

# University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Programs Reviewed:	Bachelor of Music, Mus.Bac. Bachelor of Music in Performance, Mus.Bac.Perf. Minor in Composition Minor in Historical Keyboard Advanced Certificate in Performance Artist Diploma Diploma in Operatic Performance Music, B.A. Hons. (Specialist, Major) (offered through the Faculty of Arts and Science) Music with Ensemble Option, B.A. Hons. (Specialist, Major) (offered through the Faculty of Arts and Science) Minor in History and Culture (offered through the Faculty of Arts and Science) Master of Arts in Music, M.A. Doctor of Philosophy in Music, Ph.D. Master of Musical Arts in Music Performance, D.M.A.
Division/Unit Reviewed:	Faculty of Music
Commissioning Officer:	Vice-President and Provost, University of Toronto
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol> <li>Prof. Robert Cutietta, Dean, Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California</li> <li>Prof. Helena Gaunt, Vice Principal and Director of Academic Affairs, Guildhall School of Music &amp; Drama</li> <li>Prof. Tom Gordon, Professor Emeritus, School of Music, Memorial University of Newfoundland</li> </ol>
Date of review visit:	September 28 – 30, 2015
Date reported to AP&P:	March 30, 2016

Unless otherwise noted, all bulleted comments apply to all programs reviewed.

### 1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that there were no issues to be drawn to the attention of the Agenda Committee but requested a follow up report in one year regarding the completion of the strategic academic plan and its implementation, including the prioritized implementation of the issues raised in the External Review. The follow-up report will be considered by AP&P at the Cycle 5 meeting in 2016-17 academic year.

# 2 Significant Program Strengths

- Longstanding history of leadership in many fields
- Highly regarded creative practitioners and experienced researchers
- Admirable recognition of creative professional practice on par with conventional research
- The Music Library is a national treasure, the most important collection in Canada and among the finest music research libraries in North America

## 3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Addressing the complex array of undergraduate program options and their intensive requirements and removing the barriers faced by students who wish to take courses outside of the Faculty
- Defining the distinctiveness of the Faculty's academic offerings in order to set it apart on the national and international stages and developing an academic plan and a shared vision for the Faculty of Music
- Drawing greater philosophical and curricular distinctions between research (Ph.D.) and performance (D.M.A.) graduate degrees
- Encouraging faculty research productivity and determining how creative practitioners could be better recognized for scholarly achievement
- Pursuing additional collaborative relationships with external organizations

### 4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Faculty to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
  - o Defining the distinctiveness of the Faculty's academic offerings
    - The Dean is leading the development of a Strategic Academic Plan and creating consensus around the definition of the Faculty's current and future distinctiveness.
    - The Faculty will continue to work with the Provost and Vice-Provost to ensure that its complement supports areas of innovation in teaching and research.
    - The Faculty will expand its national and international profile and recruitment efforts through the addition of an International Recruitment Officer.
  - Encouraging faculty research productivity and determining how creative practitioners can be better recognized for scholarly achievement
    - The Associate Dean Research will lead the development of a Strategic Research Plan.

- o Pursuing additional collaborative relationships
  - The Dean's Office will continue to sustain and celebrate its partnerships with University divisions and institutes, and will redevelop its relationships with UTSC and UTM.
  - The Dean's Office will work to make its partnerships with external institutions stronger and more publicly recognized.
- Medium Term (1-2 years)
  - Addressing the complex array of undergraduate program options and their intensive requirements and removing the barriers faced by students who wish to take courses outside of the Faculty
    - The Faculty will streamline program options.
    - The Associate Dean Academic & Student Affairs will continue to work with various academic units and the colleges to ensure improved access for Music students to courses outside the Faculty.
    - Drawing on the support of the Office of the Provost, the Faculty will pursue double degree options with other divisions.
  - o Drawing philosophical and curricular distinctions between the PhD and the DMA
    - The Dean's Office will work in conjunction with the Provost and Vice-Provost Graduate Research and Education to address some of the funding discrepancies between the PhD and DMA.
    - The Associate Dean Graduate Education will explore options to differentiate more clearly the two degree-paths, including the possibility of folding some of the DMA students into the PhD (i.e., PhD in Performance Studies).

The Provost's Office will work with the Dean's Office to monitor progress in implementing the above plan of action.

### **5 Executive Summary**

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as their longstanding history of leadership in many fields; highly regarded creative practitioners and experienced researchers; admirable recognition of creative professional practice on par with conventional research; and the Music Library. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: addressing the complex array of undergraduate program options and their intensive requirements and removing the barriers faced by students who wish to take courses outside of the Faculty; defining the distinctiveness of the Faculty's academic offerings in order to set it apart on the national and international stages and developing an academic plan and a shared vision for the Faculty of Music; drawing greater philosophical and curricular distinctions between the Faculty's research (Ph.D.) and performance (D.M.A.) graduate degrees; encouraging faculty research productivity and determining how creative practitioners could be better recognized for scholarly achievement; and pursuing additional collaborative relationships with external organizations.

The Faculty will streamline undergraduate program options. The Associate Dean Academic & Student Affairs will continue to work with various academic units and the colleges to ensure

improved access for Music students to courses outside the Faculty. The Dean is leading the development of a Strategic Academic Plan and creating consensus around the definition of the Faculty's current and future distinctiveness. The Dean's Office will work in conjunction with the Provost and Vice-Provost Graduate Research and Education to address some of the funding discrepancies between the PhD and DMA. The Associate Dean Research will lead the development of a Strategic Research Plan. The Dean's Office will work to make its partnerships with external institutions stronger (and more publicly recognized). The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that there were no issues to be drawn to the attention of the Agenda Committee but requested a follow up report in one year regarding the completion of the strategic academic plan and its implementation, including the prioritized implementation of the issues raised in the External Review. The follow-up report will be considered by AP&P at the Cycle 5 meeting in the 2016-17 academic year.