

SENATE OF YORK UNIVERSITY

**SYNOPSIS OF THE 580TH MEETING OF SENATE
HELD ON JANUARY 26, 2012**

At its meeting of January 26, 2012 the Senate of York University

Heard remarks from the new Chair of Senate, Professor William van Wijngaarden, on

- his pride in the University and his sense of privilege in serving Senate at a time of exciting opportunities
- the distinctive character and special mission of York, and his faith in the University's academic plans and leadership at a time of challenges
- the confirmed date of Senate's meeting in February

Heard remarks from President Shoukri on

- recent accomplishments of members of the University community, and highlights of calendar year 2011
- the context for postsecondary education policy in Ontario, and key issues facing the provincial government, Council of Ontario Universities, and York University
- efforts to maximize resources available for academic activities, including the PRASE initiative and the a new budget committee
- with additional data and comments from Provost Monahan, preliminary application data issued by the Ontario University Application Centre, and plans to convert applications to enrolments in the short term while addressing longer-term challenges

Approved in principle, as recommended by the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee

- the establishment of a Faculty of Engineering to be called the Lassonde School of Engineering

Received information from the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee advising that the Registrar has announced a change in sessional dates such that

- the Winter Term 2013 for most Faculties will commence on Monday, January 7, 2013

Received a report from the COU Colleague, Senator Sanders on major issues under discussion at the Council of Ontario Universities

Received a report from Senators on the Board of Governors on the December meeting of the Board

Approved, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee, the election of:

- Joe Baker, Kinesiology and Health Science, to the Tenure and Promotions Committee

Received an information report from the Senate Executive Committee on

- the approval of students nominated for membership on Senate committees
- the addition and renewal for a further five-year term of prospective candidates for honorary degrees
- vacancies on Senate committees
- the work of the Equity sub-committee
- consultations on a draft Policy on the Awarding of Degrees, Certificates and Diplomas in Extraordinary Circumstances

- the completion of its review of Faculty Council membership lists for 2011-2012

Approved, as recommended by the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee

- the transfer of Modes of Reasoning from the Department of Humanities to the Department of Philosophy
- a change in the name of the School of Women's Studies in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies and Glendon to the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

Approved, as recommended by the Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy

- a change in the name of the program in Women's Studies to the program in Gender and Women's Studies
- a change in requirements for the MA program in Sociology
- a change in the requirements for the PhD in Philosophy

Received an information report from the Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy on its approval of the following minor changes

- changes in requirements for Kinesiology & Health Science and Psychology (both in the Faculty of Health) arising from the establishment of a pan-University BSc degree structure
- changes in requirements for Philosophy (Glendon), Dance (90-credit BA), Film, Music and Theatre (all Faculty of Fine Arts) arising from the establishment of a pan-University BA degree structure
- minor changes to the degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BA program in Cognitive Science, primarily to add a much-needed introductory course to the program.
- updates to the degree requirements for Honours Double Major Interdisciplinary (Linked) and Honours Minor BA programs in Latin American and Caribbean Studies to expand the list of course options
- minor change to the degree requirements for the BFA program in Visual Arts which changed a required three-credit course to an optional course. No changes to the overall number of required credits resulted
- *establishment of FSL* as a new rubric for French as a Second Language courses for non-majors housed in the new Glendon Centre for Studies in French, which will distinguish such courses from FRLS courses offered by the Department of French Studies for majors in French Studies
- minor change to the Specialized Honours BA program in Psychology such that applicants to the program will be required to have completed their general education courses within their first 54 credits to be eligible for admission to the Specialized Honours program

Received an information report from the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee on:

- new members joining the Committee
- the format and focus of upcoming meetings at which the Dean, Principal and University Librarian will discuss University Academic Plan goals and their priorities
- implementation of the Glendon Language Training Centre for Studies in French / Centre de formation linguistique de Glendon pour les Études en français
- consultations on amendments to the Senate Policy on the Chartering and Renewal of Research Centres and Institutes
- the online posting of a revised Travel Grants Application Form

**Senate's 581st meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2012
in the Senate Chamber, N940 Ross Bldg.**

*Minutes of Senate meetings, when approved, are posted on the University Secretariat Web site.
For further information on any of these items please contact the University Secretariat.*