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# THE VARSITY

University of Toronto's Student Newspaper Since 1880

"The gloomy suburban wasteland left by the booms and busts of  
the past 50 years never sounded so glorious." — Luke Savage p9

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FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

## Sweeping changes proposed for A&S

Dean says streamlining will cut costs, enhance undergrad experience. Professors and students are crying foul.



Public meetings planned to occur in fall to discuss changes that still require governance approval. DAVID PIKE/THE VARSITY

Dylan C. Robertson  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Faculty of Arts and Science is undergoing sweeping restructuring with the goal of streamlining programs by June 2011 in order to cut costs. Meric Gertler, dean of U of T's largest faculty, published his 40-page academic plan on Thursday and is facing mounting opposition from professors and students.

### HOW WE GOT HERE

A routine external review of the faculty took place in January 2008. While praising the faculty for doing "more with less," the review raised concerns about the "proliferation of interdisciplinary units." It suggested cutbacks to deal with unsustainable growth and proposed cutting down on costly, over-centralized administration.

Shortly after, Gertler started his term as dean and assumed the routine responsibility of launching an academic plan within his second year. In September 2009, the provost announced academic planning would begin soon with the goal of putting the faculty in line with President David Naylor's Towards 2030 plan. In October, Gertler laid out the main priorities of academic planning and indicated he would follow the external report's recommendation that planning exercises be lead by a smaller strategic planning committee (SPC).

In November, each faculty unit was asked to complete a thorough academic plan, including budget, risks, resources, and enrollment figures. By its December deadline, the SPC received 80 plans, as well as a submission from, and meeting with, the Arts and Science Students' Union (ASSU).

The SPC processed all the submitted plans through to May 2010. Most of June was spent creating reports for each individual department. These reports included proposals and recommendations for program changes and were sent out at the end of June, right before campus was closed ahead of the G20 conference.

### WHERE WE ARE

The largest potential change is the creation of the School of Languages and Literatures, a new amalgamation that would incorporate the the Department of East Asian Studies, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Department of Italian Studies, and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures into one super-department.

Under the plan, the Centre for

Ethics would be disestablished, but Gertler said administration would "take the resources devoted to scholarship in ethics and reinvest them in a faculty-wide initiative of teaching of ethical and social responsibility to all undergraduates".

Similarly, the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies would be closed, but its programs would continue in another department. Gertler said the centre had become a "victim of its own success" in that it had provoked interest across the faculty to such an extent that "the rationale for retaining a centre was not as strong."

Also proposed is the creation of a new Earth Sciences Department, composed of courses in geology, geophysics and physical geography. "This area is growing in economic, environmental, and social importance," said Gertler.

The Centre for International Studies would be disestablished as its teaching function will already end this fall. Courses have been redesigned into, and faculty already work with, the Munk School of Global Affairs.

The Centre for Biological Timing and Cognition would be integrated with the Department of Psychology so that it would report to the department and not directly to the dean's office. Faculty appointed to the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics would work with undergraduate students.

Three graduate programs would be tied to undergraduate programs that already exist in U of T colleges: criminology, industrial and employment relations, and drama. Gertler said a working group would work to

SEE 'CHANGES' - PG 4

### UTSC

## Drew Dudley leaves UTSC

States "unhappiness" as reason for leaving

Natalie Sequeira  
VARSITY STAFF

Drew Dudley, Coordinator of the Leadership Development Program at UTSC, has decided to leave the university after seven years of building leadership and community at UTSC.

National Chair of Shinerama, co-founder of Conduct Becoming Canada and first ever chair of "Million Dollar Youth," Drew attended Mount

Allison university in Sackville, New Brunswick. With an aversion to big cities, Toronto was never on the list when Drew began applying for jobs. He doesn't remember why he applied for a job in Advancement at UTSC. After initial doubts on the part of the hiring committee, they gave Drew a chance and were happy with his interview.

When Drew joined Student Affairs as Coordinator of Student Develop-

ment he was in charge of campus groups and leadership. Too big to accomplish together, leadership was put on hold while he restructured the way campus groups operated.

In November 2005, Drew was invited to be a part of the Leadership at Allison speaker series, which he had been a part of as a student. It was the first time he gave a leadership talk in front of a large crowd. "It turns out I was good at it," says Drew. "So when I moved to student life, I [put] all those elements together, and it was so well received, that we knew we had to stay at it."

The university then hired staff to

take over campus groups, and Drew managed to focus on the leadership development program.

This program focuses on making sure students leave with more than just a degree. Divided into five categories, students attend several talk, workshops, and discussions. The Inside the Leader's Circle, in which Drew interviews influential personalities like Peter Mansbridge, Adria Vasil, Douglas Coupland and Jeff Rubin, is the most popular series.

Leadership is a significant factor for Drew, who says he always wants to find ways to get better. "It [is] a drive to want to be better, happier,

have more of an impact. I always enjoyed being a part of something that makes a difference. With leadership it's making a difference in your life and hoping that it makes a difference in others."

Asked where his inspiration comes from, Drew says it's mostly from the students. "My inspiration comes from the idea that what I'm doing makes a difference to people." However, he says, it's a struggle.

"It's the weirdest balance. I love it when people say I'm an inspiration but I have never been able to

SEE 'DUDLEY' - PG 4

### WEATHER

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
20°C to 22°C	16°C to 25°C	17°C to 23°C	15°C to 22°C	11°C to 24°C
☁️	☀️	☁️	☀️	☀️

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