FOR APPROVAL

TO: Faculty of Arts and Science Council

SPONSOR: Sandy Welsh, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education and Program Reviews

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DATE: March 2, 2015 for March 9, 2015

AGENDA ITEM: 4

ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Major modifications – New Combined Program – JD/M.A. in History

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:
The Arts & 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 new program requirement option within an existing graduate program.

GOVERNANCE PATH:
Graduate Curriculum Committee – February 12, 2015
Arts & Science Council – March 9, 2015 – final approval
Reported for information to the appropriate body of Governing Council

HIGHLIGHTS:
The Department of History, along with the Faculty of Law, proposes a combined degree program to provide an interdisciplinary experience to those interested in both the study of law and history. The proposed combined program will have students completing their first year of studies within the Faculty of Law (J.D. program) and then combining degree requirements for both the J.D. program with those of the M.A program in the Department of History in the last two years.

The proposed combined program will further develop the already existing relationship between both units. There is a strong connection between the fields of law and history, which is seen by the number of incoming law students who have undergraduate degrees in history. This link is further advanced by the working relationships of faculty members in both units whose field of research is historical law. By combining these programs, students will gain from the access to a stronger cohort of faculty, as well as develop further their analytical abilities and expertise in historical methodologies.

As described in the attached proposal, the three-year combined program (J.D./M.A.) will allow students to complete both degrees in the same amount of time it would take to complete the law program alone and will provide students with the benefit of specializing in legal history, thereby distinguishing their degrees and increasing employability.
No additional faculty or space resources will be required as both units will not be increasing their admissions and existing faculty with research interests in both law and history will be found to supervise incoming students.

The approval of this combined program is conditional on the finalization of an MOA, which is currently in the process of being completed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
The Arts & Science Council approve:

THAT the proposed new combined program of J.D./M.A. in History, as described in the attached proposal dated November 26, 2014, be approved effective for the academic year 2015-16.