FOR FINAL APPROVAL

TO: Arts & Science Council

SPONSOR: Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education

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DATE: March 14, 2018 for March 21, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 3

ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Approval of the establishment of the School of Cities as an EDU:C.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:
As per section IV-9 of the Constitution of the Faculty of Arts & Science Council, Council shall “review and approve or recommend for approval to the Governing Council proposals concerning Extra-Departmental Units in the Faculty, pursuant to the Policy on Interdisciplinary Education and Research Planning.”

GOVERNANCE PATH:
1. Arts & Science Council – March 21, 2018 (final approval)
2. Committee on Academic Policy & Programs – (reported for information by the Office of the Vice-Provost, Academic Programs) – May 10, 2018

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 establish the School of Cities at the University of Toronto. The School of Cities will be an interdivisional entity, working across institutional and disciplinary boundaries to coordinate, aggregate and amplify the University’s expertise in urban research, education and external partnerships. It will serve as a key institutional vehicle for addressing one of the University’s top strategic priorities: to take better advantage of our location in one of the world’s most vibrant, culturally diverse and economically dynamic regions, with the aim of benefitting both the University and city region of which it is a part.

The School of Cities is conceived primarily to be a research-driven enterprise, focused around ‘urban challenge projects,’ with significant co-curricular, outreach/partnership and public
engagement mandates. It will build connections within and outside the University, establish a strong interdisciplinary research foundation, and offer educational programming such as undergraduate and graduate courses and experiential learning opportunities.

The Faculty of Arts & Science will be the School’s lead Faculty, assuming administrative and budgetary responsibility for the School. Other divisions which have expressed a commitment to participate in the School include the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, the John H. Daniels School of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, the Rotman School of Management, the University of Toronto, Mississauga and the University of Toronto, Scarborough.

Beginning in February 2017, the Faculty of Arts & Science carried out an extensive ten-month consultation process in relation to the School of Cities, consulting faculty and students across all three campuses on the School’s viability, form, vision and mandate. This resulted in the creation of a 29 member Interim Working Group, representing 22+ disciplines across eight divisions, which has been driving the development of the School forward.

The School will be headed by a Director, who will report administratively to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and academically to a Council of Deans and Principals of the participating divisions. The Director will be advised by a committee comprised of minimally the heads of a core group of urban-focused academic entities, by a Steering Committee composed of ten to twelve members of the University community, including faculty and graduate students, as well as a Community Advisory Board composed of individuals outside the University who represent organizations, communities or entities with which the School is partnered.

**MOTION:**

a) THAT the School of Cities, as described in the attached proposal, be established as an EDU:C effective July 1, 2018.