



# The Senate of York University

## Synopsis

The 618<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, September 24, 2015

### Remarks

On the occasion of his first meeting as Chair of Senate, Professor George Comninel welcomed new and continuing Senators, thanked committee chairs and others elected by Senate to external positions, and described his deep attachment to collegial governance. A member of Senate Executive, Professor Ian Roberge, served as the Acting Vice-Chair for the initial phase of meeting.

The President, Dr Mamdouh Shoukri, saluted Senators at the outset of the Fall term and highlighted these initiatives:

- the postsecondary funding formula review, and his advocacy on behalf of York and the university system
- planning for the Markham campus
- the ringing success of Pan-Am and Parapan-Am games competitions at two Keele campus venues, and the importance to the community of the legacy Lions' Stadium
- the engagement of York researchers in developing advice to municipal governments and provincial bodies on Greater Toronto Area transit needs, including those of students

The President's monthly "Kudos Report" can be accessed from the agenda package.

### Reports

Professor George Turlakis, Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, described his role at COU on behalf of Senate and previewed the topics to be discussed – experiential education and online instruction – when colleagues and executive heads gather in October.

### Approvals

On a recommendation of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research, Senate endorsed the Institutional Integrated Resource Plan. A presentation made by Provost Lenton during debate has been posted online with the agenda for the meeting.

Senate approved an Executive Committee recommendation to group Faculties for the purpose of nominating faculty members to the Presidential Search Committee as follows:

- Group 1: Liberal Arts and Professional Studies / Glendon (2 nominees)
- Group 2: Science / Health (1 nominee)
- Group 3: Osgoode / Schulich / Lassonde 1 nominee)

# **The Senate of York University**

## **Synopsis**

Group 4: Education / Environmental Studies / Arts, Media, Performance and Design / Librarians (1 nominee)

Senate approved recommendations made by the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee to establish a Masters of Leadership and Community Engagement degree type and an MLCE program to be offered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies (Faculty of Education) effective 2016-2017 subject to approval by the Quality Council and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

On a recommendation from ASCP, Senate approved the granting of degrees, diplomas and certificates at the Fall, February (In Absentia) and Spring Convocations.

### **Nominations and Elections**

Senate acclaimed Lesley Beagrie (Nursing, Health) as the Vice-Chair of Senate. Professor Beagrie, who will succeed the Chair in January 2017, is the first-ever Chair of Senate from the Faculty of Health. Senate also acclaimed members to ASCP (full-time and contract faculty member positions) and the Tenure and Promotions Appeals Committee.

### **Other Substantive Motions**

A motion on academic accommodations for students on October 19, the final day to cast votes in the federal election, was defeated. All of those who spoke to the motion urged students and other members of the University community to exercise their franchise and to take advantage of the many alternative means of casting ballots if they are unable to vote on October 19.

### **Committee Information Reports**

Senate Executive informed Senators of the following:

- timelines for the Presidential Search
- its approval of Senate committee members nominated by Faculty Councils
- the appointment of Professor Ali Asgary (School of Administrative Studies, LA&PS) as an interim member of the Senate Appeals Committee – the sole action taken during the summer months
- the results of Senator and Senate Committee member surveys conducted in the summer
- two documents originally transmitted in June: Senate attendance for 2014-2015, and a summary of actions taken during the year
- the addition of two individuals to the pool of prospective honorary degree recipients following concurrence with recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonials,
- a status report on amendments to Senate's rules, procedures and guidelines

Information items reported by Academic Policy, Planning and Research included the following:

# **The Senate of York University**

## **Synopsis**

- a forecast of items that will engage the Committee and Senate in the year ahead provided by Vice-President Research and Innovation Haché Senate of
- timelines for the University Academic Plan renewal process and a summative report on UAP 2010-2015 which will help inform the first stage of consultations (including a facilitated discussion at Senate on October 22)
- sub-committee membership for 2015-2016 along with the member designated to serve on the Equity Sub-Committee of Senate Executive
- additional resources accessible from the Committee's Website including a history of academic planning at York, a guide to the Committee's mandate with illustrations and a consolidated summary of actions taken in 2014-2015

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy advised that the Type 2 Graduate Diploma in Quantitative Methods approved by Senate in November 2014 had been approved to commence by the Quality Council of Ontario.

The Tenure and Promotions Committee filed an annual report for 2014-2015, and its Chair urged Senators to assist in conveying the Committee's request that units either quote directly from applicable tenure and promotions procedures or not append them when submitting unit standards.

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

**University Secretariat: extension 55310**

**Senate's 619th meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m.  
on Thursday, October 22, 2015  
in the Senate Chamber, Ross Building, Keele Campus**