Inclusive Excellence](#), the review aims to ensure that U of T Scarborough's commitment to inclusion, Indigeneity, and anti-racism is reflected across our programs and embedded in our pedagogical approaches and supports.

We are building on the landscape assessment phase of the review, including the recent departmental survey, by engaging with faculty and librarians using a listening circle format. The listening sessions will invite faculty and librarians to reflect on their pedagogical and curricular experiences, their hopes and questions for how the curriculum review might shape teaching and learning at U of T Scarborough, as well as ways in which the campus might better support inclusive, accessible, and anti-racist teaching and learning in the future.

The review honours multiple ways of knowing, with particular emphasis on Indigenous ways of knowing and knowledge systems, Black knowledges, racialized perspectives, and international and intercultural perspectives, while also recognizing the importance of intersectionality (including gender, sexuality, and disability). We recognize that colleagues bring different perspectives and experiences to these areas. For some faculty and librarians, these are topics that may connect closely to current pedagogical and curricular work; for others, these may be new ideas that also raise questions about how to engage. We welcome all perspectives.

Your feedback will help to shape our assessment of the existing curricular and pedagogical context at U of T Scarborough and will also help to inform the working circle's recommendations and calls to action.

Sign up to join one of the sessions on **Monday, June 7th, 3:00-4:30pm** or **Tuesday, June 8th, 1:30-3:00pm** - <https://forms.office.com/r/YvtJzwaps1> A Zoom link will be sent to participants via email.

The listening circles will not be recorded and note-taking will focus on outcomes for the curriculum review; it will not document personal details or anecdotes that could compromise confidentiality.

We recognize that this invitation is coming at the conclusion of an exhausting year and amid many ongoing pressures related to the pandemic, including continuing school closures. If you are not able to attend the listening circles in June, there will be further opportunities to contribute to the review process in the Fall term as we move towards recommendations and calls to action.

While the working circle as a whole contributed to the development of the listening process, I want to acknowledge in particular the members of the *U of T Scarborough Listening & Conversation* sub-circle who have taken the lead on this part of the curriculum review: Aarthi Ashok and Nadia Rosemond (co-convenors), Sarah Abdillahi, Kyle Danielson, Husseina Dinani, Leah Lee, Randy Lundy, Mary Silcox, Taylor Tabobondung, and Nirusha Thavarajah.

For more information about the working circle and its goals - [Terms of Reference](#). Questions and comments about the curriculum review can be sent at any time to curriculum.utsc@utoronto.ca

Thank you for your contribution to this important process and for your extraordinary work this year in support of our students. I wish you and your loved ones a restorative summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine R. Larson". The script is cursive and fluid.

Katherine R. Larson

Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs