



MEMORANDUM, DCD #14, 2010-11

To: Members of Deans, Chairs, and Directors

Date: January 14, 2011

From: Rick Halpern, Dean and Vice-Principal (Academic)

Re: First Year Programming

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An important priority for the UofT and UTSC is to enhance the learning experience of our students. We have been working for some years now to develop both classroom and co-curricular strategies to provide additional – and more varied – learning opportunities for students that bring them into closer contact with faculty. To this end, the Provost recently announced a funding opportunity for the creation of innovative first year programming. These resources will be provided over two years and are to be used as seed funding to establish on-going programming. I will set up a bridging fund that will allow some of the successful pilots to run for a third year; after this point we hope to draw upon monies brought in through our advancement activities for further sustainability.

Following our discussion of this opportunity at the last meeting of Dean's, Chairs, and Directors, I am sending out a call for proposals.

The proposals, limited to a maximum of two pages, must:

1. Be tied to a class for first year students and be for academic credit;
2. Be taught by research or teaching stream faculty who are known for their excellent teaching;
3. Have an experiential learning component;
4. Address sustainability, perhaps through advancement efforts as noted above, but also through other creative arrangements;
5. Include, on a separate sheet, a budget.

The funds may be used for field trips, guest lecturers, special materials, stipends, etc. Any proposals that identify partners, such as student life, will receive favourable attention, as will proposals that are jointly proposed by two or more academic units.

Please submit your proposals to Lesley Lewis by **Monday, February 14.**