

# The Senate of York University

## Synopsis

**The 690<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, 24 November 2022  
via Zoom**

### Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Mario Roy of Glendon College, welcomed Senators to the meeting.

On behalf of Senate, the Chair thanked Assistant Secretary of the University Kathryn White who is moving to a new position at the Council of Ontario Universities.

President Rhonda Lenton spoke to the Auditor General's *Special Report on Laurentian University* noting its implications for the province's university sector. The Council of Ontario Universities (COU) is analyzing the report and the set of recommendations issued within it, and discussing them with university Executive Heads. There is agreement among the universities on the value of preserving institutional autonomy. The Ministry of Colleges and Universities (MCU) is responding to the special report in part by developing a set of eight financial sustainability metrics to be incorporated into the government's new performance-based funding model. COU is providing input to the Ministry on the metrics.

In response to questions from Senators, President Lenton emphasized that:

- the primary causes of the challenges at Laurentian are not ones confronting York
- the academic leadership and the Board of Governors are prudently taking up the opportunity to review the recommendations from the Auditor General's report, and will concurrently examine the University's policies and practices to ensure our governance and planning processes are sound and grounded in risk mitigation, particularly around capital project planning and academic program sustainability

The President also spoke to masking on campus, noting that the community is strongly recommended to return to the use of masks in indoor settings.

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

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## Inquiries and Communications

Speaking to the written report included in the agenda, the Academic Colleague to the COU, Senator William van Wijngaarden, reported on its October meetings in which members engaged in a focused discussion of the benefits, challenges and considerations of online learning. The Academic Colleagues also received updates on current COU activities and priorities, including its response to the government's establishment of an expert panel on the postsecondary sector.

## Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC) Senate received the Provost's autumn report on complement and enrolments.

## Approvals

Senate approved the recommendation of its Executive Committee to:

- extend the waiver of required Attending Physician Statements to support requests for deferred standing, petitions and appeals to 31 December 2023, with final report / recommendation on its status to Senate by November 2023.

Senate approved the recommendation of its Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee to:

- charter the following Organized Research Units for a five-year period, effective 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2028:

Manufacturing Technology Entrepreneurship Centre (1 July 2022–30 June 2027)  
Mobility Innovation Centre  
LaMarsh Centre for Child and Youth Research  
Centre for Research on Language and Culture Contact  
Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime & Security  
The Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies

Senate approved the recommendations of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee to:

- establish MA and PhD programs in Global Health in the School of Global Health, Faculty of Health, effective FW2023-2024
- approve in principle, with an effective date to be recommended in due course:
  - The phased implementation of the new grading schemes, whereby phase 1 comprises the translation of GPAs to the 4.0 scheme with the additional

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academic standing elements of the *Policy on York University Grading Schemes* to be implemented in conjunction with the new Student Information System;

- revisions to and the change in the name of the *Common Grading Scheme for Undergraduate Faculties Policy* to the *Pan-University Grading Schemes Policy*; and
- revisions to *Progression Requirements to Maintain Honours Standing* and *Progression Requirements to Maintain Honours Standing in Bachelor of Engineering*

## Committee Information Reports

### Executive Committee

Information items included the following:

- its approval of Senate Committee student members nominated by the Student Senator caucus
- its review of the membership of Senate for the 2023-2025 period, with a recommendation to come to Senate in the winter term
- Confirmation that there will be a meeting of Senate held in December, on 15 December

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

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair shared updates on the information items outlined in the written report, highlighting the Committee's priorities and initiatives in progress.

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

ASCP provided Notice of Statutory Motion for the establishment of the degree type Master of Health Industry Administration, Schulich School of Business.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair noted the series of minor modifications to curriculum approved by the Committee.

### Academic Policy, Planning and Research / Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy

APPRC and ASCP jointly conveyed a report from the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance.

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## Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the **24 November 2022** meeting for details about these items.

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

## December Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 15 December 2022**.