FOR FINAL APPROVAL

TO: Arts & 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 modification – Creation of a new field and closure of two fields - M.A./Ph.D. in Spanish.

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 the creation of a new field.

PREVIOUS ACTION:
The creation of a new field and the closure of two fields for both the M.A. and Ph.D. in Spanish were approved by the Department in January 2015 and by the Arts & Science Graduate Curriculum Committee on February 12, 2015.

GOVERNANCE PATH:
Final approval for major modifications to degree programs rests with Arts & Science Council. The approvals are reported for information to the University’s Committee on Academic Policy and Programs as part of an annual report.

HIGHLIGHTS:
The Department of Spanish & Portuguese proposes to the close two of three graduate fields: Spanish Peninsular Literature and Latin American Literature and proposes to create a new field. The Department proposes to introduce a new field in Hispanic Literature and Cultures to better align it with their linguistic field: Hispanic Linguistics. The generic term “Hispanic” better reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the study of Spanish in a new geographically connected world. The last ten years has seen a shift in teaching within the Department and literatures is now an interdisciplinary study which incorporates film, visual arts, science, issues on migration and immigration diaspora which affect both the Spanish Peninsular and Latin America.

As described in the attached proposal, the proposed new field within the M.A. and Ph.D. programs will address both geographical areas in one terminology and homogenize the two areas of study: literature and linguistics thereby allowing for greater research interaction.

No additional faculty resources will be required and students currently completing their M.A. or Ph.D. will have the option to select the new field or retain one of the two fields being closed.
RECOMMENDATION:
The Arts & Science Council approves:

THAT the proposed new field – Hispanic Literatures and Cultures within the M.A. and Ph.D Spanish programs as described in the attached proposal dated January 2015, be approved effective for the academic year 2015-16.

And

THAT the proposed closure of the two fields: Spanish Peninsular Literature and Latin American Literatures within the M.A. and Ph.D. Spanish programs as described in the attached proposal dated January 2015, be approved effective for the academic year 2015-16.