



The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 650th Meeting of Senate
held on Thursday, October 25, 2018

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Franck van Breugel, welcomed new Deans Alice Hovorka, Environmental Studies, and Jane Goodyer, Lassonde, and expressed condolences on the passing of Professor Emeritus Robert Cox, a former member of the Department of Political Science, Robert L. R. Overing, the founding dean of York's Faculty of Education, and Jack Ellis, a former Associate Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Studies and Chair of Senate APPC. The Chair drew Senators' attention to the correspondence requested at the September meeting of Senate pertaining to a recommendation by two Senators to amend the Senate rules on decorum, which had been included in the agenda for the October meeting.

Reflecting on the October 4 Senate sponsored Community Forum, President Lenton highlighted the University's commitment to diversity, inclusion and social justice, which ensures there is no shortage of robust discussion and debate. However, the understanding that well-intentioned people dedicated to the success of the university hold different views is essential to productive discussion and debate. President Lenton affirmed her commitment to working with the entire University community to move forward from the labour disruption and to follow up on the takeaways of the forum under the purview of the administration. With challenging times ahead in the current provincial environment, it will be essential for the York community to rally together and find points of consensus.

Other comments made by President Lenton included the following.

- the work of the Free Speech Policy Working Group and its public consultations, to be held on November 2 (Glendon) and November 6 (Keele) (additional information is available on the [University Secretariat website](#))
- explorations with the University's Markham Centre Campus partners on whether there are means of moving forward with the Campus, following the announcement of the cancellation of provincial funding
- an acknowledgement of the contributions of those involved in the YUFA negotiations to the successful ratification of the agreement
- the Indigenous Council of York's first Community Engagement Session on the Indigenous Framework on November 22 (due to high demand, the session is at capacity, but [information about the Framework](#) is available online)

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Reports

Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities

Senator David Mutimer attended a recent meeting of the COU Colleagues and the Council in the absence of an appointed Academic Colleague for York, where the discussion centred on free speech on campus. The Colleagues' discussion focused on how institutions can support faculty and students in fostering a climate of free expression, with the importance of a pedagogy specific to locations and experiences emerging as a predominant theme. In the Council meeting, where Colleagues and university Executive Heads met together, the Colleagues shared a series of scenarios to generate discussion on the practical supports that can be put into place to make institutional free speech policies meaningful and effective.

Approvals

On a recommendation from the Executive Committee, Senate elected Andrea Davis, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, to the role of Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities.

Senate approved the recommendations of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee to:

- Establish a Type 2 graduate Diploma in Culture, Communication and Leadership in Canada, Schulich / Graduate Studies, conditional on the name of the program being changed to the Diploma in Culture, Communication and Leadership in Canadian Business
- Change the degree requirements for the MA program in Social and Political Thought, Department of Social Science, LA&PS / Graduate Studies
- Change the degree requirements for the BA and BA (Honours) programs in Business & Society, Department of Social Science, LA&PS

Committee Information Reports

Executive (Professor Alison Macpherson, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- approval of Senate committee members nominated by Faculty Councils
- approval of members of Senate committees nominated by student Senators
- the Committee's monitoring of the academic disruption, which includes the development of a report of remediation options and actions taken by the Executive Committee and Senate during the disruption, to be shared with Senate at an upcoming meeting

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- Senate committee priorities for 2018-2019, including the addition of a Senate discussion of the *Principles Governing a President Search* to the Executive Committee's priorities in response to input received at the September Senate meeting and the Community Forum
- report on the Senate sponsored Community Forum on Renewing Institutional Focus
- work underway on the freedom of speech policy
- Committee and Sub-Committee membership for 2018-2019

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Les Jacobs, Chair)

APPRC provided information on these items:

- confirmation of its priorities for 2018-2019
- on the university budget consultations, the Committee's input to the Provost and Vice-President Finance and Administration on the areas where the University Fund resources should be directed
- process planning for a new / "revised" faculty composed of Geography, the Faculty of Environmental Studies and other possible units
- plans to hold an academic planning forum in early December
- defining an action plan on Incomparable Metrics to track the University's success in research and scholarship through indicators
- discussions with the Deans and Principal on Faculty academic plans, to take place from Spring to Fall 2019
- an electronic curriculum vitae exercise geared toward modernizing practice

ASCP (Professor Kim Michasiw, Chair)

Information items reported by ASCP were the following:

- minor changes to the requirements for the MA and PhD programs in Sociology, LA&PS / Graduate Studies
- minor changes to the requirements for the Professional LLM Specializing in Securities Law, Osgoode / Graduate Studies
- sessional dates for three academic years, from SU2019 to FW2021-2022

APPRC-ASCP Joint Report (Professors Les Jacobs and Kim Michasiw)

The APPRC-ASCP Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance transmitted to Senate a collection of Final Assessment Reports from completed Cyclical Program Reviews in the Department of Social Science, LA&PS, as required by the York University Quality Assurance Procedures.

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Tenure and Promotions (Professor Lily Cho, Co-Chair)

Tenure and Promotions transmitted its 2017-2018 Annual Report to Senate, which addressed tenure and promotions data for 2017-2018 and the full committee review of unit-level standards scheduled for early 2019, as well as other items.

Tenure and Promotions Appeals (Professor Parissa Safai, Chair)

The 2017-2018 Annual Report of the Tenure and Promotions Appeals Committee was transmitted to Senate.

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the October 25, 2018 meeting for details about these items.

<http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/senate/meeting-agendas-and-synopses/>

November Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 22, 2018.