



# The Senate of York University

## Synopsis

The 673<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, February 25, 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 Professor Emeritus Ian Sowton, a long-serving faculty member in the Department of English and Calumet College Head.

Comments made by President Lenton included the following:

- an update on Markham Centre Campus construction progress and ongoing academic planning and program development including a new quarterly newsletter that will first launch in March.
- an update on York's collaboration with McKenzie Health and the City of Vaughan regarding an innovative, community-focused health initiative that will provide opportunities for health-related research, epidemiology and data sharing, clinical placements and training, professional development education for health sector workers, digital health solutions, and more.
- the recent release of *Addressing Anti-Black Racism: A Framework on Black Inclusion* and the accompanying *Draft Action Plan on Black Inclusion – For Further Consultation*, and the plans for VP Equity, People and Culture, Sheila Cote-Meek and Professors Carl James and Andrea Davis to lead a virtual town hall on the framework and action plan on March 18.
- a report on a recent meeting of Ontario's university Presidents with Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities, advocating for more provincial support to offset the impacts on universities and its students as a consequence of the pandemic.
- optimism about the university's budget for 2021-2022 due to the efforts of the community to advance strategic enrolment management and careful budget and capital planning.
- acknowledgement of the efforts of all faculty and units across the university in continuing to advance the priorities of the university in the context of the ongoing impacts of the pandemic.

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- highlights from the “Kudos” report, including the work of Sociology Professor Pat Armstrong who co-authored *Re-imagining Long-term Residential Care in the COVID-19 Crisis*, a report for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives that provides government stakeholders with recommendations for improving long-term residential care.

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

## Reports

### ***Fall 2021 Program Delivery Planning***

Under the auspices of the Senate Executive Committee, the Provost delivered a presentation and engaged Senators in a facilitated discussion on planning assumptions and key elements being imagined for the new set of Principles to Guide Course Planning for the Fall 2021 term. Senators’ input was gratefully received and will inform planning for fall term course delivery and the resumption of in-person academic activities as circumstances allow.

## Approvals

Having provided Notice of Motion to Senate in January, Senate approved the Senate Executive Committee’s recommendation for the membership and distribution of Senate for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023 with a maximum of 168 members.

On the recommendation of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved, effective FW 2021-2022:

- Establishment of a Minor program in English Language Studies, housed within the English as a Second Language Section, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
- Establishment of a Disciplinary Certificate in Psychological Methods and Data Analysis, housed within the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health
- Restructuring of the Specialized Honours BSc program in Environmental Science and changes to degree options, housed within the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, and the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

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- Changes to degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BFA program in Intermedia and to the program name, to Integrative Arts, housed within the Departments of Computational Arts and Visual Arts and Art History, School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
- Changes to coursework requirements for the BES programs in Environmental Arts and Justice, housed within the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

### **Committee Information Reports**

#### **Executive**

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities including a decision on online proctoring of examinations and further actions pertaining to the disruption outlined in its written Report
- the launch of the search committee for York's next Chancellor
- the Senate consultation process pertaining to the renewal of the President's term
- its discussion on Post-pandemic Governance Delivery

#### **Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)**

APPRC reported on the following items its:

- preparations for the March planning forum
- discussion with the Vice-Presidents Research & Innovation Equity, People & Culture and on decolonizing research administration
- ongoing discussions about academic governance structures and processes for Markham Centre Campus, and its recent joint meeting with the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) on program planning for the Campus

#### **Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP)**

ASCP's information items included an update on the Sessional Dates for SU2021 to 2024, reflecting a revised Fall 2021 Orientation Day, and the approval of a pilot for a

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new winter term in Lassonde, beginning in Winter 2022 for undergraduate students. The following following minor changes were approved by the Committee:

### *Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change*

Minor changes to coursework requirements for the BA programs in Global Geography  
Minor changes to coursework requirements for the BES programs in Sustainable Environmental Management

### *Faculty of Health*

Minor change to admission requirements for the Internationally Educated Nurses and the Second Entry BScN programs  
Minor changes to degree requirements for the BHS Specialized Honours program in Health Policy and Management

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

Minor changes to degree requirements for the BA Honours and Specialized Honours programs in Sociology  
Minor changes to degree requirements for the BA programs in Work and Labour Studies  
Minor changes to degree requirements for the BA (Honours) programs in Creative Writing associated with a change in rubric for Creative Writing courses

## Appeals

The Appeals Committee presented its annual reports for the 2019-2020 academic year on student appeals statistics, Faculty- and Senate-level petitions and appeals decisions, and Faculty-level academic honesty statistics.

## Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, February 25, 2020 meeting for details about these items.

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

## March Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, March 25, 2021.