

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

of the 596th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, September 26, 2013

The business meeting was preceded by an orientation for new and continuing Senators facilitated by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of Senate.

In her first meeting as Chair of Senate, Professor Roxanne Mykitiuk

- welcomed new and continuing Senators, and recognized the Chairs of Senate committees
- urged Senators to play an active role in collegial governance
- reminded Senators of the dates of Autumn Convocation ceremonies and in doing so encouraged them to join in the celebration of graduates
- expressed concern about the fate of Professor John Greyson of the Faculty of Fine Arts, held without charges in Cairo
- conveyed news of the passing of Professor Jack McConnell, a member of the Tenure and Promotions Committee, and the partner of Professor Paul Wilkinson, who was until June one of Senate's nominees on the Board of Governors

President Mamdouh Shoukri lauded recent accomplishments and ranking successes, profiled recipients of major research grants, and commented on the following matters:

- his October 2 Town Hall on the topic of "York's Role in Transforming Post-Secondary Education"
- brand awareness campaign update
- the detention of Professor Greyson and the grave concern shared by the University community
- a recent article in *Toronto Life* and the University's response
- summer roundtables sponsored by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and efforts to ensure that the University is rightly understood as research intensive
- the need for the community to be involved in Academic and Administrative Prioritization
- plans for maximizing student participation in the upcoming NSSE Survey
- honorary degree recipients at the Autumn Convocation ceremonies

At the request of the President, Vice-Provost Students Janet Morrison reported on the innovative approach taken to this year's orientation for new students.

Approvals

Senate acclaimed nominees recommend by the Executive Committee for membership on Senate Committees and approved the granting of degrees, certificates and diplomas (Fall 2013 to Spring 2014) as recommended by the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee

Major Reports

In a presentation under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Vice-President Academic and Provost Rhonda Lenton described the genesis, context, nature and timelines of the Academic and Administrative Prioritization exercise.

Committee Information Items

Senate Executive confirmed that it was not required to act under summer authority since the June meeting of Senate and reported on

- the process for establishing a committee to search for the next Chancellor
- the results of a survey of Senators conducted in June and July
- its approval of Faculty Council nominees for membership on Senate committees
- the result of an election to fill a vacancy on the Awards Committee

Academic Policy, Planning and Research's report identified members of its sub-committees and forecast priorities for 2013-2014.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy advised that it had not been necessary for its Coordinating and Planning Sub-Committee to act under summer authority, and relayed the status of programs approved to commence by the Quality Council.

For information on these items please refer to the full Senate agenda posted online.

University Secretariat extension 55310.

Senate's 597th meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2013.