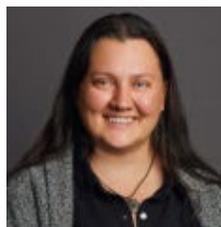


PRESIDENT'S KUDOS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2022



[The Royal Society of Canada](#) (RSC) has elected six York University faculty members as part of the Class of 2022. Recognition by the RSC is the highest honour an individual can achieve in the arts, social sciences and sciences. All were elected by their peers for their outstanding scholarly, scientific and artistic achievements. Elected to the ranks of the Royal Society of Canada are:

- Celia Haig-Brown, Faculty of Education – Fellow, Academy of Social Sciences
- Steven J. Hoffman, Global Health, Law, and Political Science – Fellow, Academy of Social Sciences
- Linda Peake, Faculty of Environmental & Urban Change – Fellow, Academy of Social Sciences
- Jianhong Wu, Faculty of Science – Fellow, Academy of Science
- Sandra Rehan, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science – RSC College
- Sapna Sharma, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science – RSC College



York University's source for faculty and staff news, [YFile](#), celebrated its 20-year anniversary on September 9 with a special issue. In addition to the special issue content, over the course of the upcoming year, YFile will feature a variety of anniversary stories and republish interesting and unique articles from its archive.



Osgoode Hall Law School Associate Professor [Pina D'Agostino](#) was named in the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers 2022 by Canadian Lawyer Magazine. A place on Canadian Lawyer's Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers list is a highly regarded accolade. The list reflects how the work of these members of the legal system has had an impact, whether in the courtroom, law school, law firm or business, or at a policy level.



The Canadian Association for Theatre Research has announced York University Professor [Cynthia Zimmerman](#) as the recipient of its Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022. Zimmerman is a professor at Glendon Campus in the English Department. She has devoted her professorial career to scholarship and teaching in the field of Canadian drama, as well as teaching courses in modern and contemporary drama for the Glendon English Program and for York's Graduate Program in English.



Faculty of Science Mathematics and Statistics Professor, [Jianhong Wu](#), has been elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Election to fellowship in the academy is considered one of the highest honours for individuals in the Canadian health sciences community and carries with it a covenant to serve the academy and the future well-being of the health sciences irrespective of the Fellow's specific discipline.



York University's [Communications & Public Affairs](#) team has been recognized by the Council for Advancement for Support of Education with six global Circle of Excellence Awards for advancing the University's strategic goals through inspiring, innovative and creative marketing and communications strategies. Here are the award-winning work recognized in 2022:

- Gold: Right the Future advertising campaign
- Gold: Right the Future broadcast ad
- Silver: Bringing the Future of Learning to York Region
- Silver: End of exams video
- Bronze: #MeetYU digital campaign
- Bronze: End-of-year holiday video



[Jeffrey Harris](#), assistant professor of mechanical engineering and director of common engineering and BSc Science at the Lassonde School of Engineering was elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Engineering Education Association and received the 2022 Ron Britton Engineering Education Vanguard Award.



In February, York University announced the establishment of the [York Black Research Seed Fund](#) to provide mentorship and \$150,000 in total funding in support of the research activities of Black academics, with preference given to emerging and early-career researchers. The fund was created as part of the University's commitment to addressing the systemic anti-Black racism and white supremacy that pervades academia. The inaugural six recipients of the York Black Research Seed Fund are:

- Oyemolad Osibodu, Faculty of Education (Open Research Stream), Research project: "Envisioning Diasporic Mathematics Literacies with Black Youth"
- Gerald Bareebe, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (Open Research Stream), Research project: "Why Peace Fails to Endure: Explaining the Recurrence of Civil Wars in East Africa"
- Ruth Murambadoro, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (Open Research Stream), Research project: "Women's Politics in Zimbabwe: Aftermath of the 2013 Constitution"
- Celia Romulus, International Studies, Glendon (Collective Research Stream), Research project: "Decolonizing knowledge and promoting Afrofeminist narratives"
- Jude Kong, Faculty of Science (Collective Research Stream), Research project: "Modelling resilience: Post-pandemic Recovery, participatory governance, data gaps, equitable institutions, and human interdependence"
- Solomon Boakye-Yiadom, Lassonde School of Engineering (Collective Research Stream), Research project: "Machine Learning and Laser Powder Bed Fusion Technologies for Materials Discovery"



The York University Alumni Board recognized four distinguished York students with [2022 Alumni Awards and Scholarships](#) for their academic excellence and leadership. Here are this year's award recipients:

- Alumni Silver Jubilee Scholarship - Zahra Mawani (BEd '22)
- Alumni Golden GRADitude Award - Issa Abdi Jamaa (BA '22) and Tiana Putric (BDEM '22)
- Harry Arthurs Alumni Families Entrance Scholarship - Taline Apelian-Sutor



The [2023 Quacquarelli Symonds \(QS\) World University Rankings](#) reinforce York University's role as a leading North American public university with a global reach to right the future. York University moved up two spots to be ranked 61st among North American public universities by the prestigious QS World University Rankings. York's improving position in the rankings signals its position as a leading international research and teaching university that is driving positive change to right the future.



Eight researchers across York University will join the [York Research Chairs](#) (YRC) program – the University's internal counterpart to the national Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program which recognizes outstanding researchers. These YRCs' terms run for five years. Newly appointed to the YRC program are:

Tier 1 York Research Chairs

- Kristin Andrews, York Research Chair in Philosophy of Animal Minds
- Jianhong Wu, York Research Chair in Industrial and Applied Mathematic



Tier 2 York Research Chairs

- Joey Cheng, York Research Chair in Leadership, Collaboration and Teams
- Jane Heffernan, York Research Chair in Mathematics of Immunity and Infectious Disease
- Emily Laxer, York Research Chair in Populism, Rights, and Legality
- Adam Diamant, York Research Chair in Managing AI-Driven Technologies in Health Care
- Shital Desai, York Research Chair in Accessible Interaction Design
- Adrian Viens, York Research Chair in Population Health Ethics and Law



[Stephanie Jonsson and Hannah Maitland](#), both PhD candidates in the Gender, Feminist, and Women's Studies Department at York University, are founders of the Ontario Digital Literacy and Access Network (ODLAN), a queer-centred non-profit that works with 2SLGBTQIA+ organizations and other service providers to advise on digital strategies that improve access to remote services. ODLAN recently received \$25,000 from the New Horizons for Seniors Program, a federal grants and contributions program that provides funding for projects that make a difference in the lives of seniors and their communities.



This year, the Law and Society Association (LSA) honored 21 scholars, including York University Professor [Annie Bunting](#), as part of its 2022 Annual Awards. Bunting is a professor in the Law & Society program at York University's Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, researching and teaching in the areas of gender justice and international human rights. She is a recipient of the 2022 Ronald Pipkin Service Award, recognizing sustained and extraordinary service to the Association.



[Signy Lynch](#), a PhD graduate of Theatre & Performance Studies, was awarded the 2021 Barbara Godard Prize for the Best York University Dissertation in Canadian Studies for her thesis “Intercultural Relations: Direct Audience Address in Contemporary Theatre in Canada.” The honour is awarded yearly to the doctoral dissertation on a Canadian topic defended at York University that best advances the knowledge of Canada. Special attention is given to dissertations that transcend disciplinary boundaries and demonstrate innovation in thought and/or methodology.



[Haya Mohamed](#), a fourth-year space engineering student at York University’s Lassonde School of Engineering, has been accepted into the European Space Agency’s 2022 CubeSat Summer School in Belgium, where she will be one of the first participants in an innovative new training program for university students with engineering and physics backgrounds who are highly motivated to pursue a career in the space sector.



Professor [Steven Hoffman](#) has taken on a new role as vice-president of corporate data and surveillance at the Public Health Agency of Canada. As the former scientific director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research’s Institute of Population and Public Health, he brings significant expertise to the agency to help shape the future of public health responses in Canada. During this time, Hoffman will also continue to direct York University’s Global Strategy Lab and the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Global Governance of Antimicrobial Resistance. Hoffman is the Dahdaleh Distinguished Chair in Global Governance & Legal Epidemiology.



Two York University professors were recognized as part of the Top 25 Canadian Immigrants of 2022. [Patrick Alcedo](#), professor and Chair of the Department of Dance in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design, and [Rui Wang](#), dean of York University’s Faculty of Science, were selected from a list of 75 finalists, nominated by the Canadian public, for the award that recognizes inspirational immigrants who have made a positive impact on their communities since arriving in Canada. It is the 14th year for the awards.



Ontario’s largest law association for women is honouring Osgoode Hall Law School Professor Emerita [Mary Jane Mossman](#) for her contribution to the province’s legal community. Mossman was presented with the 2022 President’s Award by the Women’s Law Association of Ontario.



PhD student [Levon Ichkhanian](#) is the Toronto Musicians’ Association’s 2022 Musician of the Year. The award recognizes Ichkhanian’s dedication to excellence in all aspects of music and his high standard of professionalism and artistry.



Ten York University students were honoured with the [Robert J. Tiffin Student Leadership Award](#), recognizing their leadership at York University and their contributions to the growth, development and vitality of the York community.

Here are this year's award winners:

- Angela Thapar, BA of Law & Society, and BEd
- Ashlyn Nguyen, Faculty of Science
- Gurkamal Aujla, Commerce, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS)
- Gurnoor Kaur Brar, Biology, Faculty of Science
- Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, Sociology, Faculty of Graduate Studies
- Parmin Rahimpoor-Marnani, Kinesiology and Health Science, Faculty of Health
- Ronnie Roy O'Connor, Calumet College
- Sophia Tracey, Political Science, LA&PS
- Stephen Teong, Psychology, Faculty of Health
- Zahra Mawani, Faculty of Education



With the help of the [Schulich Leader Scholarship program](#), two graduating high school students from the Greater Toronto Area are headed to York University this fall to begin their studies. Hannah Alli of Mississauga, Ont., will enter a software engineering program at the Lassonde School of Engineering and Neill Botushanski of Aurora, Ont., will join the Faculty of Science's actuarial science program. They are among 100 incoming undergraduate students from across Canada to receive the 2022 Schulich Leader Scholarship for undergraduate education in science, technology, engineering and math, which is awarded to students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership, charisma and creativity.



More than 40 research projects at York University will receive a boost of \$16 million in funding from the [Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada](#). The four Partnership Grant recipients, each of whom has received close to \$2.5 million in support of six- and seven-year projects, are:

- Stephen Gaetz, professor in the Faculty of Education, received a second consecutive Partnership Grant to continue his work as president and CEO of the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (COH) – an anti-homelessness research institute previously funded by the SSHRC in 2012.
- Steven Hoffman, professor of Global Health, Law, and Political Science at the Faculty of Health and Osgoode Hall Law School and the Dahdaleh Distinguished Chair in Global Governance & Legal Epidemiology, and director of the Global Strategy Lab, will pursue research into a global framework for sustainable antimicrobial drug use and preventing the proliferation of drug-resistant bacteria.
- Nick Mulé, professor of gender and sexuality at the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, will undertake a project called 2SLGBTQ+ Poverty in Canada: Improving Livelihood and Social Wellbeing. The initiative will address disproportionate vulnerability to poverty among Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer plus (2SLGBTQ+) people.
- Dayna Scott, professor at Osgoode Hall Law School and the Faculty of Environment & Urban Change, received funding for “Infrastructure Beyond Extractivism: Material Approaches to Restoring Indigenous Jurisdiction.” The project will explore novel approaches to strengthening Indigenous jurisdiction and sovereignty over hereditary lands and waterways.



[Samadhi Rankothge](#) is this year's winner of York University's Right The Future free tuition contest – a prize equivalent to more than \$7,000 that will help her to pursue the Health Studies program at the Faculty of Health. An Etobicoke resident, Rankothge chose York from among all the GTA universities offering similar programs. She cites the program's comprehensive approach to health, with an emphasis on tackling societal issues, and for the University's proximity to home.



[Nadha Hassen](#), PhD candidate in Environmental Studies and Vanier Scholar, has been awarded Susan Mann Dissertation Scholarship for her research on “Parks Prescriptions and Perceptions: Experiences of Racialized People with Mood Disorders in Green Spaces”. The scholarship is awarded to outstanding doctoral students in their final year of doctoral study to concentrate exclusively on and complete their dissertations. Nadha's research is situated at the intersections of health equity, social determinants of health, environmental justice and community development - with a focus on understanding the lived experiences of people who face social barriers to health and well-being.



[Carli Melo](#), PhD student in Geography, has been awarded a SSHRC Canadian Graduate Scholarships - Doctoral award for her research on “Internal migrants in Myanmar's manufacturing sector: Examining exploitative labour practices and social reproduction in global production networks”. The program supports high-quality research training experiences for doctoral students at Canadian institutions and strives to foster impacts within and beyond the research environment. Melo's research emerges from years of working with the Mekong Migration Network – a network of over 40 civil society organizations from across mainland Southeast Asia working to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers and their families.



For her international engagement with sustainable development, York's Executive Coordinator to the UNESCO Chair, [Katrin Kohl](#), has been awarded a fellowship by The Royal Society of Arts in London. The Royal Society of Arts recognizes outstanding contributions and thought leadership in positively impacting society for a better future. As York University's UNESCO Chair, Kohl leads research and provides policy advice for education for sustainable development.



[Matteo L. Cerilli](#), a York undergraduate student pursuing a BA honours with a double major in creative writing and professional writing from the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, recently sold his debut novel *Lockjaw*. The novel will be published in the summer of 2024 by Peter Phillips at Tundra, Penguin Random House Canada.

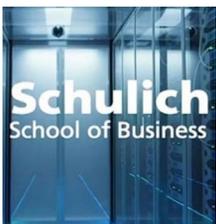


Faculty of Education Associate Professor [Roopa Desai Trilokekar](#) is the winner of this year's Research and Scholarship Award presented by the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education. The award recognizes research and scholarship on higher education which can include the socio-political context, access, governance, teaching and learning, institutional studies, or education and employment.



[Five York University researchers](#) have been awarded seed grants for the 2022 Critical Perspectives in Global Health Research, awarded by the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research. The recipients, and their research projects, are:

- Pablo Aránguiz, Research Project: “Decolonizing Planetary Health Through Williche Ecologies of Repair”
- Simone Bohn, Research Project: “State Capacity and Health Equity in a Post-Slavery Context: The Case of the Quilombolas in Brazil”
- Maggie MacDonald, Research Project: “Misoprostol in Humanitarian Settings”
- Blessing Ogbuokiri, Research Project: “Harnessing Social Media Data to Complement Infectious Disease Outbreak Surveillance Data”
- Jeffrey Squire, Research Project: “COVID-19 and Healthcare Waste Management in Urban Africa”



In June, *The Economist* magazine ranked the MBA program at York University's [Schulich School of Business](#) number one in Canada and 40th in the world in the magazine's annual survey of the world's top 100 MBA programs. In addition to finishing first among Canadian business schools, Schulich placed ninth in the world among non-U.S. schools. The Economist survey is the only major global ranking that rates business schools on criteria deemed most important to MBA students and alumni – everything from diversity of career opportunities to earning potential and networking opportunities.



Faculty members and alumni from York University's [Faculty of Health](#) were recognized with awards from the American Psychological Association. The awards reinforce that the Historical, Theoretical, and Critical Studies of Psychology graduate area in the Psychology Department is a unique and internationally recognized program, noted for its intellectual and organizational leadership in the field. The award winners are:

- Professor Alexandra Rutherford - Career Achievement Award.
- Zhipeng Gao, alumnus - Society for the History of Psychology's Early Career Award



York Lions sport medicine manager, [Andrea Prieur](#), served as a member of the Team Canada staff at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England. The 2022 Commonwealth Games took place between July 28 and August 8, where 37 Canadian athletes competed with 72 Commonwealth countries in one of the top sporting events of the year.



Professor [B.W. Powe](#) has been named the recipient of the Medium and the Light Award for 2022 in recognition of his influential writings on the life and work of Canadian philosopher Marshall McLuhan. The award was presented as part of the 23rd Media Ecology Association Convention.



A short film produced as part of a York University project with its partners and funded by the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) has been shortlisted for the NGO International Film Festival. The film [Help!](#) is part of the Research/Dissemination Network on the Development of the African Union's African Human Rights Action Plan (AHRAP-NET) project, co-led by Osgoode Hall Law School Professor Obiora Okafor, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies sociology Professor Sylvia Bawa and Osgoode PhD Candidate Jake Okechukwu Effoduh.



Schulich School of Business Professor [Dirk Matten](#) has been selected among the top five "law and political science" scientists in Canada in the inaugural ranking by Research.com. The ranking includes 59 law and political science experts in Canada and is based on data collected from Microsoft Academic Graph. Positions in the ranking are based on a scientist's D-index (Discipline H-index), which only includes papers and citation values for an examined discipline.



The International Planning History Society (IPHS), dedicated to the enhancement of interdisciplinary studies in urban and regional planning history, has recognized Department of Sociology Urban Studies Professors [Douglas Young](#) and the late Lisa Drummond with an award for the book they edited together. The book titled, *Socialist and Post-Socialist Urbanisms: Critical Reflections from a Global Perspective* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020), was awarded the Third Book Prize, which is given to the best anthology or edited work in planning history written in English and published in 2020 or 2021.



On July 1, School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design Professor [Caitlin Fisher](#) was named president of the Electronic Literature Organization (ELO), an international scholarly association dedicated to the investigation of literature produced for the digital medium. ELO was founded in Chicago in 1999 and has a presence across North America and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa. Members come from a wide array of disciplines and areas of study, including art, literature, communication, humanities, media studies and more.



The Advising Community of Practice and Peer Leader Community of Practice has selected [Mona Frial-Brown](#), manager of student success and access programs in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, to receive the 2022 Lynda Tam Guiding Light and Legacy Award. This annual award was established in honour of Lynda Tam, a long-serving leader at York University. Tam served as the first assistant dean, students, in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design where she had a profound impact on the student experience by shaping student services, advising and peer mentoring programs. Her commitment to students and their success was part of her everyday practice.



Two York University graduate students are recipients of the 2022 Autism Scholars Award. This year's recognition is particularly special with both recipients, master's degree student [Braxton Hartman](#) and doctoral student [Nancy Marshall](#), being recognized with the awards. They will receive \$18,000 and \$20,000 respectively to conduct research on autism. Hartman's project aims to use computational and statistical techniques to distinguish differences in how networks are organized in autistic brains and what ramifications this may have on the cognitive differences which characterize the condition. Marshall's research adopts a disability justice lens that directly centers on the needs and desires of people with autism.



York University UNESCO Chair [Charles Hopkins](#) was awarded the Lithuanian State Award on July 6 by the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Gitanas Nausėda. Nausėda recognized Hopkins for making a significant contribution to the preservation and free transfer of unique documents of the history of Lithuanian diplomacy to the Lithuanian Museum of Canada. Among the 60 individuals who were awarded for helping to build sustainable international ties of peace, friendship and cultural exchange, Hopkins' work in rescuing and safeguarding documents representing international treaties proving the Lithuanian independence during the period of 1918 to 1940 was recognized as important work to public service and life.



A team of [York University students](#) made an impressive showing winning one of the two available prizes at the Statistical Society of Canada Case Studies in Data Analysis Poster Competition. The team won the Critical Care Choice award for their approach to the case study focused on developing a physician performance model. Their successful showing represents a first for a team from York University. The winning team members are:

- Octavia Wong, PhD student in the School of Kinesiology and Health Science
- Jing Guo, 4th-year undergraduate student in Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Yongwen Pan, master's student in Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Vi Nguyen, 4th-year undergraduate student in Department of Mathematics and Statistics



[Mahmoud Afifi](#), a recent graduate from the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science at the Lassonde School of Engineering, has won two awards for his doctoral dissertation. Afifi was awarded the CS-Can/Info-Can 2021 Canadian Computer Science Distinguished Dissertation Award, which recognizes excellence in research and writing by a computer science doctoral student completing their degree at a Canadian institution. He also received the 2021 Canadian Image Processing and Pattern Recognition Society John Barron Doctoral Dissertation Award, given annually to the top PhD thesis in areas covered by the Conference on Computer and Robot Vision including computer vision, robot vision, robotics, medical imaging, image processing or pattern recognition.



Professor [Barnali Choudhury](#) has been chosen by the European Union's executive arm, the European Commission, as one of only 11 international lawyers and academics to potentially chair expert panels on trade and sustainable development convened to help resolve bilateral trade disputes between EU and non-EU countries. Choudhury, who also serves as director of the Osgoode-based Jack & Mae Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security, is an internationally recognized expert on business and international economic issues, particularly as they relate to human rights.



York University Faculty of Science Dean [Rui Wang](#) has been elected as the new president (2022-24) of the Canadian Council of Deans of Science (CCDS). The CCDS is a national association of senior academic leaders who have responsibility for post-secondary science faculties and schools at Canadian universities.



York University [undergraduate students](#) were recognized for their work in poetry, short fiction, and screenwriting at the annual Creative Writing Program Awards ceremony, sponsored by the President's Office and the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies. The winners of the President's Creative Writing Awards are:

- Poetry 2021-22 - Winner: Anike Morrison for "Swine [After Chad Abushanab's 'Custody Denied']"
- Short Fiction 2021-22 - Winner: Matteo Cerilli for "The Reverb: A Ghost Story"
- Stage Play 2021-22 - Winner: Darla Deigratia for "Mother's Daughter"
- Screenplay 2021-22 - Winner: Abigail Henderson for "Changing Seasons"
- Daniel Whittaker-Van Dusen Prize for Emerging Poets 2021-22 - Winner: Matteo Cerilli for "Parkour Gym, October 6th" and Ivy deRege-Braga for "Circe"
- Richard Teleky Short Fiction Prize 2021-22 - Winner: Clarisse Smith for "In a night"
- Judith Eve Gewurtz Memorial Poetry Award 2021-22 - Winner: Ben O'Connor for "In the Interest of Survival"
- The Lorna Marsden Prize for Creative Writing in French 2021-22 - Winner: Suhana Rampersad for "Tandava, la danse des Hindous"
- Babs Burggraf Award in Creative Writing 2021-22 - Winner: Andrei Topala
- Nichol Award 2021-22 - Winner: Matteo Cerilli
- Sorbara Award in Creative Writing 2021-22 - Winner: Sakeina Syed
- Stanley Fefferman Prize 2021-22 - Winner: Jean Paul Mazlymian
- Priscila Uppal Poetry Award 2021-22 - Winner: Ivy Derege-Braga
- Adrienne Grago Memorial Prize 2021-22 - Winner: Lily Scriven



[Paria Mehrani](#), a recent York University graduate and current postdoctoral visitor at the Lassonde School of Engineering, has won the Colour Research Society of Canada 2021 Student Award for Graduate Students. The award recognizes her work while she was a PhD student in Professor John Tsotsos' lab in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science.



[Five School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design \(AMPD\) students](#) will be working on-set with Fae Pictures' newest feature film, Queen Tut, at the York University Motion Media Studio at Cinespace Studio. AMPD undergraduate third-year dance student Grace Sokolow, fourth-year film production student Alise Rosemin, fifth-year film production student Emily Jong, second-year theatre student Natasha Advani Thangkhiew and first-year film production student Anmol Dhillon were selected from a highly competitive pool of candidates.



APPOINTMENTS



On July 1, Professor [Laina Ya-Hui Bay-Cheng](#) began her role as the inaugural role of associate vice-president, faculty affairs. In the inaugural role of associate vice-president, faculty affairs, Bay-Cheng will build upon the strengths of the Division of Equity, People & Culture, and develop new opportunities to support faculty recruitment, retention and development across the institution. Through leadership and in relationship with leaders across the University, she will enhance York's academic mission in ways that support and guide a diverse academic staff in their career development and relationships with students and the University community.



On September 1, Chemistry Professor [Hovig Kouyoumdjian](#) began his position as the new associate dean, curriculum & pedagogy in the Faculty of Science, for a three-year term. The associate dean, curriculum & pedagogy is a new role in the Faculty of Science and will play an integral role in the Faculty's senior leadership team, providing leadership and direction for matters related to the Faculty's academic programs and pedagogical innovation at both the Keele and Markham campuses, including diverse ancillary matters.



On July 1, Associate Professor [Paul Lawrie](#) began his term as Black inclusion advisor in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS). Lawrie will advise the LA&PS Office of the Dean on questions related to race and equity, anti-Black racism and Black inclusion as part of the Faculty's continuing work to address anti-Black racism. The appointment is in line with the Faculty's Anti-Black Racism Strategy, the University's Academic Plan, and the LA&PS Academic Plan, which is committed to excellence through inclusion.



On July 1, Associate Professor [Sarah Rugheimer](#) began her appointment as the new Allan I. Carswell Chair for the Public Understanding of Astronomy in the Faculty of Science at York University. Rugheimer is an astrophysicist interested in understanding how to detect life on exoplanets by looking for atmospheric biosignatures.



On July 27, [Jennifer MacLean](#) began her position as assistant vice-president innovation and research partnerships, effective July 27. A thought leader with 10 years of experience working in the Canadian innovation ecosystem, MacLean has extensive experience in fostering impactful and collaborative partnerships across industry, academia and community partners in Ontario and Canada.



On August 15, [Nona Robinson](#) began in her position as vice-provost students. Robinson comes to York from Trent University where, for the past 10 years, she has served as associate vice-president students. The role of vice-provost students is a critical one at York, responsible for the provision of exemplary services to support and enhance the student experience across all campuses.

APPOINTMENTS



On July 1, [Cora Coady](#) joined York University Libraries as the Indigenous teaching and learning librarian. As an Indigenous person and member of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Coady's goal is to contribute to her community in a meaningful way by creating and supporting important Indigenous research, building strong relationships between the Indigenous community and the University, as well as promoting the works of Indigenous scholars and students.



Lassonde School of Engineering Dean, [Jane Goodyer](#), has been reappointed for a second five-year term, commencing July 1, 2023. Dr. Goodyer has provided excellent leadership during her first term, during which the Lassonde School of Engineering has grown its enrolments, its faculty complement, and its research and teaching facilities.



Faculty of Environmental & Urban Change Dean, [Alice Hovorka](#), has been reappointed for a second five-year term, commencing July 1, 2023. Under her direction, faculty have maintained a thriving research culture through the pandemic with several new funded projects underway.



On July 1, Associate Professor [Ruth Green](#) began her term as special advisor to the dean on Indigenous issues at the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS). Green will advise the LA&PS Office of the Dean on ways in which to address the impact and histories of systematic barriers experienced by Indigenous peoples. The appointment is in alignment with The Indigenous Framework for York University: A Guide to Action and the University's Academic Plan, the LA&PS Academic Plan, and the Principles on Indigenous Education developed by Universities Canada in 2015.