

The Senate of York University Synopsis

The 665th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, April 23, 2020 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Alison Macpherson of the Faculty of Health, expressed sorrow at the tragic events that took place in Nova Scotia earlier in the week, and also acknowledged members of the University community facing challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair thanked Senate Executive members for their time and attentiveness to the time-sensitive matters that have arisen since the *Disruptions Policy* was invoked on March 13, 2020.

Considering the impact of the ongoing health emergency on academic activity and noting concerns raised by Senators, the Chair indicated that the meeting would be managed with flexibility, dedicating as much time as required to York's response to COVID-19. Speaking to a slide presentation available on the Senate website, President Rhonda Lenton briefed Senators on the University's response and planning. Highlights included:

- thanks and appreciation to community members for their support of the transition to the required services model across all campuses
- the context for York's institutional response, which is guided by the strategic plan, enterprise risk management, and the emergency planning documents and structure which features an Emergency Operations Committee
- the three scenarios modelling the impacts of COVID-19 moving forward and the anticipated impact of each scenario on enrollment in the 2020-2021 year
- the next steps, including conducting further analysis to confirm the most likely scenario and estimation of budget implications
- recent successes for the University, including the federal government's announcement of the Canada Emergency Student Benefit and the University's recognition by the Times Higher Education International Impact Rankings, which ranked York 33 of 767 universities

The monthly "Kudos" report on the achievements of members of the York community can be accessed with other documentation for the meeting.

Committee Information Reports

Executive (Professor Mario Roy, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- the collection of actions taken by the Executive Committee since the *Disruptions Policy* was invoked, as noted in Appendix A

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- the decision to hold Senate meetings by electronic means using Zoom audio / videoconferencing beginning with the April 23, 2020 meeting and continuing throughout the duration of the required services model
- the deferral of the Chancellor search for the time being, with Chancellor Sorbara continuing in the role until a successor is selected

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Carl Ehrlich, Chair)

To accommodate the update and discussion on the University's COVID-19 response and planning, APPRC deferred the notice of motion and facilitated discussion of the University Academic Plan 2020-2025.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (Professor Chloë Brushwood Rose, Chair)

The following proposals were approved by ASCP.

Faculty of Health / Faculty of Science

Editorial change to calendar copy for the Specialized Honours BSc program in Neuroscience, Department of Psychology / School of Kinesiology and Health Science / Department of Biology

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Minor changes to requirements for the Diploma in Curatorial Studies and Visual Arts, Graduate Program in Art History

Lassonde School of Engineering

Minor changes to degree requirements for the BSc programs in Science, Dean's Office

Academic Policy, Planning and Research / Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (Professors Carl S. Ehrlich and Chloë Brushwood Rose, Chairs)

APPRC and ASCP conveyed a joint report in which a report from the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance was transmitted to Senate.

Awards (Professor Jonathan Obar, Chair)

The Awards Committee advised Senators of and conveyed congratulations to the recipients of the President's Research Awards, who had been selected as a result of the Committee's adjudication in Winter 2020.

2020 President's Research Excellence Award

Eric A. Hessels, Physics and Astronomy, Science

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2020 President's Research Impact Award

Debra J. Pepler, Psychology, Health

2020 President's Emerging Research Leadership Award

Engineering, Science, Technology, Health and Biomedicine Cluster: Christopher G. R. Perry, Kinesiology and Health Science, Health

Social Sciences, Art & Design, Humanities, Business, Law and Education Cluster:
Theodore J. Noseworthy, Schulich

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, April 23, 2020 meeting for details about these items.

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

May Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2020.