

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 685th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, April 28, 2022 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Mario Roy of Glendon College, greeted Senators and gave a special welcome to Professor Poonam Puri, Osgoode Hall Law School, attending her first meeting as Vice-Chair of Senate following her appointment to the position at the March meeting. He acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of Frances Beer, Professor Emerita of English; Professor Emeritus Hugh Parry, Humanities, who played a role in establishing the University's general education curriculum; Professor Emeritus Wolfgang Ahrens, founding Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics and a regular member of governance committees at all levels; and University Professor Sydney Eisen, an esteemed colleague, former Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Department Chair and long-serving Senator who significantly influenced the direction of the University in its early decades.

Comments made by President Rhonda Lenton included the following:

- an echoing of the condolences shared by the Chair and an expression of sorrow about the passing of Filomena Ticzon, a long-serving staff member at Schulich
- an update on pandemic matters, including the extension of masking protocol in all indoor spaces on campus until further notice and the approach to the University's pandemic response going forward, and an expression of thanks to Special Advisor for COVID-19 response Professor Parissa Safai and her team for their efforts to safeguard the York community throughout the pandemic
- the federal budget commitment to contribute \$1.5 million in 2022-2023 towards an endowment to support the ongoing activities of the Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community and Diaspora, held by Professor Carl E. James
- the revised timing of the opening of Markham Campus as a result of pandemic-related construction delays, with implications on programming and the project budget being assessed
- reflections on the preliminary report of the Ontario Auditor General about Laurentian University's decision to seek creditor protection in 2021
- an announcement of the honorary degree recipients to be recognized at the Spring 2022 Convocation Ceremonies

- an acknowledgement of Holocaust Remembrance Day and the National Day of Mourning for those who have lost their lives, suffered injury or illness on the job, or experienced a work-related tragedy

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

Reports

Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities (COU)

Speaking to the written report included in the agenda, the Academic Colleague to COU, Senator Brenda Spotton Visano, reported on the February and April COU meetings which focused on community engagement, with a presentation from Victoria Barham, Dean of Science, University of Ottawa, and deconolizing academia, featuring a presentation by York’s own Vice-President Equity, People and Culture Sheila Cote-Meek. A more fulsome update on Vice-President Cote-Meek’s presentation is planned for the May Senate meeting. Academic Colleagues also received updates on a number of sector developments, detailed in Senator Spotton Visano’s written report included in the agenda package.

Facilitated Discussion

Under the auspices of the Executive Committee, a facilitated discussion was held in which Senators’ views were sought on the following question:

What are the key parameters to consider in deciding on the timing to declare the COVID-19 pandemic disruption has ended?

A wide-ranging discussion ensued in which a number of themes surfaced, notably the importance of distinguishing between operational and academic activities when assessing ongoing impacts of the pandemic, the efficacy of the Disruptions Policy to adapt to changing circumstances, and the signal that lifting the disruption may send to the York community. Senators’ input was gratefully received and, along with feedback from Faculty Councils and the University community, will inform future discussions about the appropriate timing and circumstances for lifting the disruption.

Approvals

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

- the establishment of a stream in Communication, Social Media & Public Relations within the BA (Honours) program in Communication and Media Studies, Department of Communication and Media Studies, LA&PS, Markham Campus, effective FW2023-2024
- the establishment of streams in Nursing Practice in High Acuity and Critical Care Settings and Nursing Practice in Mental Health, Illness and Addictions Care within the 4-Year Direct Entry, 2nd Entry and Post-RN IEN BScN programs, School of Nursing, Health, effective FW2022-2023
- changes to the degree requirements for the BA (Honours) programs in Cognitive Science, Department of Philosophy, LA&PS, effective FW2022-2023
- changes to the coursework requirements for the Operations Management & Information Systems Field within the PhD program in Administration, Graduate Studies / Schulich, effective FW2022-2023
- the establishment the *Senate Academic Forgiveness Policy* and the the rescission of the Policy and Guidelines on the Withdrawn from Course Option, the Policy on Course Relief, and the Policy on Repeating Passed or Failed Courses for Academic Credit, effective FW2022-2023
- revisions to the Senate Policy on Visiting Students, Bridging Courses Policy and Guidelines, Regulation on Granting Degree Credit for Pre-University Courses, Regulation on Transfer Credit Limits for Advanced Secondary Studies, to take effect upon implementation of the new grading schemes, with the exception of minor wording changes to the Senate Policy on Visiting Students which will be effective immediately

Committee Information Reports

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its preliminary discussions about the factors to be considered to identify the timing of ending the disruption to academic activities

- encouragement for Senators to assist in identifying prospective candidates for Senate committees and other positions elected by Senate in response to the recent call for expressions of interest, in particular the Tenure & Promotions Committee
- an update on the status of the Committee's review of the Rules of Senate, with Senate to receive Notice of Motion for the slate of revisions in May
- its receipt of an update on the activities of the Sub-Committee on Equity, including engagement with Faculty Councils and Senate committees to identify opportunities to advance equity objectives in those contexts
- the addition of a candidate to the pool of prospective recipients of honorary degrees

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP)

ASCP reported that Professor Nicolette Richardson, Health, had been designated to serve as Chair for the remainder of the academic year in the absence of Professor Martin Bunch, Environmental and Urban Change.

ASCP also reported on the following minor changes it had approved effective FW2022-2023 unless otherwise indicated:

AMPD

Degree requirements for the Honours BA Minor program in Computational Arts, Department of Computational Arts (effective FW2023-2024)

Degree requirements for the BA and Specialized Honours BA and BFA programs in Theatre, Department of Theatre

AMPD / Lassonde

Degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BA and BA programs in Digital Media, Department of Computational Arts / Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Health

Practicum requirements for the BScN in Nursing program (4-year Direct Entry, 2nd Entry, Post-RN Internationally Educated Nurses), School of Nursing

Admission requirements for the Certificate in Athletic Therapy, School of Kinesiology and Health Science

Graduate Studies

Degree requirements for the Master of Science in Management Practice, School of Administrative Studies, LA&PS

Retirement of International Business (IBUS) Specialization within the MBA program, Schulich

Admission requirements within the Operations Management & Information Systems Field within the PhD program in Administration, Schulich

Lassonde

Degree requirements for the BSc and Honours Minor BSc programs, and the Atmospheric Science stream within the Specialized Honours and Honours BSc programs in Earth and Atmospheric Science, Department of Earth and Space Science and Engineering

Establishment of CSSD rubric for the BAsc programs in Computer Science for Software Development, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Establishment of DIGT rubric for the BAsc programs in Digital Technologies, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BEng program in Civil Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering

Schulich

Establishment of GMMM rubric for courses in the Global Mining Management area

Establishment of SUST rubric for courses in the Sustainability area

ASCP reported on the following corrections to degree requirements effective FW2022-2023 that had been transmitted to the Committee for information:

Health

BA and BSc programs in Global Health

Bachelor of Health Studies programs in Health Policy, Health Management, Health Studies, and Health Informatics

BSc programs in Psychology

Lassonde

Complementary Studies Requirements for the BEng programs

LA&PS

Honours Minor BA program in Japanese Studies

BA programs in Religious Studies, Business and Society, and History
Bachelor of Human Resources Management programs

Science

BSc programs in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics and Astronomy
BA and BSc programs in Science and Technology Studies

Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its reflections on the ideas and suggestions surfaced in the APPRC-sponsored spring planning forum on the *Future of Pedagogy* and initial discussion of possible next steps
- its receipt of notification of the delayed opening of Markham Campus and input provided to President Lenton on academic planning and resource allocation matters to be considered as decisions are made about program launch options
- its concurrence with the recommendation of the Provost to establish the CIBC Chair in Sustainable Finance within the Schulich School of Business, which will proceed to the Academic Resources Committee of the Board of Governors and the Board for approval
- its receipt of a report on activities of Senate Executive's Sub-Committee on Equity

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee transmitted the 2020-2021 Graduate Award Disbursement report and congratulated the recipients of the 2022 President's Research Awards, who had been selected as a result of the Committee's adjudication in Winter 2022.

President's Research Excellence Award

Zheng Hong (George) Zhu, Lassonde

President's Research Impact Award

Seyed Moghadas, Science

President's Emerging Research Leadership Award

John Moores, Lassonde (Engineering, Science, Technology, Health and Biomedicine Cluster)

Amy Muise, Health (Social Sciences, Art & Design, Humanities, Business, Law and Education Cluster)

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, April 28, 2022 meeting for details about these items.

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

May Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, May 26, 2022.