



The University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) is at an important juncture in its growth and development. Having experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, UTSC has doubled in size to a comprehensive, mid-size university campus with a student population of over 10,000. The effect of this growth has been nothing less than transformational.



Our campus is a dynamic environment that supports excellence in scholarship, research and innovation. Students connect to the world and engage in relevant, contemporary issues through innovative programs. Our research enterprise has reached a critical mass, leading in many areas of excellence, including physical and environmental science, neuroscience, and plant and cell biology, to name just a few. As one of three campuses of the University of Toronto, we are recognized internationally for the high quality of our research and teaching and, now, for enhancing traditional forms of pedagogy, such as those that connect students to real-world experiences through co-operative education and other forms of experiential learning.

With our long-standing tradition of excellence, combined with the relative youth of our campus community, UTSC is poised to define a new path for post-secondary education in the 21st century, partnering with the broader community to provide cutting-edge programs, services and opportunities.

In this regard, we have been thinking ahead to the future. Over the past 15 months, we have focused on planning in order to realize the enormous potential of UTSC, not only from an academic perspective, but also in our ability to exert far-reaching influence globally on matters that affect each and everyone of us, whether it is climate change, disease prevention, artistic expression or Third World development.

Together, we have shaped a new vision for

UTSC and have already begun to put in place the necessary curriculum and infrastructure. Our focus on five priorities – new and emerging areas of scholarship, experiential learning, internationalism, research and graduate studies, and establishing a sustainable university platform – will position UTSC as a distinct university campus that will continue to attract the best and brightest students, faculty and staff for generations to come.

The momentum we have created is strong. Our scientific enterprise is strengthened by the recently completed Science Research Building. The growth in our faculty complement and the search for additional academic and scientific leaders will propel us forward in new and emerging areas of knowledge. Our department Chairs, as you will learn in this *Annual Review*, are introducing new programs and realigning their departments to respond to the interests of undergraduate and graduate students in the new context that they face in the 21st century. Our fundamental goal is to create an environment that enables each and every student to thrive and learn, to develop fresh perspectives and ways of thinking.

And as we think ahead, our plans for capital expansion will go a long way to address the disconnect between our student needs and our physical space and infrastructure shortage. A new campus master plan will incorporate the views and interests of the communities and businesses of our region, including recreation



facilities and transit services that meet the needs of our community and provide a vital resource for our region.

In challenging economic times such as those we face today, the importance of universities to society is clearer than ever. Our advances in knowledge and innovation, the education of a skilled, creative workforce and our collaborations with government, business and community will drive future prosperity and enhance the quality of life for all. Strengthened by our collective effort, we intend to nurture UTSC's role as an intellectual and cultural anchor, an economic driver in this expanding region of our province.

We have been reaching out and welcoming you. We are grateful for the guidance and insights provided by our outstanding network of alumni, donors and supporters. The feedback that we have received thus far is overwhelmingly positive. We will continue to create opportunities to invite you in, to hear your ideas and to share with you exciting new developments in research and scholarship.

Thank you for working with us to think ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Franco J. Vaccarino".

Professor Franco J. Vaccarino
Principal, University of Toronto Scarborough
Vice-President, University of Toronto

Setting the course for a new kind of campus

Throughout the academic year 2007-08, UTSC students, faculty and administration engaged in a broad strategic planning exercise. Through a process of workshops and discussions, a framework document emerged. Its themes and strategic priorities are guiding academic and resource planning for 2008-09.

UTSC is committed to excellence and innovation in research and teaching by providing an environment that nurtures and supports scholars to make contributions of global significance. Our belief that both research and teaching are central to the educational mission ensures the highest-quality experience possible for our students.

UTSC values:

- > research and scholarship
- > a broad-based student experience
- > a supportive environment for students
- > diversity and equity
- > partnership and outreach

Five strategic priorities set new directions and reinforce areas of strength:

1. New and emerging areas of scholarship
2. Enhanced graduate training
3. Internationalism
4. Experiential learning
5. Sustainable university platform

