

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 683rd Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, February 17, 2022 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Mario Roy of Glendon College, welcomed Senators to the meeting. He acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of Professors Emeriti Thomas T. Sekine and Pastor Valle-Garay, and former Associate Professor Joseph Clark Sherren.

President Rhonda Lenton reported on the following items:

- an update on the delivery of academic programming for the winter 2022 term and York's continued prioritization of the advice of health and safety officials
- the forthcoming departure of Graeme Stewart, Chief of Staff, and appreciation for his service to the University
- the Kudos report, highlighting York alumna Cynthia Appiah, who is competing in the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing as a member of Canada's national bobsled team
- acknowledgment of Black History Month as an opportunity to recognize the contributions, achievements and histories of Black students, staff, faculty, course instructors and alumni at York

The President also spoke to developments on the initiative to establish a School of Medicine at York University, including the recent submission of the conceptual proposal to the Province and the launch of the next phase of community consultation. Feedback from Senators highlighted the necessity of consulting Senate (separate and apart from community-wide information sessions) on the aspiration to establish a medical school, including the academic aspects and directions that may be considered for the new school in respect of the principals and practices of the University's collegial governance.

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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 December meetings in which members engaged in a focused discussion on Lakehead University's development of an Indigenous Content Requirement. The Academic Colleagues also received updates on COU's current projects and priorities, including pre-election strategy, SMA3, micro-credentials, eCampusOntario's new portal, and the Auditor General's inquiry.

Vice-President Research & Innovation Annual Report

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Vice-President Research & Innovation Amir Asif presented the annual research report.

Approvals

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

- the establishment of a Specialized Honours Major option in Creative Technologies within the BFA degree program in Integrative Arts, Markham Campus, School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design, effective FW2023-2024
- changes to the degree requirements for the MASc and PhD in Civil Engineering, housed in the Department of Civil Engineering, Lassonde School of Engineering, effective FW2022-2023
- changes to the degree requirements and removal of the Specialized Honours option for the Communication & Media Studies BA and BA Honours programs, housed in the Department of Communication & Media Studies in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2022-2023.

The Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee also put forward a notice of statutory motion to approve the establishment of the degree of Master's of Biotechnology Management, and received the input of Senators on the initiative to consider prior to presenting the recommendation to Senate for approval.

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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
- the call for expressions of interest in the position of Vice-Chair / Chair of Senate, noting desire to receive nominations in three-weeks' time, by 11 March 2022
- its approval of a member to serve on a Senate Committee, as nominated by student Senators

Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its receipt and discussion of the Vice-President Research & Innovation's annual report on research
- Markham Campus planning, including discussion of options to integrate Markham campus representation within the membership of Senate
- recent preparations for the APPRC-sponsored spring planning forum on the *Future of Pedagogy*
- the work underway to develop the high-level vision for a School of Medicine at York University and broad plans for the submission to the Province
- its receipt and discussion of the most recent report issued by the Senate Executive Sub-committee on Equity
- its concurrence with the recommendation of the Provost to establish the Pedagogical Innovation Chair in Science Education, within the Faculty of Science, effective 1 August 2021
- an update on its membership for 2021-2022

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP)

ASCP reported on its approval of the following minor modifications to curriculum:

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Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Revisions to the calendar copy for the Japanese, BA program

Minor changes to the program requirements for the BCom Business Minor

Minor changes to the program requirements for the Children, Childhood & Youth BA program

Minor changes to the workshop requirement for the MA, PhD and Graduate Diploma programs in English

Faculty of Health

Minor changes to the calendar copy for the Kinesiology and Health Science BA and BSc programs

Minor changes to the calendar copy for the Psychology, Hons BSc and BSc programs

Minor changes to the degree requirements for the Global Health, BA and BSc programs

Faculty of Health / Faculty of Science

Minor changes to the qualifying period and continuation requirements for the Neuroscience Specialized Hons BSc program

Minor changes to internal transfers and re-entry requirements for the Neuroscience Specialized Hons BSc program

Lassonde School of Engineering

Minor Changes in Degree Requirements in Computer Security BA and BSc programs

Minor Changes in Complementary Studies requirements for BEng programs

Minor Changes in Degree Requirements in the BEng Space Engineering program

School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design

Minor changes to the course requirements for the Music BFA and BA programs

Osgoode Hall Law School / Schulich School of Business

Change to admission requirements for Schulich MBA component of MBA/JD Program

Schulich School of Business

Retirement of Public Sector (PUBL) and Social Sector Management (SOCM) Specializations



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Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, February 17, 2022 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 24, 2022.