

# The Senate of York University

## Meeting Synopsis

**The 702nd Meeting of Senate  
Held on Thursday, 25 January 2024, via Zoom**

### Remarks

The Chair, Poonam Puri, thanked members for attending the January 18 special Senate meeting. The Chair also shared that Amanda Wassermuhl, Assistant Secretary of the University, is leaving the University Secretariat to take on a new opportunity at Osgoode Hall. She joined her Secretariat colleagues in thanking Amanda for her valuable contributions supporting governance and her warm collegiality, and wished her success at Osgoode.

The President spoke to the financial pressures facing the University, including uncertainties and deficits projected by many institutions, and the anticipation of the government's response to the Blue Panel Report regarding funding. She highlighted missed international enrollment targets and the imposition of federal caps contributing to substantial deficits. The University's response to these financial challenges involved beginning to prioritize for the 2025-2030 University Academic Plan (UAP), expanding research in alignment with Strategic Research Plan, increasing external revenue, and engaging with COU to advocate for government funding in the upcoming provincial budget.

### Approvals

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

- Add two new fields to the MA and PhD degree programs in Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, effective Fall 2024
- Add a new field in Indigenous History, rename the East Asian History field to Asian History, and merge the British History field with the European History field in the MA and PhD degree programs in History, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, effective Fall 2024
- Establish 90-credit BA and BSc degree programs in Movement and Health, School of Kinesiology and Health Science, Faculty of Health, effective May 2024
- Revise the Policy and Procedure on Academic Accommodation for Students' Religious Observances
- Revise the definition of *Professional Masters* in the University Academic Nomenclature

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- Addition of a part-time entry option for the Master in Environmental Studies, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, effective Fall 2024

## Reports

Senate received the December 2023 written report from the Academic Colleague, Senator William van Wijngaarden.

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Vice-President Research & Innovation presented the 2022 Annual Report on Research.

## Notice of Statutory Motions

The Executive Committee provided Notice of Statutory Motion for revisions to the Senate Rules.

APPRC provided Notice of Statutory Motion for the establishment and disestablishment of academic units at Glendon and engaged Senators in a preliminary discussion about the proposed changes.

## Committee Information Items

### Executive

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- Senate ASCP Committee's priorities for 2023-2024
- Status of its review of the Senate Policy on Academic Implications of Disruptions of Cessations of University Business Due to Labour Disputes or Other Causes

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

APPRC reported on the following items:

- The Committee's discussion of the Value-for-Money Audit: York University Operations and Capital report and actions in response to the audit recommendations
- Progress report on the implementation of plans for the delivery of academic programming at the new Markham Campus, launching FW 2024-2025

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

ASCP reported on the following items:

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- Minor modifications to degree requirements at the Glendon, Health, Lassonde and Schulich Faculties
- The Committee's review of the Senate policy on Sessional Dates and the Scheduling of Examinations
- The implementation of the digital YU identification card
- The Committee's ongoing review of other Policy items, including the Senate Policy on Academic Conduct, the Attending Physician Statement and Grading Schemes

A Synopsis of the November 27, 2023 meeting of the Board of Governors was received for information.

### Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material [posted online](#) with the **25 January 2024** meeting for details about the items reported.

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 15 February 2024.**