

**York University**  
**Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies**  
**Faculty Council**

**Minutes of the 108<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Council**  
**September 15, 2022 | Zoom Meeting Room**

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair welcomed members and staff to the first meeting of the 2022-2023 Academic Year.

Quorum was confirmed.

The Chair noted that the Item for Discussion on the Agenda (Item for Discussion: York SDGs in the Classroom Curricular Innovation Hub) had been withdrawn by the presenter after the approval of the Agenda and suggested moving the Dean's Report to Council and subsequent items up on the Agenda and foregoing the break.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Agenda approved.

**3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair expressed excitement for the new Academic Year and confirmed that Faculty Council (FC) meetings will remain on Zoom for the Fall term. The Chair expressed her commitment to collegial and respectful discussions at FC meetings and her confidence in FC members sharing in this commitment.

The Chair introduced Tejas Kittur, new Manager, Faculty Governance and Administration, and Tristan Paul, also a new member of the Office of the FC team. The Chair thanked Zulfikar

Hirji for taking on the Acting Vice-Chair role for this FC meeting, adding that this position remains vacant and encouraged interested members to apply for this role.

**4. Approval of Minutes: June 9, 2022, Faculty Council Meeting**

Approved.

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

A member requested that the "first come, first served" aspect of the FC nomination and acclamation process for Standing Committee vacancies held over the Summer be revisited to ensure its compliance with LA&PS' rules and procedures. The Chair acknowledged the concern and stated that, while it was the understanding of the Executive Committee (EC) that the process did not contravene established rules and procedures, the concern will be added to the Agenda of the next EC meeting for further consideration and discussion.

**6. Reports of Standing Committee of Council**

The Vice-Chair provided an overview of the election and nomination timeline for Standing Committees and invited members – especially new faculty members – to take on these responsibilities and contribute to the collegial governance process by applying online for the current vacancies, namely, the Vice-Chair of Executive Council and membership on the Academic Policy and Planning Committee (APPC), the Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Success (CTLSS), CUPE Representatives of FC, and the LA&PS Special Committee on the Mandate and Membership for a Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (MCEDI).

**7. Dean's Report to Council**

The Dean welcomed all new and returning faculty members, staff, and students and encouraged new faculty members to participate in governance within LA&PS. The Dean introduced a significant renewal of faculty members including over 40 new hires with a “New Faculty Welcome” slideshow. The Dean also welcomed Paulette Burger, Executive Director of Strategy, and new team members of the Office of the Faculty Council.

The Dean highlighted that the organizer of the Congress on Social Science and Humanities will present at FC this year and reminded members that, in May 2023, York University will host the first in-person Congress and encouraged members to become involved in this event.

The Dean provided an update on recent and continuing renovations to the University facilities, including adding two floors to Vari Hall, which will house new offices and research and classroom space for several LA&PS Departments. The Dean added that these renovations will take place before and after the Congress on Social Science and Humanities and will not disrupt the event. A member asked for an update on renovations to Scott Library. The Dean replied that commenting on University Libraries would be outside his purview and offered to facilitate communication with the Dean of Libraries.

The Dean also congratulated colleagues on the success of their research proposals. As a result LA&PS has increased Tri-Council research funding from approximately \$4 million to almost \$7 million, representing a 57% increase in external funding over the last three years.

An upcoming call for expression of interest for new College Heads was announced. The Dean shared that College facilities, including student-centric spaces, will be part of the upcoming renovations.

The Dean provided an update on a recent successful orientation event for incoming students, the first in-person orientation since 2019. The Dean thanked all faculty members and staff involved for the successful and exciting orientation which hosted over 5,000 students – one of the best-attended orientation events ever at York University.

The Dean noted an upcoming announcement of the Dean's Awards for Research Excellence (DARE), celebrating the research of undergraduate students. All members were invited to attend the event on October 4 from 12-2 pm and learn about the research achievements of LA&PS' students.

#### **8. Senate Synopsis of June 23, 2022, Meeting**

Item for Information: Senate Synopsis of the 687th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, June 23, 2022.

#### **9. Other Business**

None.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The Chair thanked all in attendance, wishing members and staff a fulfilling and productive Academic Year.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved, seconded, and passed.

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Ida Ferrara, Chair of Council

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Tejas Kittur, Secretary of Council