

# The Senate of York University

## Meeting Synopsis

**The 708th Meeting of Senate  
Held on Thursday, 27 June 2024, via Zoom**

### Remarks

The Chair, Poonam Puri, welcomed Senators to the 708<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate.

This being the final meeting for Senators Andrea Davis and Kim Michasiw, they were acknowledged for their distinguished records of service and thanked for their leadership and contributions to Senate-level governance.

The President provided a year-end report that reflected on progress made in 2023-2024 on each of the priorities of the *2020-2025 University Academic Plan* and the forward-looking focus on addressing the budget deficit through revenue generation and cost savings in each of the next three years.

### Approvals

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

- the establishment of the Senate Academic Conduct Policy and rescission of the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty, effective FW 2024-2025.
- the extension of the waiver of required attending physician statements to support requests for petitions, appeals and deferred standing for an additional six months beyond the current waiver, from 30 June 2024 to 31 December 2024.
- the rescission of the *Senate Policy on Pass / Fail Grades* and the *Senate Credit / No Credit* regulation, and establishment of a new, single *Senate Policy on Pass/Fail and Credit / No Credit Grades*, effective F2025.

A proposed Senate Attending Physician's Statement Policy was referred back to ASCP for further review following the input of Senators.

On recommendation of the Executive Committee, Senate elected the following to serve on Senate committees / sub-committees:

- Theodore Peridis, Professor, Schulich School of Business and Othon Alexandrakis, Professor, Department of Anthropology, LAPS to the Joint Sub-committee on Quality Assurance
- Patricia Lakin-Thomas, Professor, Department of Biology, Science, Mina Singh, Professor, School of Nursing, Health and Paula Wilson, Professor, Department of Biology, Science to the Senate Tenure & Promotions Committee

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On the recommendation of its Academic Policy, Planning & Research Committee, Senate approved:

- the chartering of the following Organized Research Units (ORU) for a five-year period, commencing 1 July 2024:
  - Centre for Feminist Research
  - Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies
  - Global Labour Research Centre
  - Institute for Research on Digital Literacies
  - Mad Studies Hub.
- revisions to the *Senate Policy on Research Involving Human Participants*, effective 1 July 2024.

## Facilitated Discussions

Under the auspices of the *Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee*, Senate provided reflections and input on a draft planning committee structure for the School of Medicine. Senate urged that the proposed *Academic Planning Committee* for the School be formally located under the authority and oversight of Senate consistent with the powers specifically given to Senate over academic policy.

In response to a request from Senators, a discussion was held on the impact of police presence on campus in response to non-violent activity by community members on the University's academic mission, with a focus on any issues of academic policy that need further action through Senate Executive. The dialogue expressed concerns about the intimidating and unprecedented nature of the police presence, particularly its negative impact on academic integrity and the safety of visible minorities; students feeling unsafe with the militarized police presence; the suppression of self-expression and the very quick turn to use the City police. Calls were made for a comprehensive review of the decision-making process behind inviting the police on campus and for the University to rely on security staff with EDI training for managing future campus events.

## Committee Information Items

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

ASCP reported on:

- progress on its 2023-2024 priorities.
- implementation of a requirement of a York University photo identification or government issued passport for entrance to write an S1 term examination.
- expression of thanks to colleagues ending terms on the Committee: Kim Michasiw (Chair), Hannah Wong, Pam Millette, Michael Ben, and Abhi Pathak.
- Minor modifications to degree requirements in LA&PS and Schulich, effective FW 2024, and conversion of admission grade requirements by Lassonde and LA&PS to align with the pending new University grading scheme.

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## Executive Committee

Senate Executive reported on:

- results of the May 2024 elections to Senate committees.
- status of its consideration of a motion submitted by Senators to establish a Senate Finance and Budget Advisory Committee.
- approval of revisions to the Rules and Procedures for the Faculty Councils of Environmental and Urban Change and the Faculty of Education.
- addition of candidates to the pool of prospective Honorary Degree recipients.
- approval of individuals nominated by Faculty Councils and other bodies for membership on Senate committees.
- the 2023-24 Senator and Senate Committee Surveys currently being conducted.
- plans for the delivery of Senate meetings for the 2024-25.
- Senate attendance for the 2023-24.
- Senate committees' progress reports on 2023-2024 committee priorities.
- delegation of Senate Authority during the summer in accordance with Senate Rules.
- appreciation to members of Senate Executive whose terms are concluding: Marie-Hélène Budworth (Senator on the Board of Governors), Alison Macpherson (Health), Angela Norwood (AMPD) and Rose Wang (student).

## Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)

APPRC's information items included the following:

- an update on the impact of the Summer and Fall 2024 enrolment and tuition revenue on the 2024-2027 University budget.
- a 2023-2024 UAP progress report.
- the report of its Sub-committee on Organized Research Units.
- planning for the Markham Campus, including 2024-2025 admissions data for undergraduate and graduate students.
- Receipt of the 2022-2023 annual reports of three sub-committees supported by the Office of the Vice-President Research and Innovation: Human Participants Review Committee (HPRC), the Animal Care Committee, and the York University BioSafety Committee.

Thanks to its members whose terms are concluding: Burkard Eberlein, Gabriel Levine, Phillip Lynch, Hale Mahon, Michael Moir, Poonam Puri, William van Wijngaarden and Andrea Davis.

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## **Awards**

Senators joined the Committee in congratulating the recipients of the 2024 *President's University-Wide Teaching Awards*, the 2024 *Honorific Professorship*, and the prestigious awards for graduating students.

## **Academic Policy, Planning & Research (APPRC) and Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy (ASCP)**

APPRC and ASCP conveyed a joint report in which the March and May 2024 reports from the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance were transmitted to Senate.

## **Additional Information about this Meeting**

Please refer to the full Senate [agenda](#) of **27 June 2024** for details about the items reported.

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 26 September 2024**.