ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Approval of a new Combined Degree program – JD/PhD in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies (Major Modification)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Arts & Science Council has delegated authority to approve modifications to existing degree programs that are defined in the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) as major modifications, such as the creation of a combined program.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. Graduate Curriculum Committee – March 8, 2018 (for approval)
2. Arts & Science Council – April 18, 2018 (final approval)
3. Committee on Academic Policy & Programs – May 10, 2018 (reported for information by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs)

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs will also report this major modification to the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance in the Summer of 2018.

HIGHLIGHTS:

This is a proposal to create a combined degree program between the Juris Doctor in the Faculty of Law, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies in the Faculty of Arts & Science.

Disciplinary, institutional, and faculty linkages already exist between the Faculty of Law and the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies (CrimSL). Creating a combined JD/PhD degree for students with an MA in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies (or an analogous program) would extend and enhance existing relationships. Many MA students in Criminology and Sociolegal
Studies proceed to law school, and some of them are excellent budding scholars who, given the opportunity, may wish to combine a legal education with a doctorate. Graduates of a combined JD/PhD will be employable inside and outside law faculties, thereby expanding career opportunities in academe.

The combined degree program (CDP) will provide an accelerated pathway so that students will be able to complete both degree programs in at least one year faster than the time required if the programs were taken consecutively. As is the case with the existing combined degree programs involving the JD, the total number of credits students complete in the upper years of the JD are reduced from 56 to, in the case of this proposal, 45 based on academic requirements students will complete as part of the PhD program, which includes coursework.

Students in the combined degree program must be admitted to both the PhD and the JD programs at the same time. It is expected that one student will be accepted into the combined program per year.

In the first year of the program, students will be registered in the Faculty of Law and will receive a deferred acceptance into the doctoral program. In the second year, students will be registered in the doctoral program in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, and will complete the PhD coursework requirements. In Years 3 and 4, students will complete the remaining JD program requirements, while completing their comprehensive exam requirements for the CrimSL PhD program. Students will achieve candidacy for the PhD in the summer of Year 4 and will spend the remainder of the program (Years 5-6) registered in PhD and completing their dissertation.

This combined program requires an MOA between the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Arts & Science. This MOA will be finalized prior to governance.

**MOTION:**

THAT the proposed combined program Juris Doctor (Faculty of Law) and PhD in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies (Faculty of Arts and Science), as described in the attached proposal, be effective for the academic year 2018-19.