

MEMORANDUM

To: Undergraduate and Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Fellows, Faculty, Staff, and Librarians,

University of Toronto Scarborough

From: Professor Katherine R. Larson, Vice-Dean Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Programs

Date: 18 May 2022

Re: Report of the UTSC Campus Curriculum Review Working Circle, 2020-2022:

Recommended Actions, Learnings, and Next Steps

Note: For broad distribution

Dear U of T Scarborough undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, faculty, staff, and librarians,

On behalf of the curriculum review Working Circle, I am delighted to share the enclosed <u>Report of the UTSC Campus Curriculum Review Working Circle</u>, <u>2020-2022</u>: <u>Recommended Actions</u>, <u>Learnings</u>, <u>and Next Steps</u>.

The curriculum review is named as priority 1.2 (ii) in U of T Scarborough's 2020-25 Strategic Plan, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence*, part of a broader framework of curricular renewal and innovation outlined in strategic directions 1.1, 1.2, and 1.4. The review was launched in the Fall of 2020 with the goal of ensuring that programs and pedagogical approaches at U of T Scarborough reflect the diversity of our students and the histories, epistemologies, and pedagogies that have been devalued and violently erased by settler colonialism and systemic injustices. The review's focus is on Indigenous knowledges and knowledge systems, Black knowledges, racialized perspectives, and international and intercultural perspectives. In addition to these named areas, the review has prioritized an intersectional approach, recognizing that individuals hold multiple identities that shape experiences of oppression, including gender, sexuality, and disability.

The curriculum review has been collectively led by a Working Circle made up of students, faculty and librarians, staff, and community members. The circle-based framework has been foundational to the review. Emphasizing a commitment to deep listening, shared leadership, relationality and mutual respect, non-hierarchical dialogue, and openness to learning from the diverse voices and perspectives gathered, it reflects the importance of process for undertaking structural change.

The 56 recommended actions presented by the Working Circle extend over the following categories:

- 1. Curriculum Development
- 2. Pedagogical Development and Related Supports
- 3. Dedicated Academic Homes, Programs, and Spaces for Indigenous and Black Excellence at U of T Scarborough
- 4. Faculty, Librarian, and Staff Hiring
- 5. Community Engagement
- 6. Institutional Structures and Supports
- 7. Future of the Working Circle and Foundations for Implementation



The review has been a collective effort, undertaken in the midst of the ongoing pressures of the pandemic. I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Working Circle from 2020-2022 for their co-leadership of this process.

On behalf of the Working Circle, I would also like to thank all of the members of the U of T Scarborough community who have contributed to our outreach and listening process and supported the work of the review over the past two years. We look forward to partnering with you to bring the recommended actions into being.

To learn more about the curriculum review and to provide your feedback on the report - https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/curriculum-review/

Warm wishes,

Katherine R. Larson

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