

# The Senate of York University

## Meeting Synopsis

The 725<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, 26 February 2026

### Remarks

The Chair welcomed members to the 725<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate. The Chair expressed support for the recent announcement of the first Inuit-led university, Inuit Nunangat University, planned for Arviat, Nunavut.

A correction to the agenda package was noted to reflect the inclusion of the ASCP item on minor revisions to the Policy on Registration Eligibility in Summer Courses. With no requests to remove items from the consent agenda, those items were deemed approved.

### President

Lisa Philipps, Interim President and Vice-Chancellor, reported on recent internal and external activities, highlighting ongoing faculty and laboratory visits and engagement with new faculty members, which underscore York's interdisciplinary strengths and diverse research collaborations. She outlined discussions with Glendon Faculty Council on next steps for the *Faculties of the Future* initiative and noted that comprehensive proposals are currently being modeled out by the Provost's Office, Principal of Glendon College and Deans of other faculties with cognate programs.

Updates were provided on federal and provincial developments affecting the postsecondary sector, including the federal Defence Industrial Strategy, anticipated infrastructure funding opportunities via the Build Community Strong Fund, and the provincial funding framework.

The President also reported on a preliminary land-use study for the Glendon campus, noting that the first phase identified potential uses for portions of the property within the scope of educational purpose. No decisions or plans have been made. Further steps would consider community needs.

She concluded her remarks noting positive trends in undergraduate applications for Fall 2026 and providing updates on preparations for the new School of Medicine, including accreditation progress, clinical partnership development, and philanthropic momentum.

### Inquiries and Communications

A communication from the Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) was received for information.

# The Senate of York University Synopsis

## Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, the Vice-President Research & Innovation presented the 2025 Annual Report on Research.

Questions regarding whether the reported research income included University matching funds or Faculty contributions, as well as the extent to which external drivers and funding opportunities, such as commercialization and federal defense & dual-defense research partnerships, are shaping internal research priorities, were referred to APPRC to take up for discussion with the Vice-President Research & Innovation and response to Senate at an upcoming Senate meeting.

The VPRI also committed to providing Senate with additional details at a subsequent meeting on the methodology for Faculty rankings and year-to-year comparisons, noting that these metrics, specifically for the Faculty of Education, are complicated by evolving scoring criteria and changes in the number of ranked institutions.

## Approvals

### Executive Committee

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, Senate approved a slate of candidates for nomination to the Presidential Search Committee, as presented in the agenda package.

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

On the recommendation of the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved the revised policy on Registration Eligibility in Summer Courses.

## Notice of Statutory Motions

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

The Committee provided Notice of Statutory Motion for the establishment of the Master in Athletic Therapy degree, to be housed in the School of Kinesiology and Health Science, Faculty of Health.

## Committee Information Items

### Executive Committee

Information items included the following:

- Advancement of the Committee's review of the Rules of Senate and the allocation of Senate seats for the 2026–2028 period, with recommendations to be brought forward at future sessions.

# The Senate of York University Synopsis

- Approval of Faculty Council-nominated members to Senate committees.

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

Information items included the following:

- Continuing work on the renewal of the University Academic Plan, noting recent review of community feedback on the draft framing questions and is now preparing an outline of the 2025–2030 Plan for further discussion before circulating a draft for community input in early April and for Senate’s consideration on 23 April 2026.
- An update on Markham Campus academic programming and planning, including developments in program offerings, enrolment growth, early FW’26 applications, the time-limited introduction of the BEd cohort, the upcoming launch of continuing education programming, and strengthening international interest in the still-new campus.
- The Committee received a briefing on the Impact+ Research Chairs Program, noting that York’s accelerated internal hiring and nomination process is underway to meet the tight federal deadlines for the two 2026 intake cycles.
- Committee discussion of a communication from an ORU Director regarding the role of ORUs within Senate’s governance structure. Follow-up steps have been identified after a meeting with the Vice-President Research & Innovation and APPRC leadership.

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

Information items included:

- Minor modifications to degree requirements and updates to the academic calendar for programs housed in the Faculties of Glendon, Health, Lassonde, LA&PS and Schulich.

## Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate [agenda](#) of **26 February 2026** for further details on the items reported.

The next regular meeting of Senate will be held virtually at **2:30 pm on Thursday, 26 March 2026**.