The Senate of York University

Synopsis

of the 600th Meeting of Senate held on
Thursday, January 23, 2014

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Mykitiuk, greeted Senators on the occasion of the 600th meeting of Senate, congratulated President Shoukri on his being named to the Order of Canada, expressed condolences on the passing of Professor Richard Jarrell and, commenting on the religious accommodation issue that has been on the minds of members of the community, urged thoughtful reflection on a complex and sensitive matter.

In his remarks, Dr Shoukri profiled the new Dean of Science, Professor Ray Jayawardhana, and thanked Dean Donald Hastie for providing outstanding leadership to the Faculty. The President updated Senate on provincial postsecondary initiatives, including development of a Strategic Mandate Agreement, credit transfer, the online institute, and the University’s position on the question of applying for funding for a satellite campus. The President also spoke about religious accommodation in the context of a secular institution that promotes equity, social justice and respect.

Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Provost Lenton reported on the Academic and Administrative Program Review initiative and the Strategic Mandate Agreement process. Senate will have opportunities for consultation on both of these matters.

Notice of Motion to Establish a New Degree Type

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy gave notice of its intent to present a statutory motion recommending the establishment of a Master of Business Analytics Degree.

Approvals

Senate elected Professor Gareth Morgan to the Tenure and Promotions Committee and approved the following recommendations made by the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee:

- establishment of a Graduate Diploma in Comparative Literature, Graduate Program in Humanities, Graduate Studies
- establishment of a Type 2 Graduate Diploma in World Literature, Graduate Program English, Graduate Studies
- establishment of an Honours Minor BA Option in Computational Arts & Technology, Digital Media Program, Fine Arts
- closure of the Graduate Diploma in Health Services & Policy Research, York Institute for Health / Graduate Studies
- closure of the Graduate Diploma in Teaching of Acting, Graduate Program in Theatre, Graduate Studies
- closure of the Graduate Diploma in Teaching of Movement for Theatre, Graduate Program in Theatre, Graduate Studies
- closure of the Undergraduate Certificate in Biblical Studies, Humanities, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
- Policy on the Length of Completion of York-Seneca-Georgian BScN Program, Nursing, Health
- addition of streams / changes to degree requirements for the Specialized Honours BA Program in Digital Media, Digital Media Program, Fine Arts / Lassonde
- changes to requirements / admission standards for MA Program in Critical Disability Studies, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Committee Information Items

The Executive Committee advised Senate of its approval of Faculty Council nominees to serve on Senate Executive and Academic Policy, Planning and Research, reported on the status of motion, later withdrawn, on aspects of the Academic and Administrative Program Review initiative, relayed its view that religious accommodation should be taken up in an informed, collegial way, and confirmed that Senators who had been absent for three consecutive meetings had been contacted.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy reported its approval of the following minor changes in curriculum, nomenclature and degree requirements

a) Faculty of Fine Arts
   BFA program in Film (Screenwriting)

b) Faculty of Graduate Studies
   Kinesiology and Health Sciences graduate program
   Graduate Diploma in Post-Secondary Education: Community, Culture and Policy

c) Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies:
   Business and Society
   Certificate in Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing
   Children’s Studies
   Classical Studies
   Classics
   English
   Geography and Urban Studies
   German Studies
   History
   Humanities
   Religious Studies
   South Asian Studies

d) Faculty of Science
   Biology (Biomedical Stream)
   Environmental Biology
   Environmental Science
   BA in Mathematics & Statistics; BSc in Applied Mathematics
   Geography
   General Science
   Physics & Astronomy (Astronomy Stream)
   Mathematics for Commerce (Operations Research Stream)

Academic Policy, Planning and Research reported on its input to the University’s SMA submission, described its involvement in recent AAPR developments, and provided details on its upcoming round of meetings with the Deans, Principal and University Librarian.

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

University Secretariat extension -55310.

Senate’s 601st meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 27, 2014.