YORK U

NEWSLETTER
Vice-Provost Faculty Office

Formally Faculty Affairs newsletter

June 2026 Edition

New: Vice-Provost Faculty

What we do and who we are

On May 1st, Audrey Pyée started a new mandate as Vice-Provost Faculty. Professor Pyée is a Glendon historian who held various leadership positions from department chair and international mobility coordinator to Vice-Principal Academics and worked extensively with many units across the university.

During this period of change, the Vice-Provost Faculty Office remains committed to enriching York's intellectual community by **bringing new people and ideas** to York and **helping them thrive** once here.

We assist Faculties and faculty members from hiring to retirement, support career development and professional growth at every stage, help strengthen academic leadership and foster a collaborative and inclusive community where we feel valued and connected.

We are looking forward to continue **working with and for all of you**.

Our office encompasses the former Faculty Affairs unit, Immigration and Relocation and, as of July 1st, the Teaching Commons.

THE TEAM is now under the Provost and Vice-President Academic and is composed of:

Audrey Pyée, Vice-Provost Faculty, vpf@yorku.ca

Ameera Ali, Teaching Development Associate (on leave)

Madeleine Maleki, Academic Resources Coordinator

Mandy Frake, Director, Teaching Development

Natasha May, Teaching Development Associate

Robin Harris-Sutherland, Teaching Development Associate

Sayilaja Kalaimohan, Faculty Development Lead

Vicki Yang, Immigration and Relocation Officer

Contact us at facaffairs@yorku.ca if you have any questions, suggestions, want to share ideas for workshops or community building meet-ups.

We are currently working on our new Vice-Provost Faculty website. Stay tuned for updates.

Check out the full announcement about the New vice-provost appointments and faculty support changes HERE.

Teaching

Course Design Intensive

August 11-13 – In-person | 9.30am-3.30pm | RSVP

This is a three-day intensive and interactive workshop for course directors who would like to enhance an existing course or create a new course design.
The first two days are in-person for community building through face-to-face collegial interactions and hands-on activities that are creative and practical to assist you with inclusive course design and developing skills (e.g., planning your course, identify and explore a [new] approach to teaching, complete your course outline, design an assessment, lesson plan, or activity).
The third day will be fully online with synchronous and asynchronous activities, where you will select the specific resources and modules that will help you to complete your goal(s) for the workshop. Throughout the workshop, there will be moments of reflection and opportunities for support from peers and facilitators, as well as resources to apply what you gain from the workshop into your future course design.

Our Communities of Practice

Navigate the challenges of university teaching by joining a community of practice to discuss issues, share tips and engage with colleagues from across the university. Click here to learn more about our **DEDI in Teaching and Learning** and **Generative AI pedagogies** communities.

Research

Discover York Academics Online Sessions

Weekly sessions on Thursdays May 14-August 27 | 12:00 pm | Zoom | RSVP

Research Commons and the Discover York Academics (DYA) team offer weekly online sessions this summer to assist faculty members in creating their DYA profiles.

Discover York Academics is a dynamic eCV platform that enables faculty to showcase their work, connect with peers, indicate availability for graduate supervision, and enhance visibility to industry and community partners. With automatic updates and data aggregation from public sites, your DYA profile will continuously reflect your latest research, publications, awards, and professional activities.
Learn more about DYA.

Graduate Studies

Two Graduate Teaching Awards Highlight York Professor's Mary Goitom impact

For Professor Mary Goitom, graduate-level teaching is grounded in dialogue, reflection and student voice – a practise recognized with two teaching awards for her impact on graduate education at York University and beyond. In recognition of excellence in teaching and supervision, as well as leadership in program and curriculum development, Goitom has earned the 2025-26 Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) Faculty Teaching Award at York University. Learn more.

Graduate Supervision Toolkit

Don't forget to consult the toolkit where you can explore comprehensive resources to enhance supervisory pedagogy and guidance through best practice. Learn more.

External Resources and Workshops

Indigenous Land-Based Pedagogies: A Decolonizing Education Summit

August 17-20, 2026 | 12:00 pm | Oneida Nation, Southwold, ON | Register

This pedagogy is especially relevant to move beyond symbolic land acknowledgements toward meaningful integration of Indigenous perspectives.

13 Moons Land Based Learning recognizes that acknowledging the land is only a starting point. To truly honour it, we must also engage with the teachings that have cared for it for generations. Land-based knowledge is rooted in relationship, responsibility, and reciprocity. These are principles that extend beyond words into practice.

At 13 Moons, they are committed to supporting educators and institutions in moving from acknowledgment to meaningful action. Through land-based pedagogy, 13 Moons aims to guide educators and faculty in the right direction: the Indigenous direction.

Participants will engage in:

- Land-based teachings and cultural knowledge sharing
- Applied, hands-on learning grounded in Indigenous pedagogies
- Conversations around decolonizing education and food sovereignty
- Community-based approaches to teaching and curriculum development

This summit is designed for:

- Educators and instructors interested in land-based and decolonizing approaches
- Academic staff and administrators involved in curriculum development
- Researchers and policy makers working in education or Indigenous studies
- Anyone committed to integrating Indigenous land-based learning into their practice

This experience offers valuable professional development and an opportunity to deepen institutional commitments to reconciliation and Indigenous education.

Learn more HERE and email: info@13moons.ca

Faculty and Staff Resources

Tech Innovators Summer Camp: Exploring the Future

August 10-14 | Keele campus | Register

Led by the United Nations-affiliated training centre CIFAL York, this five-day program introduces students to the cutting-edge technologies shaping our world. Through expert-led sessions by York University professors, interactive workshops and practical projects, participants gain foundational knowledge, develop critical thinking skills and explore potential career paths in the fields of artificial intelligence, virtual reality, drone technology, geographical information systems and programming. York U. Faculty members can benefit from a *25% discount*.

Learn more.

Care, Conflict and (In)Civility in Academic Life - Video Recording Available!

In a time of polarization and social fragmentation, Professor MacLachlan's work explores how trust can be rebuilt through forgiveness, public apology, and the emotional dynamics of reconciliation. Drawing on political philosophy and feminist ethics, her research examines what it takes to repair relationships in the wake of wrongdoing and democratic strain. Her current work on the ethics and politics of (in)civility is especially timely for academic communities. Click here for session materials.