Senate and Senate Committees
Year End Review 2015-2016

From September 2015 to June 2016 the Senate of York University was presided over by its 42nd Chair, Professor George Comninel of the Department of Political Science, Liberal Arts and Professional Studies. Professor Lesley Beagrie of the School of Nursing in the Faculty of Health was elected as Vice-Chair and began her term in September 2015. Maureen Armstrong continued to serve as Secretary of Senate. Senate met on ten occasions during the year.

Senate committees identify priorities for the year in the autumn and provide progress and year-end reports on progress. They also undertake activities that may not be fully reflected in this summary, such as leading or participating in consultations, providing advice or interpretations, and facilitating reporting by others.

Information about items referenced in this report can be accessed from the online meeting synopses and minutes of Senate meetings or obtained by contacting the University Secretariat.

Committees and Acronyms

Executive (Executive)
Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)
Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP)
Appeals (SAC)
Awards (Awards)
Tenure and Promotions (T&P)
Tenure and Promotions Appeals (T&P Appeals)

Major Academic Planning Initiatives

In February Senate approved the University Academic Plan 2015-2020 following extensive consultations led by APPRC. In September Senate endorsed the Institution Integrated Resource Plan (on a recommendation of APPRC) that grew out of an intensive, lengthy planning exercise. APPRC sponsored forums devoted to the development of both documents during the course of the year.

Markham Centre Campus Planning

In May 2015 the Government of Ontario announced that York was successful in its bid for a new campus in York Region to be located at a Markham Centre site. Provost Rhonda Lenton and Vice-President Finance and Administration Gary Brewer reported to Senate on academic planning for the new campus under the auspices of APPRC.

Presidential Search

In September, Senate approved an Executive Committee recommendation on the means by which to group Faculties for the purpose of nominating faculty members to the Presidential Search Committee. In October and November Senate's nominees to the Search Committee were determined in a process, administered by the Executive Committee, that resulted in the nomination of five faculty members and two students. All were named to the Search Committee. Following consultations involving Senate committees and Faculty Councils, Senate amended and approved an advisory statement to the Search Committee prior to the finalization of a position profile (April).

Establishment of New Academic Units

Department of Computational Arts in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design (APPRC, March; approved by the Board of Governors in May)

Regular Reports

President Mamdouh Shoukri (Monthly)
Provost Rhonda Lenton (Enrolments, applications, academic planning; various months)
Vice-President Finance and Administration Gary Brewer (November, June)
Vice-President Research and Innovation Robert Haché (December)
Senate Members on the Board of Governors on meetings of the Board
Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities on COU Issues Updates

Major Planning Reports

Faculty and University Library Planning (APPRC, June)
Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance of APPRC and ASCP (January, May)

Annual Reports from Senate Committees

Allocations of Scholarship and Bursaries (Awards, April)
Animal Care, Biological Safety, Human Participants Review Committee (APPRC, June)
Appeals and Petitions, University and Faculty (Appeals, January)
Distinguished Research Professor (Awards, May)
New Scholarships and Bursaries (Awards, April)
Non-Degree Studies (APPRC and ASCP, February)
President's University-Wide Teaching Awards Recipients (Awards, March)
Prestigious Awards for Graduating Students (Awards, June pending)
Senate Attendance (Executive, June, pending)
Senate Year in Review (Executive, June, pending)
Tenure and Promotions (Tenure and Promotions, October)
University Professors (Awards, May)

Discussions

In April, Senators shared their perspective on enduring and emerging issues associated with the core values of academic freedom and freedom of expression.

Senate Policies, Rules and Procedures

Senate Rules and Procedures (amendments, Executive, February)
Senate Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course Option (new, ASCP, February)
Senate Policy on Course Relief (new, ASCP, February)
Senate Policy on Repeating Passed or Failed Courses for Academic Credit (amendments, ASCP, February)
Senate Appeals Committee Membership (Executive, June, Pending)

Faculty Policies and Regulations – New and Amended

Education: Academic Penalty Legislation, BA Degrees (ASCP, April)
Graduate Studies: Thesis and Dissertation Supervisory Committee Guidelines (ASCP, October)
Lassonde: Engineering BA Programs, General Education Requirements (ASCP, January)

Name Changes

Administrative Studies Degree Program to the Bachelor of Commerce Program (ASCP, May)
Community Arts Practice Certificate to Cultural and Artistic Practices (CAP) for Environmental and Social Justice (ASCP, February)
Computer Science and Engineering Graduate Program to the Graduate Program in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (APPRC, May)
Software Engineering BEng Program, Lassonde (nomenclature changes) (ASCP, May)
Translation Program, Glendon (Renamed Streams in the Specialized Honours BA and iBA (ASCP)

New Degree Types

Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) (ASCP with the concurrence of APPRC, May)
Master of Management (ASCP with the concurrence of APPRC, March)
Master of Real Estate and Infrastructure (ASCP with the concurrence of APPRC, December)

Academic Programs (New)

Communications, Bilingual Honours BA, Glendon (ASCP with APPRC concurrence, May)
Human Resource Management, Minor Degree Option (ASCP, March)
International Studies iBA – EM Lyon Dual Credential, Glendon (ASCP with APPRC concurrence, May)
Master of Management (ASCP with APPRC concurrence, March)
Master of Real Estate (ASCP with APPRC concurrence, December)
Master of Real Estate and Infrastructure (ASCP with the concurrence of APPRC, December)
Masters of Leadership and Community Engagement (ASCP, September)
Nursing, PhD (ASCP with APPRC concurrence, November)
Public and International Affairs Masters / Maîtrise en Affaires publiques, Laval (ASCP, March)

Academic Programs - New Streams, Options, Fields and Specializations

Digital Media, 90-Credit Degree Option within the BA Program, School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design / Lassonde School of Engineering (ASCP, March)
Game Arts Stream within the BA Program in Digital Media, School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design / Lassonde School of Engineering (ASCP, March)
Global Health, New Degree Options for BA and BSc Programs, Faculty of Health (ASCP, February)
International Business Administration BA Program Delayed-Entry Option, Schulich (ASCP, November)

Undergraduate Certificates (New)

Aging Cross-Disciplinary Certificate in (ASCP with the concurrence of APPRC, October)

Program, Diploma and Certificate Discontinuation

Athletic Therapy Certificate, Consecutive Option, Kinesiology & Health Science (ASCP, January)
Italian Culture, BA Programs, Languages, Literatures & Linguistics, LA&PS (ASCP, February)
York–Ryerson Co-Registration Option (Discontinuation) (ASCP, May)

New Rubrics Approved by Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy

Classical Studies "CLST" (ASCP, February)
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Graduate Program "EECS" (ASCP, March)
Integrated First-Year Science Program "ISCI" (ASCP, May)
Management Masters Program "MSTM" (ASCP, April)

Changes in Admissions Requirements

International Business Law Specialization, Professional LLM, Osgoode Hall Law School / Faculty of Graduate Studies (ASCP, April)
Nursing, Second-Degree Entry BScN and Internationally Educated Nurses BScN Programs, Health (ASCP, October)
Physics & Astronomy PhD Program (ASCP, February)
Science Honours BSc Programs (ASCP, October)
Translation, Specialized Honours BA and iBA Programs, Glendon (ASCP, February)

Changes in Degree Requirements (Programs)

During the year the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee sought Senate approval or reported its own approval of amendments to the requirements for the following:

BEng Programs (requirements for all programs) (ASCP, April)
BFA Honours Joint Diploma-Degree Program with Canada's National Ballet School (Option A and Option B) (ASCP, February)
BFA Program in Dance, Department of Dance, School of the Arts, Music, Performance & Design (ASCP, January)
Biology, MSc and PhD Programs (ASCP, April)
Biophysics, Specialized Honours BSc Program (ASCP, February)
Cinema and Media Studies MA Program, Graduate Studies (ASCP, November)
Civil Engineering, BEng Program (ASCP, April)
Computer Engineering, BEng Program (ASCP, January)
Computer Engineering in Electrical Engineering and Software Engineering, BEng Programs (ASCP, January)
Dance Minor Degree BFA Option (ASCP, February)
Dance, Choreograph/Performance Stream Specialized Honours BFA Program (ASCP, February)
Design Masters Program (ASCP, February)
Design, Specialized Honours BA Program (ASCP, January)
Digital Media, 90-Credit Degree Option within the BA Program, School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design / Lassonde School of Engineering (ASCP, March)
Digital Media, A Game Arts Stream within the BA Program, School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design / Lassonde School of Engineering (ASCP, March)
Earth and Atmospheric Science, BSc programs (ASCP, January)

Ecosystem Management Technology, York University – Fleming College Dual Credential Program in Environmental Studies (ASCP, June, Pending)
Electrical Engineering, BEng degree Program (ASCP, January)
Environmental Biology, BSc Program (ASCP, February)
Environmental Studies BES Program, Environmental Studies (June, Pending)
Francophone Studies Graduate Program (May)
Gender & Women's Studies BA Programs (ASCP, October)
Geomatics Engineering, BEng Program (ASCP, January)
Global Health, Specialized Honours BA and BSc Programs (ASCP, February)
Health & Society, BA Program (ASCP, January)
Human Rights and Equity Studies, BA programs (ASCP, March)
International Business Law Specialization, Professional LLM, Osgoode Hall Law School / Faculty of Graduate Studies (ASCP, April)
International Education Specialization within the BEd degree program (ASCP, May)
International Project Management Joint Program, York University – Humber College Environmental Studies (ASCP, June, pending)
Mathematics and Statistics MA Program (ASCP, October)
Mechanical Engineering, Specific requirements for the BEng program (ASCP, April)
Philosophy, Graduate Program
Physics & Astronomy, Space Sciences Stream Specialized Honours BSc Program (ASCP, February)
Psychology, Bachelor of Arts Programs, Glendon (ASCP, May)
Sexuality Studies BA Programs (ASCP, October)
Social and Political Thought Graduate Program (May)
Social Anthropology, Graduate Program (ASCP, May)
Social Work, PhD Program (ASCP, January)
Translation, Accelerated BA program, GL (ASCP, February)
Translation, Specialized Honours and iBA Programs, Glendon (ASCP, February)
Urban Sustainability, Dual Credential Program, York University – Seneca College Faculty of Environmental Studies (ASCP, June, Pending)

Program Restructuring

Community Arts Practice Certificate, De-Linking from the School of the Arts Media Performance and Design (ASCP, February)
Science, Honours BSc Programs (Direct entry from delayed entry) (ASCP, October)
Translation, Specialized Honours BA and iBA programs, housed in the School of Translation, Glendon: (direct entry from delayed entry – ASCP, February)

Changes in Requirements (Certificates and Diplomas)

Accounting Stream, Specialized Honours BAS Program, (ASCP, April)
Amend requirements for a series of graduate diplomas in the field of Education (Early Childhood Education; Language & Literacy; Post-Secondary Education: Community, Culture & Policy; and Education in Urban Environments) (ASCP, May)
Certificate in Urban Ecologies, Change program and Admission requirements for the Certificate in Urban Ecologies, Faculty of Environmental Studies (ASCP, April)
Cultural and Artistic Practices (CAP) for Environmental and Social Justice (ASCP, February)
Professional Accounting, Graduate Diploma (ASCP, February)
Professional Certificate in Accounting (SAS) (ASCP, April)
Sessional Dates Reports
Sexuality Studies Certificate (ASCP, April)

Recipients of the President's University-Wide Teaching Awards (Awards, April)

Senior Full-Time Faculty Member: R. Darren Gobert, English
Full-Time Faculty Member: Kabita Chakraborty, Humanities shared with María L. Figueredo, Languages, Literatures and Linguistics
Contract / Adjunct Faculty Member: Krista Hunt, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
Teaching Assistant: Matthew J.P. Strang, Sociology

New University Professors (Awards, May)

Paul Delaney, Science
Eileen Fischer, Schulich

Distinguished Research Professor (Awards, May)

Laurence Packer, Faculty of Science

Amendments to Faculty Council Rules and Procedures

Rules and Procedures of the Faculty of Education Council (Executive, June, Pending)
Rules and Procedures of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council (Executive, October)

Additions to the Pool of Prospective Honorary Degree Recipients

During the year the Executive Committee approved the addition of 18 individuals to the pool of prospective honorary degree recipients and the extension of 5 previously approved individuals for a further five year term. The Committee's decisions were based on recommendations made by its Sub-Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonials.

Organized Research Unit Charters

Centre for Automotive Research (APPRC, June, Pending)
Global Health Research Institute (APPRC, November)

Senate Officers and Committee Chairs

George Comninel, Chair of Senate
Leslie Beagrie, Vice-Chair of Senate
Maureen Armstrong, Secretary of Senate
Rebecca Pillai Riddell, Chair of Academic Policy, Planning and Research
Franck van Breugel, Chair of Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy
Vivian Saridakis, Chair of Appeals
Robert Kenedy, Chair of Awards
George Comninel, Chair of Executive
Co-Chair of Tenure and Promotions
Co-Chair of Tenure and Promotions
Stanley Tweyman, Chair of the Sub-Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonials

University Secretariat

Maureen Armstrong, University Secretary and General Counsel
Robert Everett, Senior Assistant Secretary of the University
Terry Carter, Assistant Secretary of the University
Cheryl Underhill, Assistant Secretary of the University
Elaine MacRae, Coordinator, Board and Senate Support
Michelle Roseman, Administrative Assistant