



## TEMERTY FACULTY OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Faculty Council of the Temerty Faculty of Medicine  
Minutes of the October 21, 2024 meeting  
4:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom Videoconference

**Members Present:** Brenda Mori (Speaker), Todd Coomber, Veronica Wadey, Christie Welch, Dmitry Rozenberg, Lynn Wilson, Andrew Wilde, Alayne Kealey, Asaph Rolnitsky, Andrew Mazzanti, Lisa Allen, Anne Agur, Angus McQuibban, Chao Wang, Brenda Bui, Susan Poutanen, Pier Bryden, David Jenkins, Viola Antao, Lisa Richardson, Declan Ross, Marcus Law, Wellsley Man, Rob Kozak, Andrea Duncan, Darlene Reid, Thomas Prevot, Janine Farragher, Ahlia Khan-Trottier, Beverley Orser, Daisy Singla, Rachel Delaney, Sarah Rauth, Rosalie Steinberg, Arthur Mortha, Patricia Houston, Kerri Bailey, Meredith Giuliani, George Chiramel, Sonu Gaind, Evan Propst, Catherine Coolens, Jabeen Fayyaz

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### 1 Call to Order

### 2 Minutes of the previous meeting of Faculty Council – April 15, 2024

The minutes of the meeting of April 15, 2024 had been previously circulated. They were approved on a motion from B. Orser and seconded by V. Wadey. There was no business arising.

### 3 Report from the Speaker

Dr. Brenda Mori introduced herself as the new Speaker of Faculty Council and reminded the members that she had been the Chair of the Education Committee of Faculty Council for the last 5 years. Dr. Mori thanked outgoing Speaker, Dr. Luc De Nil, for his long service and Mr. Todd Coomber, Faculty Affairs Officer, for his support of Faculty Council and all its committees.

Dr. Mori indicated that, as per the Faculty Council By-laws, the Executive Committee received and reviewed external reviews for the Department Of Pharmacology & Toxicology; Biomedical Communications, MScBMC; Department of Immunology; Department Of Speech-Language Pathology; Joannah & Brian Lawson Centre for Child Nutrition; and the Department of Medicine.

### 4 Report from the Dean's Office

Dean Lisa Robinson was travelling and not in attendance. The report from the Dean's Office was presented by Dr. Lisa Richardson, Interim Vice Dean, Strategy.

Dr. Richardson noted that Dean Robinson had officially started her term as Dean and Vice Provost for Relations with Healthcare Institutions on July 1 and indicated that the transition has gone smoothly. Since taking on this new role, Dean Robinson has been incredibly active, engaging with a broad range of stakeholders.

Dr. Richardson elaborated on the extent of Dean Robinson's efforts, mentioning that she has been meeting with a wide variety of individuals to better understand the needs and priorities of the Faculty. These conversations have included senior leaders, such as CEOs and Department Chairs, student leaders, as well as other Deans of Medicine from the Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine and the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada. Additionally, Dr. Richardson shared that Dean Robinson has been involved in

numerous other meetings with various individuals and groups, demonstrating her commitment to gathering diverse insights and perspectives.

Dr. Richardson praised Dean Robinson's approach to leadership, describing her as thoughtful, inclusive, and intelligent. She acknowledged that Dean Robinson had been diligently identifying the priorities for the Faculty moving forward and noted that Dean Robinson will be delivering a more comprehensive update the Faculty Council at its next meeting. This update would include an overview of her strategic priorities and the key lessons she has learned about the Faculty during her first months in the role.

## **5 Items for Approval**

### **5.1 The Education Committee of Faculty Council recommends the approval of the following motion:**

**“THAT the Standards for Clinical (MD) Faculty on Managing Relationships with Industry and Private Entities document be approved as submitted.”**

**Moved A. Duncan, Seconded: C. Wang**

Dr. Pier Bryden indicated that she would be presenting proposed revisions to the Faculty's standards for managing relationships between the medical education environment and industry entities. These standards, originally framed to guide undergraduate and postgraduate medical education, required significant updates to address evolving contexts, including legislative changes.

Dr. Bryden indicated that a task force had been struck by former Dean, Trevor Young, to examine the academic implications of the Ontario Government's Bill 60, which expanded the role of Integrated Community Health Services (ICHS) centers, effectively increasing opportunities for private clinics in the province, and provide recommendations. The team engaged legal experts and involved the Professional Relationships Management Committee (PRMC), which oversees faculty disclosures related to conflicts of interest. The clinical chairs and the Dean's Executive Committee reviewed the proposed revisions, ensuring alignment with academic and clinical priorities.

Dr. Bryden highlighted several changes. The new document clarifies its scope, better defines private entities, and updates the title to better reflect these. In addition, a number of new sections were added. A section was introduced to address self-referral risks, particularly for faculty practicing in both university-affiliated hospitals and private clinics. Similarly, academic leaders must disclose potential conflicts, especially in contexts where learners might engage with them outside traditional educational settings. The motion carried.

### **5.2 The Education Committee of Faculty Council recommends the approval of the following motion:**

**“THAT the proposal to establish an MD-MSc, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Specialization Combined Degree Program be approved as submitted.”**

**Moved: A. Duncan, Seconded: P. Houston**

Dr. Marcus Law, Ms. Stephanie Mooney, Ms. Hana Lee, and Ms. Yen Du indicated that the proposed CDP for the M.D. and the M.Sc. in Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialty (OMFS) at the University of Toronto integrates the strengths of existing undergraduate medical education, clinical specialty training in OMFS, and research opportunities. The proposed CDP aims to address the evolving trends in OMFS residency programs, particularly the integration of medical training, which is increasingly seen as essential for comprehensive patient care in complex surgical cases. The CDP streamlines the traditional eight-year path to complete the M.D. and M.Sc. separately into a six-year path, aligning with trends in OMFS residency programs across North America and internationally.

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) is a nationally recognized clinical specialty of dentistry, with training historically conducted through dental schools and affiliated hospital centers. Recognizing the need for more

in-depth medical training within the specialty, many programs in Canada and the United States have adopted a combined curriculum that includes both medical education at the undergraduate M.D. level and clinical specialty training in OMFS at the residency level. Currently, 4 out of 6 OMFS programs in Canada offer combined M.D. degrees with residency training in OMFS, positioning the University of Toronto as one of the few programs not offering this option. The CDP aligns with the strategic plans of both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Dentistry, emphasizing transformative teaching, inclusive environments, collaborative teams, and integrated operations.

The current M.Sc. program in Dentistry with a specialization in OMFS includes both thesis- and course-based options. However, the proposed combined program will only be offered with the Coursework-Only option of the M.Sc. in Dentistry, OMFS; this aligns with the evolving educational landscape of OMFS programs, providing trainees with the ability to focus on medical studies while at the same time introducing them to the fundamentals of conducting original research. In lieu of the more traditional thesis, the DEN1061H Research Practicum course will allow trainees to undertake research and write a Research Practicum Report that is defended in an oral examination. This adaptation reflects the University of Toronto's commitment to contemporary educational program structures and ensures that graduates are equipped with a strong background in medicine and comprehensive training in OMFS, including research that underpins clinical practice.

Collaboration between the Faculties of Dentistry and Medicine has been instrumental in shaping this initiative, reflecting strong support for advancing healthcare education and patient care standards. Key elements of the proposed CDP include leveraging synergies and reducing overlap between the M.D. and M.Sc. programs, comprehensive support mechanisms for trainees, and strategic scheduling of coursework and clinical requirements. The proposed CDP not only enhances educational experiences for trainees but also positions the University of Toronto as a leader in surgical education and innovation. Anticipated student interest is high, with a consistent pool of qualified applicants for OMFS programs in recent years.

By combining academic rigor with clinical excellence and research expertise, the University of Toronto aims to attract high-caliber applicants and position itself as a leader in surgical education and innovation. The proposed CDP not only enhances educational experiences for trainees but also contributes to the advancement of healthcare education and patient care standards. Through strategic collaborations between the Faculties of Dentistry and Medicine, the University of Toronto seeks to establish a combined degree program pathway that aligns with the evolving needs and standards of the OMFS specialization, ensuring that graduates are prepared to meet the complex challenges of modern healthcare systems.

The motion carried.

## **6 Standing Committee Annual Reports**

### **6.1 Medical Radiation Sciences Board of Examiners**

Dr. Sarah Rauth, Chair of the MRS Board of Examiners, was in attendance but had to leave prior to her report so a written report was read by the Speaker:

The Medical Radiation Sciences Board of Examiners reviews cases of students in academic difficulty and determines the appropriate course of action, which may include promotion, remediation, failure, suspension and dismissal.

The MRS Board of Examiners met four times in 2024 with one additional meeting scheduled for November. The BOE reviewed the progress of 18 students with one of these students being reviewed twice. 14 students failed a course and were placed on remediation and permitted to repeat the failed course. One of these students had their failure rescinded due to accommodations not being applied properly during the final examination.

One student was granted a supplemental evaluation, one student was granted an extension to a clinical course, one student was removed from the program pending successful completion of a program of professionalism remediation, and one student was dismissed for failing the same course a second time.

## **7 Faculty Council Forum**

Deputy Speaker, Dr. Veronica Wadey, introduced the Forum on health profession expansion by Dr. Lynn Wilson, Dr. Patricia Houston, and Dr. Pier Bryden.

## **8 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.