




MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff, and Students, Department of Language Studies
From: Professor William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean 
Date: 6 October 2023
Re: **Academic Administrative Appointment - Interim Chair, Department of Language Studies**
Note: For broad distribution

I am pleased to inform you that the Agenda Committee of the Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Sébastien Drouin as Interim Chair of the Department of Language Studies from 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023 while a search for a Chair remains ongoing.

Sébastien Drouin is an Associate Professor in the Department of Language Studies at U of T Scarborough and holds a graduate appointment in the Department of French at the St. George campus. Professor Drouin earned his PhD in French Literature and Early Modern History from the Université Laval and the Université de Versailles /Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines following an MA in literature from the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. Prior to joining U of T Scarborough as Assistant Professor in 2013, Professor Drouin completed postdoctoral fellowships at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris, the Gotha Research Centre of the University of Erfurt, as well as at the University of Stuttgart. He was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in 2019.

Professor Drouin is a specialist of 18th century French Literature and an Early Modern French Literature historian. His research interests are interdisciplinary and bridge literature and philosophy, literature and religion, and literature and the visual arts. He has an impressive publication record including numerous monographs, book chapters, articles, critical editions, and edited journals. His expertise is widely recognized with several book reviews, conference presentations, and invited lectures. His research is supported by grants from the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Jackman Humanities Institute, and he is also a recipient of the Connaught Research Grant.

Professor Drouin is committed to his discipline, the department, and our campus with valuable administrative experience currently serving as Interim Chair and most recently as Associate Chair for French. He has a solid service record on various committees in the Graduate Department of French and as Assistant Editor of the UofT Quarterly since 2017.

I am grateful to Professor Drouin for his willingness to continue as Interim Chair of the Department of Language Studies. I am confident that the Department will be in very capable hands. I look forward to continuing to work with him in this capacity.