MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff, and Students, Department of Arts, Culture & Media
From: Professor William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean
Date: 4 November 2022
Re: **Academic Administrative Appointment – Chair, Department of Arts, Culture & Media**
Note: For distribution broadly

I am pleased to inform you that the Agenda Committee of Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Thy Phu as Chair of the Department of Arts, Culture & Media from 1 November 2022 to 30 June 2028, including a one-year leave.

Thy Phu is Professor of Media Studies and a Distinguished Professor of Race, Diaspora and Visual Justice in the Department of Arts, Culture & Media at U of Toronto Scarborough. She holds a PhD in English Literature from the University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Arts in English, and a Bachelor of Arts in English, both from McMaster University. Prior to joining U of T Scarborough, Professor Phu was a Professor at Western University where she taught cultural studies, American Studies, and critical theory. Her research and public humanities practice examine the intersections between media studies, diaspora and migration, vision, and justice. She is author and co-editor of five books including two monographs; *Picturing Model Citizens: Civility in Asian American Visual Culture* and *Warring Visions: Vietnam and Photography*.

Professor Phu is a member of the College of New Scholars, Artists & Scientists at the Royal Society of Canada; the Co-founder of the Critical Refugee Studies Network of Canada; and has served as elected Chair of the Modern Languages Association Visual Culture Forum and Director and Principal Investigator of The Family Camera Network, a Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)-funded collaborative research project. She has been the recipient of prestigious appointments as Whitney Bicentennial Visiting Associate Professor at Yale University and Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore. Currently, she is co-Director of Refugee States, a SSHRC Race, Gender & Diversity Initiative (RGDI) funded project that partners with refugee and migrant community organizations to create a digital counter-archive of narratives of forced migration.

Since she joined U of T Scarborough in 2020, she has served in multiple capacities including Associate Chair, Research; Program Director, Media Studies and New Media Studies in the Department; and Associate Director, Critical Digital Humanities Initiatives for U of T Scarborough. Most recently, she has served as Interim Chair and Acting Chair of the Department. In all instances, Professor Phu has demonstrated an open leadership style, respect for equity and fairness, and ability to engage and bridge different fields. She is a strong advocate of the Department with a deep understanding of its programs, the strengths and aspirations of its faculty and students.

I am grateful that Professor Phu will continue as Chair of the Department of Arts, Culture & Media, and I am confident that the Department will be in very capable hands. I look forward to continuing working closely with her in this role.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Advisory Committee for its service in this important process. The participation of members of the committee and the input of faculty, staff, and students is greatly appreciated.