



The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 680th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, November 25, 2021 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Mario Roy of Glendon College, welcomed Senators to the meeting. He acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of two faculty colleagues, Professors Emeriti Doris Nicholls and Carol Zemel.

President Rhonda Lenton reported on the following items:

- continued prioritization of the health and safety of the community and acknowledgement that the University will continue to follow the advice of health and safety officials throughout the planned full return to on-campus academic activities for the winter 2022 term
- the development of a Winter Safety Strategy, including a newly refreshed YU Screen interface, a revised mask protocol, and a Care Ambassadors Program, which will support community members returning to campus by providing information on wayfinding and general campus services
- an update on the Ontario government's Fall Economic Statement, which indicates stability in funding for the post-secondary sector over the next two years
- York's continued advocacy efforts with members of the Council of Ontario Universities to position universities as leaders in the province's recovery
- York's recent signing of the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education. The Scarborough Charter is a national pledge to ongoing action against anti-Black racism and further progress toward Black inclusion
- recent progress made on the University's proposal to the Ontario government supporting the establishment of a new School of Medicine
- the forthcoming launch of the Institutional Sustainability Strategy and Progress Report for 2020–21
- recent developments on the University's work to develop a Campus Vision and Strategy for the future of the Keele campus edge lands

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- the Kudos report, highlighting that in 2023, York University will host the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the largest academic gathering in Canada

Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Provost Philipps presented the Autumn Report on Complement and Enrolment.

Approvals

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

- the addition of the Markham Campus location for the Common First-year Engineering programming for the BEng degree programs in Engineering, housed in the Lassonde School of Engineering as set out as Appendix A, effective FW 2023-2024
- the addition of the Markham Campus location for the first-year Foundational Science programming for BSc degree programs housed in the Faculty of Science, as set out in Appendix B, effective FW 2023-2024
- the establishment of a BAsC degree option in Computer Science for Software Development at the Markham Campus, housed within the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the Lassonde School of Engineering, set out as Appendix C, effective FW2023-2024

Committee Information Reports

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities, with actions pertaining to the disruption outlined in its written Report
- its approval of Student Senate Committee members nominated by the Student Senators Caucus
- its approval of the individual designated by the Organized Research Units' (ORU) Council of Research Directors to serve on the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee

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- its preliminary discussion of the scope of the 2021-2022 Senate Rules review exercise
- its consideration of a request to have a Senate discussion of the academic implications of the Anti-Black Racism Framework and the draft Action Plan on Black Inclusion
- an update on its membership for 2021-2022
- the anticipation of a December Senate meeting
- the convening of the Sub-committee on Equity in the coming weeks

Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its discussion with the Provost on the Faculty Complement Renewal Strategy and enrolments
- its monthly report to Senate on Markham Centre Campus planning
- its receipt of a comprehensive briefing on the strategic review process aimed at the renewal and repositioning of Glendon's academic offerings in the current post-secondary environment
- its discussion of the Draft Action Plan for the implementation of the Framework to address Anti-Black Racism
- an update on its membership for 2021-2022

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP)

ASCP reported on its continued review of proposals for curricular programming at the Markham Campus and approval of the following minor modifications to curriculum:

Faculty of Science

Minor Changes to Degree Requirements for the BSc program in Environmental Biology

Minor Changes to Degree Requirements for the BSc program in Biology, Biomedical Science Stream

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Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, November 25, 2021 meeting for details about these items.

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

December Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, December 16, 2021.