FOR APPROVAL

TO: Arts & Science Council

SPONSOR: Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Dean, Graduate Education

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DATE: December 6, 2017 for December 13, 2017

AGENDA ITEM: 8

ITEM OF BUSINESS:
New Doctoral Collaborative Specialization in Mediterranean Archaeology (Major Modification)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:
The Arts & Council’s Constitution (IV-7) confirms that 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:
1. Graduate Curriculum Committee [For approval and recommendation] – November 27, 2017
2. Arts & Science Council [For approval] – December 13, 2017
3. Office of the Vice-Provost [For information] in turn reported to the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs [For information] – May 10, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS:
This proposal would see the creation of a Doctoral Collaborative Specialization in Mediterranean Archaeology, with the participation of the PhD program in the following units in the Faculty of Arts & Science: Department of Classics, Department of Art, Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, Department of Anthropology, and the Department for the Study of Religion. The Archaeology Centre (EDU:C) will serve as a supporting unit for the Specialization.

This specialization will expose students to the full range of current research questions and methods in Mediterranean Archaeology, cutting across traditional disciplinary and methodological divides by integrating archaeological, art historical and textual material and data across “prehistoric” and “historic” periods, combining the strengths of archaeology and ancient history. The collaborative specialization will focus on four themes: settlement patterns, connectivity and networks, technology and economy, and art and religion.
Expected enrolment would be six students per year, across the participating units. This is a sustainable number that should be fillable with high-quality candidates due to the success of a small number of similar programs across the border, as well as the existence of two Master’s programs in Classics at Brock and Waterloo which combine textual history with archaeology. There is no current specialization of this kind at the doctoral level in Canada. Students who participate in the Collaborative Specialization will be well positioned on the academic job market, as positions in Classics and Near Eastern Archaeology increasingly seek blended training across archaeology, art history and ancient history.

Students in the collaborative specialization must complete a year-long core course, Methods in Mediterranean Archaeology, which can be counted as an elective in all five core units, as well as a fieldwork requirement involving four weeks on an archaeological project in the Mediterranean. The fieldwork will be funded through a combination of project budgets and scholarships and will be cost neutral to the student. Students will also choose a dissertation topic in the area of Mediterranean archaeology/ancient history/Classical archaeology.

The core faculty for this specialization will be available as home program advisors/supervisors, and will contribute to the specialization through the teaching of the core course and other common learning elements, and, for those faculty with active fieldwork projects in the Mediterranean, by taking students into the field. The specialization will have a Director and a Collaborative Specialization Committee to manage admissions and to ensure adequate supervision of candidates. This is not expected to add significantly to any faculty member’s supervisory load.

MOTION:

THAT the proposed new collaborative Doctoral specialization in Mediterranean Archaeology, as described in the attached proposal, be approved effective the 2018–19 academic year.