



The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 678th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, September 23, 2021 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Mario Roy of Glendon College, welcomed new and returning Senators and Chairs and thanked those who attended the orientation session. The Chair wished Senators success in their teaching, learning and scholarship this year, and commended them for their ongoing commitment and resiliency. Members were informed that Senate meetings will continue to be facilitated virtually at this time. The Chair acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of Professor Ruth Schattner, a long-time faculty member in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies in the Departments of French and Humanities.

President Rhonda Lenton wished Senators health and success in the year ahead, and reported on the following items:

- welcome to Robert Savage, the new Dean of the Faculty of Education, and condolences on the recent passing of Distinguished Research Professor and Professor Emerita Marcia Rioux
- an expression of thanks and appreciation to Sarah Howe, Assistant Vice-President, Innovation & Research Partnerships at Innovation York who is leaving the University
- the positive outlook for the 2021-22 academic year due to strong enrollments and promising applications data for FW 2021-2022
- York's progress advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG's), including the establishment of the Toronto Centre of Excellence on Homelessness Prevention and Canada's first CIFAL centre, CIFAL York
- gratitude to members of the University community for their perseverance and resilience in successfully completing a full year of online teaching and learning and continuing to advance the priorities of the University Academic Plan
- 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 implementation of the Fall return to campus

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- progress made on key projects underway at the Markham, Keele, and Glendon campuses.
- the Kudos report, highlighting Heather Prime's (Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health), receipt of the Banting Research Foundation Discovery Award for her study evaluating an innovative program to help families recover from the pandemic.

Approvals

Senate approved the recommendation of its Executive Committee to elect Professors Ilan Kapoor to the Senate Tenure and Promotions Committee.

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

- the establishment of a new Master of Arts (MA) program in Design Research housed in the Department of Design, School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design, effective FW 2022-2023
- changes to the degree requirements for the BA program in Religious Studies, housed in the Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2022-2023
- revisions to graduate petitions and appeals regulations in the Faculty of Graduate Studies, effective immediately
- authorization of the granting of degrees at the University's convocations held in Fall 2021, February 2022 (Convocation in Absentia) and Spring 2022, and individually to students at any point during the year who have fulfilled the degree program requirements for receipt of degrees

Senate approved a hortative motion expressing the view that:

Prior to the finalization of the University's Strategic Mandate Agreement proposal to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities, the Strategic Mandate Agreement submissions should be brought to Senate for concurrence.

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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 Senate Committee members nominated by Faculty Councils
- preliminary discussion of its priorities for 2021-2022
- the results of the Senator and Senate committee members surveys conducted in June, and the Committee's planned follow-up activities
- its receipt of a briefing from University Secretary Pascal Robichaud on the governance support initiatives for 2021-2022 to be taken up by the University Secretariat
- actions taken under Summer Authority
- the report on Senate attendance in 2020-2021
- the 2021-2022 Executive Committee membership
- Senate meeting dates for 2021-2022 with changes approved for December

Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- Preliminary discussion of its priorities for 2021-2022
- its monthly report to Senate on Markham Centre Campus planning
- the membership of its Sub-Committees for 2021-2022

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP)

ASCP reported on the confirmation of Professor Martin Bunch as the new Chair of ASCP membership of its sub-committees for 2021-2022 and on its approval of the following items:

Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

Minor changes to the requirements of the Dual Credential Program in Ecosystem Management at Fleming College and the BES Honours Major in Sustainable Environmental Management

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Faculty of Health

Temporary change to admission requirements for the MA and PhD programs in Psychology, Graduate Program in Psychology

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Minor change to a course rubric for the Graduate Diploma (Type 2) in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, September 23, 2021 meeting for details about these items.

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

October Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, October 28, 2021.