ITEM OF BUSINESS:
Executive Summary of Academic Change in Undergraduate Curriculum

HIGHLIGHTS:

The 2017-18 Governance Cycle saw a notable depth and breadth of changes to undergraduate curriculum in the Faculty of Arts and Science. These changes encompassed nearly the full range of potential modifications under the University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP), including the creation of both Streams and Focuses, significant program restructuring, changes to program type and enrolment requirements, the creation of a new Specialist and new Minors, and the creation of the first in-conjunction Certificate program for Arts and Science.

Within these modifications, a few trends have emerged. In particular, the growing interest in data and data sciences is reflected in the creation of two new programs, the Data Science Specialist and the Digital Humanities Minor, as well as program modifications within Actuarial Science and Statistics. These new offerings, and updates to current programs, reflect a growing interest in preparing students to understand applications of ‘big data’ to problems in the sciences and humanities. Additionally, program changes in many academic units reflect the goal of streamlining completion requirements and creating clearer pathways for students to navigate their programs through the simplification of elective and mandatory course choices and introduction of gateway courses.