



**Joint Release: Office of the Provost, University of Toronto and University of Toronto
Faculty Association**

July 15 2014

Over the course of recent months, representatives of the University of Toronto administration and the University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA) have been meeting under the auspices of the Special Joint Advisory Committee (SJAC). Since March of 2014, the parties have been working with the Honourable Frank Iacobucci acting as facilitator. Most recently, the parties met all day on Saturday June 21 2014, and in the evenings of June 25 and June 26 2014.

The SJAC was originally created in April 2012 primarily to:

- (i) consider possible changes to appointments policies for both teaching stream and tenure stream faculty;
- (ii) examine the participation of faculty and librarians in significant academic restructuring initiatives; and
- (iii) review the strengths, weaknesses and options for modernization of the Memorandum of Agreement prescribing UTFA's role in representing faculty and librarians at U of T.

Formal discussions commenced in early April of 2013 and the parties have been meeting regularly since that time. Substantial progress has been made on some issues while work remains to be done on others. At our most recent meeting on Thursday, June 26 2014, UTFA made a proposal on the modernization of the MoA that reflects core elements of what UTFA's negotiating team is prepared to recommend to the UTFA Council for approval. The University administration has asked for time to consult within the University on the basis of UTFA's proposal. As a consequence, the parties have now agreed, with the help of Mr. Iacobucci, to extend the SJAC process to allow for consultation to occur until no later than August 25 2014.

The parties would like to extend thanks to the faculty and librarians of the University as well as to UTFA's Council and the University's Principals and Deans for their input to this process and for their patience.

The University of Toronto administration and UTFA would also like to thank Mr. Iacobucci for his assistance to date.

Questions may be directed to faculty@utfa.org and to provost@utoronto.ca.