

# The Senate of York University Synopsis

The 667<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, May 28, 2020 via Zoom

## Remarks

The Chair, Professor Alison Macpherson of the Faculty of Health, welcomed Senators to the meeting and expressed sorrow at the recent passing of Professor Dorin Uritescu, a colleague in Glendon's Department of French Studies and Program in Linguistics and Language Studies.

The Chair announced and extended congratulations to the inaugural recipients of the Robert Everett Exceptional Leadership in Student Governance Award, established by President Lenton to recognize students who have demonstrated high distinction in governance during their studies at York:

- Kimiko Clark, an undergraduate student at Glendon
- Michelle Cobblah, an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies and a Senator
- Bo Joseph, an undergraduate student at Glendon

The President's items included the following announcements and updates:

- thanks and appreciation to faculty members for their support of the transition to online course delivery
- in follow-up to discussions at the April 23 and May 21 Senate meetings, a reiteration of the importance of preserving collegial governance processes in emergency circumstances
- the plan to proceed with bringing the three-year operating budget developed before the pandemic through the appropriate governance channels in June, with a contingency budget plan to be presented in the Fall that accounts for revenue impacts from the pandemic
- the plan to host virtual convocation ceremonies for graduates this Spring and invite graduates to attend a future Convocation ceremony
- the importance of moving forward with strategic priorities during the current situation, such as Markham Centre Campus and the Lands for Learning, to advance long-term academic goals
- the receipt of two reports on the November 20 incident – one from independent external reviewer, Thomas A. Cromwell, and the second from the Internal Working Group – and the President's intent to accept the full slate of recommendations, consulting with Senate as appropriate
- an announcement of the appointment of Alice Hovorka as Dean of the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, and Sharon Murphy as Interim Dean of the Faculty of Education, and thanks to outgoing Dean of Education Lyndon Martin,

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who will be stepping into the Vice-Provost Academic role, and outgoing Vice-Provost Academic Alice Pitt

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

### **Reports**

#### **Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities**

The Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities (COU), Senator Andrea Davis, reported that the discussions at the Colleagues’ May meeting focused on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sector and students, covering COU’s submission to the Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee and the engagement with Ministry of Colleges and Universities on sector-wide safety protocols. Senator Davis also advised that the search for the next COU president is underway.

### **Approvals**

On the recommendation of its Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Senate approved the chartering of five Organized Research Units: Centre for Research on Biomolecular Interactions; Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean; York Centre for Asian Research; Centre for Bee Ecology, Evolution and Conservation; and Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Languages.

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

- establish new BA and iBA (Honours) options and change degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BA program in Global Political Studies, Department of Politics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW 2021-2022
- establish streams in Drama and Visual Arts, and change the program name and degree requirements for the BA and iBA programs in Drama Studies, Department of Multidisciplinary Studies, Glendon, effective FW 2021-2022
- change admissions and certificate requirements for the following Professional Certificates housed within the School of Administrative Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW 2020-2021: Accounting, Emergency Management, Financial Planning, Health Services Financial Management, Investment Management, Logistics, Management, and Marketing
- change degree requirements for the Master of Real Estate and Infrastructure, Graduate Program in Real Estate and Infrastructure, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies, effective FW 2020-2021

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### Senate Elections

Senate approved a slate of candidates presented by the Executive Committee with the result that a number of individuals were acclaimed to positions on Senate committees while others will be elected as the result of a ballot conducted from June 1 to 5.

### Committee Information Reports

#### Executive (Professor Mario Roy, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities and decisions taken on matters pertaining to the disruption since the Executive Committee's last report to Senate in April
- its concurrence with the addition of new candidates to the pool of prospective honorary degree candidates
- its review of changes to the Faculty Council rules and procedures of the Faculties of Science and Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, Osgoode Hall Law School and Glendon

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

APPRC provided Notice of Motion for the new University Academic Plan 2020-2025 and held a facilitated discussion, providing Senators an opportunity to express their views before a final version is readied for approval.

APPRC also advised of its receipt of a report from the Organized Research Units Sub-Committee.

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

ASCP provided an update on the implementation efforts associated with the transition from the 9.0 to the 4.0 grading scale, approved in principle by Senate in November 2017, and the plans to hold a facilitated discussion on a draft new *Policy on York University Grading Schemes* at the June meeting of Senate.

ASCP also reported on its approval of the following proposals.

#### *Glendon*

Minor change to requirements for the Certificate in Spanish-English Translation,  
Department of Hispanic Studies  
Establishment of the rubric DRCA for the Drama and Creative Arts program,  
Department of Multidisciplinary Studies

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### *Faculty of Graduate Studies*

Change to time to completion requirements for the MASc in Civil Engineering, Graduate Program in Civil Engineering

Minor change to degree requirements for the Master of Business Analytics, Graduate Program in Business Analytics

Minor changes to admissions requirements for the Master of Accounting and Graduate Diploma in Intermediate Accounting, Graduate Program in Accounting

Minor change to Faculty Regulations relating to English Language Proficiency requirements

### *Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies*

Establishment of the rubric GBLB for the Global Political Studies program, Department of Politics

### *Faculty of Science*

Minor change to degree requirements for the Biomedical Science stream within the BSc and iBSc Honours programs in Biology, Department of Biology

### **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.

### **Additional Information about this Meeting**

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, May 28, 2020 meeting for details about these items.

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

### **June Meeting of Senate**

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2020.