

Annual General Membership Meeting

April 25, 2024

8. Apportionment of Council Seats



Apportionment is Outlined in the UTFA Constitution

Procedural point

- There was **significant consultation** leading up to the final report and recommendations of the Apportionment Committee. All UTFA members received an email with a similar version of this slide deck, a table of the proposed changes to their section (if any), and were invited to offer their feedback.
- The report was **endorsed unanimously by UTFA Executive** on February 23, 2024 and **approved unanimously by UTFA Council** on March 26, 2024.
- After this brief presentation, we will welcome any questions from UTFA members present this afternoon. We will then move to a vote.

Decision to be made today (as per Article 4.3.iv of the UTFA Constitution):

- Members can vote in favour of this report and its recommendations in their entirety;
- or send it back to the Apportionment Committee for revisions.

No revisions to the report or its recommendations can be considered today.

Apportionment is Outlined in the UTFA Constitution

“Each regular member shall be allocated to one of the following **eight sections, with a total of up to 56 elected members:**

- 1. Faculty of Arts and Science** and those in the St. George Colleges, Graduate School, centres and institutes who would be eligible for appointment in this faculty, except those at the University of Toronto at Mississauga and the University of Toronto at Scarborough;
- 2. University of Toronto at Mississauga;**
- 3. University of Toronto at Scarborough;**
- 4. Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering** and those in the Graduate School, centres and institutes who would be eligible for appointment within this faculty;
- 5. Faculty of Medicine** and those in the Graduate School, centers and institutes who would be eligible for appointment within this faculty;
- 6. OISE-UT** and those in the centres and institutes who would be eligible for appointment within this faculty;
- 7. Professional faculties** that lack a departmental structure;
- 8. Librarians** on all campuses, including central, college and departmental libraries”.

Constitution (...continued)

“Council shall appoint an Apportionment Committee, consisting of **one regular member from each section plus a Chair**, which shall recommend an assignment of the number of seats for each section for each election in the ensuing **six years**”.

“The Apportionment Committee **shall subdivide each of the eight sections into electoral constituencies on a roughly proportional basis**”.

Current Apportionment Committee

- Fabian Parsch (Section 1)
- Saša Stefanović (Section 2)
- Renan Levine (Section 3)
- Jun Nogami (Section 4 & **Committee Chair**)
- Paul Hamel (Section 5)
- Kimberley MacKinnon (Section 6)
- Denise Gastaldo (Section 7)
- Whitney Kemble (Section 8)

Out of the possible 60 seats for Council, 4 are reserved for retired members (faculty and librarians), leaving 56.

As the active faculty and librarian numbers at UofT change over the 6 years (the time between reconvening Apportionment Committees), the “threshold” for apportioning a seat changes:

Total faculty and librarians / # of seats

$$3,467 / 56 = \sim\mathbf{62 \text{ members per seat}}$$

Main Criteria Used to Decide on Apportionment Distribution (Not rank ordered after first bullet)

- As per the Constitution, start with re-balancing the 8 sections
- Limit disruption to the existing sections as much as possible
 - Equitably distribute units in each section among constituencies
 - Departments should not be split up
- As much as possible, keep cognate groups together within constituencies
- Ideally, limit constituencies to 1 seat each (based on the 62 member per representative threshold)
- Where significant changes were needed in a section (e.g., resulted in loss of a representative for a constituency), consult with those sections to ensure the change does not inadvertently cause major issues

Committee's Recommendation for Re-apportionment

Section	Members	Current Seats	Proposed Reapportionment	Loss/Gain of Seats
Section 1	1067	19	17	-2
Section 2	467	5	8	+3
Section 3	451	6	7	+1
Section 4	255	4	4	0
Section 5	320	5	5	0
Section 6	162	4	3	-1
Section 7	574	10	9	-1
Section 8	171	3	3	0
Total	3467	56	56	

Consultation process (1)

1. Professor Nogami consulted by email with Council representatives in Sections 1 & 7, as these had the most changes in constituencies, while the Committee was deliberating its recommendations.
2. With support from the UTFA Executive, consultation meetings were held on January 29, 2024 with members of Sections 1 & 7, respectively.
 - a. Professors Nogami and MacKinnon, from the Committee, helped present an earlier version of this slide deck to attendees.
 - b. Committee representatives for both sections (Professors Parsch and Gastaldo) assisted in presenting the Committee's proposals and fielding questions.
 - c. The meetings were moderated by Professor Jeff Bale, UTFA VP, University and External Affairs.
 - d. The meeting with Section 1 led to a new consensus and an amended recommendation to the Committee on how to organize Section 1 constituencies to realize the loss of two seats.
3. Section 6 also lost one seat, but the loss has already been realized insofar as a vacant seat has been kept unfilled. Thus, a consultation meeting for Section 6 was not organized.

Consultation process (2)

4. UTFA members in each of the eight sections received an email with this slide deck and a table based on the Committee's recommendation for that section.
 - a. Please note that the table sent to Section 1 reflected the updated proposed amendment from the consultation meeting on January 29, 2024.
 - b. Members were invited to provide written feedback by EOD on Thursday, February 14.
 - c. Due to a technical glitch with Sendy, the email application we have used for mass emails, a small number of members did not receive this first consultation email. We resent the email to all of Section 4 and to two members in Section 2, and extended the deadline for feedback to March 6, 2024.
 - d. This consultation process did not result in any required changes to the recommendations from the Apportionment Committee.
5. The report and its recommendations was approved unanimously by UTFA Council on March 26, 2024

The Apportionment Committee's recommendations to UTFA Executive and Council for future consideration

1. Assess the merits of favouring a one-seat-per-constituency model, even though in this round of apportionment it meant breaking up some of our current constituencies.
2. Develop best practices for representatives in constituencies where there are multiple units to ensure that regular and broader input can be gathered, and so that all units receive communications from their representative(s) and feel well represented on Council. Support representatives with mentoring to help those who represent diverse groups maintain meaningful dialogue with all constituents.
3. Determine at what point a change to the UTFA Constitution may be necessary. (The Constitution was last changed in April 2015.) Such changes might include:
 - a. Is 60 the right number of Council seats (56 from the active membership and 4 for retirees)?
 - b. Are the 8 sections still the right ones?
 - c. Do some units align better with a different section?

Your questions are welcomed and encouraged!

Council Motion

Consistent with Article IV, 4.3, (iv), of the UTFA Constitution:

Council recommends that the Members present at the Annual General Meeting of April 25, 2024 enact the recommendations outlined in the Apportionment Committee's report, as presented.