



Office
of the President

University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
N2L 3G1

November 5, 2007

The Honourable John Milloy
Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities
c/o Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB)
Suite 1511, 2 Carlton Street
Toronto ON M5B 1J3

Dear Minister Milloy:

Re: Application by Renison College to use the name Renison *University* College

The Board of Governors and Academic Council of Renison College have asked Renison's Principal, Dr. John Crossley, to apply to you for ministerial consent to use the name 'University College.' I write today to convey the support of the University of Waterloo for this application.

Renison College has been affiliated with the University of Waterloo since June 1960. The affiliation agreement makes it clear that Renison is an integral academic component of the University of Waterloo. The College offers degree programs and credit courses approved by the University of Waterloo. In sum, Renison College appears to meet the criteria normally applied to university colleges in Ontario.

It is entirely appropriate that Renison College be named Renison University College. The University of Waterloo welcomes the change in designation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Johnston".

David Johnston
President

bcc: John Crossley

Historical and Operational Information about Renison College

1. Historical

- a. Renison College was founded in 1959 (incorporated 14 January 1959) by Anglican laity and clergy in Kitchener and Waterloo. It was established under the authority of the Synod of the Diocese of Huron. Renison continues to contribute to and be supported by the Anglican community in Canada and remains a part of the Diocese of Huron.
- b. The College was named in memory of the late Robert John Renison, 1875-1957, a former Metropolitan of Ontario, Archbishop of Moosonee, and author.
- c. On June 18th, 1960, Renison College entered into an affiliation agreement with the University of Waterloo to be effective as of July 1st, 1960, giving Renison the right to offer courses and programs for credit towards a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University. Renison is one of four institutions federated or affiliated with the University of Waterloo. The others are St Jerome's University (Roman Catholic), Conrad Grebel University College (Mennonite), and St Paul's United College (United Church). The campuses of these institutions are located immediately to the west of the University of Waterloo campus.
- d. Renison's residence and academic facilities have grown over the years. The original building on the present campus provided residence for forty men and forty women students. Over time, the residence has grown to accommodate 220 students, with the most recent addition opening in January 2003. In the early 1990s a Great Hall and St Bede's Chapel were added to the College. Academic expansions, the most recent of which was completed in August 2006, have provided the College with ten classrooms, a computer-based teaching room, a library with specialized collections supporting the Renison's academic programs, and various meeting rooms for faculty, staff, and students.
- e. The intention of the founders was to establish a College that would provide a supportive residential community for university students and that would develop academic programs and courses that would promote social justice and inter-cultural understanding and tolerance. These remain central to the mission of the College.

2. Renison's current operation:

- a. Residence: Renison houses 220 students, 140 of whom are first-year students; the others are returning students. During the summer, the Renison residence hosts several conferences and provides rooms to dozens of international students studying English as a Second Language at the Renison English Language Institute.
- b. Academic Programs: Renison offers courses and programs that are part of the

Faculty of Arts at University of Waterloo. Renison contributes to the University's Religious Studies program, including the Joint University of Waterloo/Wilfrid Laurier University PhD program in Religious Studies) and offers courses in English. The bulk of the teaching done at Renison takes place within a small number of specialized programs developed and offered by Renison for the University of Waterloo. These include:

- i. Social Development Studies: An interdisciplinary social science program comprising courses in Social Work, Interdisciplinary Social Science, Sociology, and Psychology; the purpose is to provide education for those interested in helping professions; students may pursue minor, 3-year major, 4-year major, Honours, and/or co-op options; one of the largest programs (by number of majors and number of graduates) in the Faculty of Arts; graduates typically pursue further education and/or careers in social work, education, public administration, non-profit agencies, theology. In October 2007, 517 students had declared majors in Social Development Studies.
- ii. Bachelor of Social Work: A second-entry one-year (three-term) program leading to professional qualification as a social worker. Currently there are 40 students pursuing the one-year BSW. The Renison School of Social Work recently introduced a three-year (part-time) path through the BSW program tailored for people already working in the helping professions. There are currently 50 students in the three-year stream.
- iii. East Asian Studies: A cluster of roughly 25 courses covering Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages and various aspects of East Asian culture, history, literature, society, economics, and politics. Hundreds of students from all parts of the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University study East Asian languages. Students may work toward a 10-course Renison Diploma in East Asian Studies. Renison will soon ask the University of Waterloo Senate to approve a Minor, a three-year Major, a four-year general Major, and an Honours program in East Asian Studies, as well as Options in Chinese and Japanese languages. In June 2006, Renison's East Asian Studies program was selected by the Office of Chinese Language Council International to be the location of Canada's second Confucius Institute for the teaching of Chinese language and culture. Each fall Renison College hosts an East Asian Festival, which integrates scholarly and community interests in East Asia.
- iv. English as a Second Language: Renison's English Language Institute offers a number of credit courses for international students studying at the University of Waterloo. These courses were developed to support the University's internationalization activity. Renison also provides ESL courses to support internationalization at Wilfrid Laurier University.
- v. Applied Language Studies: In May 2007 the University of Waterloo Senate approved an interdisciplinary academic plan in Applied Language Studies. The plan, which draws upon courses of several language programs at University of Waterloo, is administered by Renison College

and is based in a series of core courses offered by Renison's English Language Institute.

In addition to University Credit courses, Renison offers non-credit programs and courses in three areas:

- vi. English as a Second Language: The bulk of the activity in Renison's English Language Institute involves non-credit teaching in two programs: English for Success, a one-month program offered in July and August, and English for Academic Success, a twelve-week program that parallels the University's academic year and prepares international students for admission to the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, or another Ontario university. The English Language Institute also provides, from time to time, professional development courses for teachers of English from other countries. In May 2008, Renison will begin a TESL-Canada accredited program to train teachers of English as a second language.
- vii. Lay Ministry: The Renison Institute of Ministry provides non-credit courses and programs for those interested in lay ministry.
- viii. Conversational Chinese and Japanese language: The Confucius Institute at University of Waterloo and the East Asian Studies Centre offer inexpensive short-courses for people interested in learning basics of Chinese and/or Japanese language.

Renison is currently discussing with the Faculty of Arts participation in a professional Masters program.

- c. Distance Education: Renison College is one of the largest contributors of distance education courses at the University of Waterloo. In 2005-06, over 1,500 students enrolled in DE courses offered by Renison, accounting for roughly 9% of the total DE course enrolments at the University. Many Social Development Studies courses and all of the courses required as prerequisites for the Bachelor of Social Work are available to students studying from a distance.
- d. Relative balance of residence and academic activities at Renison: At its origin, Renison was primarily a residential college. As its academic programs have grown, academic activities now predominate. Thus, residence activities currently account for 25% of the College's revenue, while academic activities account for 75%.
- e. Student support: Students registered at Renison are also registered at the University of Waterloo and have access to all of the support and ancillary services provided by the University of Waterloo. In addition to these services, students are provided the following services by Renison:
 - i. Registrar's Office: Renison College registers students into programs in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Waterloo. Renison-registered students benefit from personalized academic advice and service.

- ii. Library: The Lusi Wong Library at Renison College houses a specialized collection that supports teaching in the areas taught at the College. The Library is part of the UW/WLU/UGuelph shared library system, which gives Renison students and faculty access to very large library collections within a comfortable and intimate space. The Lusi Wong Library also provides excellent study space for Renison's resident and academic students.
 - iii. Director of Residence and Coordinator of Student Life: The Director of Residence works with a team of ten student dons to plan and implement a program of activities for resident students; he also works with the academic student associations to help coordinate extra-curricular activities for non-resident students.
 - iv. Chaplain: Renison employs a full-time Chaplain, who is also Anglican Chaplain to the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University. Weekly church services take place in St. Bede's Chapel at Renison. The Chaplain also organizes extra-curricular activities for Renison students and provides spiritual guidance for students, faculty, and staff.
 - v. Writing Centre: In the fall of 2006, Renison's English Language Institute opened a Writing Centre to provide individualized assistance to students who seek or require help writing papers. The Centre is available to all students resident at Renison or taking courses offered by Renison.
- f. Internationalization at Renison: In recent years, Renison has become a very international institution. Credit and non-credit courses offered through the Renison English Language Institute have attracted large numbers of international students seeking to improve their English for academic purposes. In addition, the Renison East Asian Studies Centre, which is now also the home of the Confucius Institute at University of Waterloo, attracts students and visiting professors from a number of Asian countries. Renison currently has active partnerships with universities in China, Japan, Korea, and Singapore and an emerging partnership with a university in Thailand. The Renison School of Social Work has active partnerships with institutions in Mexico and Arizona. Renison is also an active participant in the world-wide Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion. Renison students have a growing number of study-abroad opportunities. Visiting professors, in both the English Language Institute and the East Asian Studies Centre, are a regular feature of Renison life.

1960.

THIS AGREEMENT made in duplicate this 18th day of June,

BETWEEN:

THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, a corporation incorporated by Statute of the Province of Ontario, having its head office at the City of Waterloo, in the Province of Ontario, hereinafter called the University

OF THE FIRST PART

- and -

RENISON COLLEGE, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario having its head office at the said City of Waterloo, hereinafter called the College

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS by an agreement bearing date the 15th day of June, 1959, the College was declared to have the right to become an affiliated College of the University;

AND WHEREAS pursuant thereto the parties hereto have now agreed that such affiliation shall become operative on and after the 1st day of July, 1960, on the terms hereinafter set forth.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that the parties hereto hereby mutually covenant, agree and declare as follows:

1. (a) The College shall be and is hereby declared to be an affiliated College of the University. The College shall be known as Renison College and the affiliated relationship now established shall become operative and be practised in fact on and after the 1st day of July, 1960.
- (b) All degree-granting powers which, in the future, may be possessed by the College, except those in Theology, shall be held in abeyance, so long as such affiliation remains in force.
- (c) All College students proceeding toward a degree to be granted by the University shall be registered with the University.
- (d) The college reserves its right of jurisdiction over the

conduct of its students and the right to provide religious worship for them.

(e) The College reserves the right to offer instructions to its students in any courses in the Arts, humanities or social sciences, subject to the approval of Senate, and the College shall maintain academic standards in respect to curriculum and faculty as required by the Senate in all courses for which credit is given toward a degree.

(f) The College reserves the right to develop its own courses in harmony with its denominational beliefs in such fields of investigation as Religious Knowledge and Philosophy, and the University Senate shall give academic credit for such courses when it is satisfied that academic standards and curricular requirements are maintained.

(g) Subject to satisfactory prearrangements, students of the College shall be admitted to courses offered by the University or by a federated or an affiliated college.

(h) The College shall retain as its own property any and all gifts, bequests, devises, scholarships, endowments or grants of any kind which from time to time may be made to it.

(i) Any modifications of the University's agreements with other federated or affiliated colleges shall first be discussed with the ^{then} ~~tax~~ federated or affiliated colleges.

(j) Nominations from the College for honorary degrees in Divinity shall be accepted in reasonable numbers by the Senate of the University.

2. (a) Amendments to this agreement may be made by mutual consent provided the same are in writing.

(b) If any judicial finding at any time establishes a lack of authority to grant or extend the rights or privileges of this agreement, the College shall have the right to require the said agreement of the 15th day of June, 1959 and this agreement to be so construed that

(i) all such rights and privileges shall be severable

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(ii) insofar as the provisions hereof extend the rights and privileges of the College as set forth in the said agreement of the 15th day of June, 1959, they shall be extended to the full extent that the University has authority so to do.

(c) This agreement may be terminated by either party only after the 30th day of June twelve months or more following the date on which either party notifies the other in writing of its desire for termination of the agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the corporate parties hereto have hereunto set their corporate seals as attested to by their proper officers in that behalf.



THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Per:

J. Meadley

Chairman, Board of Governors

A. Kadish
Secretary, Board of Governors

RENISON COLLEGE

Per:

G. Columbus

J. A. Eakin

