

The Senate of York University

Meeting Synopsis

The 634th Meeting of Senate
held on Thursday, April 27, 2017

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Lesley Beagrie, reminded Senators to participate in the annual surveys of Senate and committee members before they close. Although Senate did not agree to deal with a motion submitted as other business for which due notice had not been given, the Chair explained the process by which the matter addressed might be re-considered.

In the absence of Dr Mamdouh Shoukri, who conveyed regrets, Provost Rhonda Lenton shared the names of individuals who will receive honorary degrees at Spring 2017 Convocation ceremonies. Responses to questions about a recent incident at a York Lanes store involving a University student, and more generally security on the campuses, will be provided in May.

Inquiries and Communications

The Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, Professor David Leyton-Brown, commented on recent meetings of COU. A particular focus for recent discussions has been the Indigenization of Ontario universities. A joint statement from the York Federation of Students and the York University Graduate Student Association on the York Lanes incident was received.

Senate Membership for 2017-2018 to 2018-2019

At the final stage of a statutory motion, Senate approved an Executive Committee recommendation setting the membership of Senate from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019.

Other Approvals

Senate approved recommendations of its Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee to

- establish a *Senate Policy on Postdoctoral Researchers at York University*
- a change of name of the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies to the Department of Politics

As recommended by the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved the granting of a maximum of 54 block transfer credits to eligible graduates of the Sampradaya Dance Academy Professional Training Program towards the Honours BFA or BA Programs in Dance within the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design.

Strategic Mandate Agreement 2: Discussion of Draft Submission

Following a presentation by the Chair of APPRC, Professor Les Jacobs, Senators commented on a draft submission prepared for the second round of Strategic Mandate Agreements. Senators and members of the community were invited to forward further

The Senate of York University

Meeting Synopsis

comments and suggestions to the Office of the Provost. APPRC will review the next draft prior to the submission's finalization.

Facilitated Discussion: University Academic Plan Priority Area 1

In the fourth of a series of "spotlight" discussions of priority areas in the University Academic Plan sponsored by APPRC, Vice-Provost Academic Alice Pitt shared her perspective on priority area 1: Innovative, Quality Programs for Academic Excellence.

Committee Information Items

Senate Executive

The Executive Committee informed Senate that it had concurred with recommendations of the Sub-Committee on Honorary Degrees and Ceremonials, and, as a result, five new candidates have been added to the pool of prospective honorary degree recipients. The Committee encouraged Senators to provide input during consultations on draft amendments to the *Senate Policy on Accommodations for Students with Disabilities*, and congratulated Professor Lisa Philipps on her appointment as the Interim Vice-President Academic and Provost.

Academic Policy, Planning and Research

In its report, APPRC advised that it had concurred with a recommendation of the Provost to establish the Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in the Arts, shared reflections on the evolution of academic budget planning by former Vice-President Finance and Administration Gary Brewer, and drew attention to recent studies issued by the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy

ASCP reported that it had approved in principle the reintroduction of a Fall Reading Week held over the four days following Thanksgiving in October, and furnished details on the development and implementation of a new curriculum management based on a briefing by the University Registrar, Carol Altilia. All of the modifications approved in March and April by the Committee originated with the Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- minor changes to the degree and admission requirements for Master of Design Program
- minor changes to the degree requirements for the MScN program
- minor change to the degree requirements for the PhD program in Mathematics & Statistics
- a change in the administrative unit housing the International & Security Studies Diploma from the York Centre for International & Security Studies to the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, and updates to requirements for the Diploma

Awards

The Awards Committee conveyed a listing of new awards established in the calendar year 2016 and the disbursement of graduate awards for 2014-2015.

The Senate of York University

Meeting Synopsis

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the April 27, 2017 meeting for details about these items.

<http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/senate/meeting-agendas-and-synopses/>

May Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on **Thursday, May 25, 2017**.