



The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 677th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, June 24, 2021 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Alison Macpherson of the Faculty of Health, welcomed Senators to the meeting. She acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of several long-time York faculty members: William Irvine a 40-year History faculty member at York; Donald Willmott who taught the first course in Canada on environmental sociology at Glendon; Bob Allan, one of the pioneering faculty members who helped build York's Faculty of Science and who was an active Senator over the years, and Stu Robbins, a former Chair of Senate (1992-1993) and long-serving Chair of the School of Kinesiology & Health Science.

The Chair announced and extended congratulations to the 2020-2021 recipients of the *Robert Everett Exceptional Leadership in Student Governance Award*, which recognizes students who have demonstrated high distinction in governance during their studies at York:

- Issa Abdi Jamaa, an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies and Co-Chair of the Student Senator Caucus
- Muhammad Shahmir Masood, an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
- Dael Vasquez, an undergraduate student at Glendon College

This being the final Senate meeting, the Chair extended thanks and appreciation to Senators and committee members for their contributions during the academic year, especially to those completing terms this month.

President Lenton's remarks to Senate included the following information:

- acknowledgement of National Indigenous History Month as an opportunity to recognize the history and unique contributions of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada.
- an expression of thanks and appreciation to Sarah Cantrell, Assistant Vice-President of Institutional Planning and Analysis, who is leaving the University.

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- gratitude to members of the University community for their resilience over the past year, and also to members of Senate for their efforts in overseeing the University's academic policy again this year.
- acknowledgement of the many notable achievements from the year that contributed to the advancement of the six priorities in the University Academic Plan, including the establishment of York as a provincial leader for micro-credentials, securing a wide variety of high-impact research grants, and the creation of an Anti-Black Racism Framework and Draft Action Plan.
- York's progress advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (U.N. SDG's), including the establishment of the Toronto Centre of Excellence on Homelessness Prevention and Canada's first CIFAL centre, CIFAL York.
- the positive outlook for the 2021-22 academic year due to strong enrollments and promising applications data for FW 2021-2022.
- progress made on key construction projects underway at the Markham, Keele, and Glendon campuses.
- highlights from the Kudos report, including York researchers who have received new appointments and re-appointments as Canada Research Chairs.

Reports

Report of the Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities (COU)

Speaking to the written report included in the agenda, the Academic Colleague to the COU, Senator Spotton Visano, reported on its May meeting in which members engaged in a discussion of COU's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion reference group, Canada's status as a destination for international students, and COU's advocacy in the area of micro-credentials. The Academic Colleagues also received updates on the Province's one-year extension of the tuition freeze and proposed legislation to establish the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) and Université de Hearst (Hearst) as independent standalone degree-granting institutions.

Spring Report of the Provost / Vice-President Finance & Administration: Budget Context for Academic Planning

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, the Provost and Vice-President Academic and the Vice-President Finance and Administration, delivered a presentation on the 2021-2022 to 2023-2024 operating budget in the context of academic planning.

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Approvals

On the recommendation of its Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Senate approved:

- the chartering of four Organized Research Units for a five-year period, commencing 1 July 2021: Centre for Refugee Studies; Muscle Health Research Centre; Centre for Vision Research; Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and its Diasporas

On the recommendation of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved:

- the establishment of the Undergraduate Certificate of Proficiency in Modern Korean Language housed in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2021-22.
- changes to the requirements for the Graduate Diploma (Type 2) in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2021-2022.
- changes to the requirements for the Graduate Diploma (Type 3) in Professional Accounting (PACC) housed in the School of Administrative Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2021-2022.
- revisions to the Graduate Studies Regulations on Comprehensive Examinations, effective 1 January 2023.
- the name change of the MA Art History program to MA Art History and Visual Culture in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design, effective FW2021-2022.
- changes to the Dual Credential Program in Ecosystem Management at Fleming College and the BES Honours Major in Sustainable Environmental Management, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, effective FW2021-2022.

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Committee Information Reports

Executive

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- the results of the 2021 election of individuals to serve on Senate Committees and an update on the remaining Senate Committee vacancies.
- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities at the University, including an update on the status of the Fall 2021 term program delivery.
- its consideration of a hortative motion for Senate pertaining to Senate approval of Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) submissions to the Province.
- its review of changes to the rules and procedures for the Schulich School of Business Faculty Council, which includes a newly established *Sub-committee for Equity and Community*.
- the report on Senate Attendance in 2020-2021.
- progress made by Senate Committees on their 2020-2021 priorities.
- its assumption of summer authority between the June and September meetings of Senate, in accordance with the Senate Rules.

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its receipt and discussion of the Spring Report on the Budget Context for Academic Planning from the Provost & Vice-President Academic and the Vice-President Finance & Administration.
- its report on University Academic Plan (UAP) progress for 2020-2021.
- a report from the APPRC Sub-committee on Organized Research Units.
- its concurrence with the recommendation of the Provost to establish the Krembil Chair in Health Management and Leadership in the Schulich School of Business.
- the ongoing development of the academic components and research plans for the new Markham campus.

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Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP)

ASCP's information items included the following minor changes that were approved by the Committee, effective FW2021-2022 unless otherwise noted:

Faculty of Health

A temporary waiver of degree requirements for graduating students in the BA and BSc programs in Kinesiology and Health Science, School of Kinesiology and Health Science

Exemption of the BScN Nursing programs from the *Policy on Repeating Passed or Failed Courses for Academic Credit*

Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

Minor correction to certificate name from "Geomatics" to "Geomatics: Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing"

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the Black Canadian Studies Undergraduate Certificate in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the BA Business & Society program, Department of Social Science, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the Certificate in Public History, Department of History, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the BA Health & Society program, Department of Social Science, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the BA History program, Department of History, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the BA Italian Studies program, Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor Changes to the BA Spanish program, Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Minor Changes to the PhD Philosophy program, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

ASCP also reported on its progress on 2020-2021 priorities.

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Academic Policy, Planning and Research / Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy

APPRC and ASCP jointly conveyed the 2019-2020 annual report on Non-Degree Studies and a report from the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance.

Awards

Senators joined the Awards Committee in congratulating the recipients of the 2021 President's University-Wide Teaching Awards, 2021 Honorific Professorships, and prestigious awards for graduating students.

2021 President's University-Wide Teaching Awards:

Senior Full-time Faculty: Professor Hossam Ali-Hassan, Department of International Studies, Glendon College;

Full-time Faculty: Professor Gordana Colby, Department of Economics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies;

Contract and Adjunct Faculty: Professor Sofia Noori, Faculty of Education;

Teaching Assistant: Michael Kenny, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

2021 Honorific Professorship Recipients:

Professor Carl S. Ehrlich, Department of History and Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies; Professor Carolyn Podruchny, Department of History, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies.

2021 Governor General's Gold Medal: Junjie Kang, Graduate Program in Earth and Space Science; Jordana Waxman, Graduate Program in Psychology; Gehrig Carlse, Graduate Program in Physics & Astronomy.

2021 Governor General's Silver Medal: Alina Kuimova, Glendon College, Specialized Honours BA in Linguistics and Language Studies, First Class Standing; Katelyn Pascua Conferido, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, Honours BA in Children's Studies, *Summa Cum Laude*; Amirarsalan Rahimian, Faculty of Health, Specialized Honours BSc in Kinesiology and Health Science, *Summa Cum Laude*

The Murray G. Ross Award: Hanaa Ameer, Faculty of Health, Specialized Honours BHS in Health Management

The Awards Committee also reported on the status of its 2020-2021 priorities.

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Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, June 24, 2021 meeting for details about these items.

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

September Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, September 23, 2021.