MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the UTSC Campus Leadership Forum
   Professor David Cameron, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
   Professor Amrita Daniere, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean

From: Professor William Gough, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean

Date: 4 July 2017

Re: New Interdisciplinary Centre for Health and Society

It is with great pleasure that I write to inform you that the Governing Council has approved the creation of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Health and Society (ICHS), effective 1 July 2017. The ICHS will provide Health Studies with an interdisciplinary home with the budgetary and intellectual autonomy to develop its own distinctive identity and fully realize its academic vision and scope. Faculty in ICHS are engaged in research projects across five themes: Environment and Health; Life Course and Life Cycle; Cultures of Health and Illness; Migration, Health and the Law; and Social Hierarchies and Marginality. The ICHS will house UTSC’s Health Studies programs, which promote an understanding of health across a spectrum of diverse, but conversant, disciplinary perspectives, from the clinical and biological health sciences, to social science and humanistic ways of knowing, bound together by a shared awareness of the need for rigorous biological knowledge to be understood in tandem with the social milieu of human health and embodiment. The Centre will continue to strengthen its active ties with several academic units across the University and with local medical institutions.

I am grateful that Professor Holly Wardlow has agreed to be the Interim Director of the ICHS, for a one-year term from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018. Professor Wardlow currently is on secondment from the Department of Anthropology, in the Faculty of Arts and Science. In 2016-17 she served as Associate Chair of Health Studies in the Department of Anthropology at UTSC. Professor Wardlow is held in high regard by her colleagues for her demonstrated commitment to, and concern for, the future success of the ICHS and its faculty and students. I am confident that, under her guidance, the Centre will flourish.