

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 696th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, 25 May 2023 via zoom

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Poonam Puri, welcomed Senators to the meeting.

The Chair, on behalf of Senate,

- congratulated the following recipients of the *Robert Everett Exceptional Leadership in Student Governance Award* which recognizes students who have demonstrated high distinction in governance:
 - Ana Kraljević an undergraduate student at Glendon
 - Ariana Mah, an undergraduate student at Glendon
 - Yashna Paresh Manek, an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Science
- Invited Senators to participate in sessions and events of Congress, starting May 26 and continuing through to June 2.
- Encouraged members of faculty to attend the Spring Convocation ceremonies to celebrate our graduates.

Inquiries and Communications

Senator van Wijngaarden shared highlights of the Academic Colleague to COU report, included in the agenda package.

Reports

Under President's items, President Lenton spoke to the following:

- Reminder that members are encouraged to attend Congress where more than nine thousand scholars, researchers and practitioners are expected to attend.
- Acknowledged participation and support of all involved in the planning of Congress and extended special thanks to Professor Andrea Davis for her leadership in support this important event.
- Encouraged Senators to participate in Convocation starting at Glendon on June 9, where our new Chancellor, Kathleen Taylor, will preside over her first York University Convocation ceremony, and where honorary degrees will be bestowed on distinguished candidates.

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- The new Financial Indicators released by the provincial government, which require Universities to balance in year deficits is problematic, as universities normally operate from a three-year rolling budget. As the provincial government is providing no new grant funding and has frozen tuition, universities are in discussions with government to address the resulting financial challenges.
- York @ 100: Conceptions in the current higher education context, including the vision of the University, long-term planning, and advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

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

Approvals

Election of Members of Senate Committees/Other Elected Positions

Senate approved a slate of candidates presented by the Executive Committee with the result that several individuals were acclaimed to positions on Senate committees.

The Chair of Senate advised Senators that an election by e-vote will be held for Senator on the Board position and the contract faculty seat on ASCP, during the week of 29 May – 2 June 2023. Senators who have not yet provided their Passport York username to the Secretariat are reminded to do so.

The Vice-Chair of Senate called on Senators to consider participating on Committees where members are needed and advised that efforts are continuing to fill the remaining vacancies.

Senate approved the following recommendations of its Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee:

- Strategic Research Plan 2023-2028.

Committee Information Reports

Executive Committee

The Vice-Chair highlighted the planned schedule of rotating in-person and virtual meetings for the 2023-2024 year, included in the Executive Committee's report in the document package. Senate Committees may determine their meeting mode of delivery.

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Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (APPRC)

The Chair of APPRC, Senator Moir, provided an update on *Connected Minds: Neural and Machine Systems for a Healthy, Just Society* project, followed by brief presentation to Senate by Vice President Asif to explain and celebrate the significant research development.

Senate received a report from the Chair of APPRC on:

- The Joint APPRC-ASCP Task Force on Pedagogy
- The Markham Campus preparation of the academic dimensions
- The strategic repositioning of Glendon College

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP)

The Chair of ASCP, Senator Bunch, informed Senate that the draft Policy on Academic Conduct, and the draft policy on Academic Relief for Students, will be shared for information at the June meeting of Senate, with anticipation that the documents will be reviewed/discussed at Senate in the Fall.

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material [posted online](#) with the **25 May 2023** meeting for details about these items.

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

June 29 Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 29 June 2023**.