The Senate of York University

Meeting Synopsis

The 637th Meeting of Senate
held on Thursday, September 28, 2017

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Lesley Beagrie of the Faculty of Health, greeted continuing and new Senators and commenced the meeting with the following Indigenous land acknowledgement:

York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Convenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

This acknowledgement was developed and provided by the Aboriginal Education Council and will be read at the outset of future meetings. The Chair also welcomed President Lenton, Interim Provost Lisa Philipps and the new Vice-Provost Students Lucy Fromowitz. Out of a strong commitment to respect, collegiality, equity and diversity, the Chair will endeavor to maximize participation at meetings. It was gratifying that committees have already signaled their interest in pursuing quality objectives as set out in the University Academic Plan 2015-2020.

In her first address as the President of York University, Rhonda Lenton spoke of the great honour of serving and supporting faculty, students, staff and alumni in her new role. Her vision for York and priorities in the years ahead flows out of the University’s Mission Statement, Provostial White Paper of 2010, and UAP. York’s growth to the third largest Canadian university in less than 60 years is without precedent, and has been made possible by an enduring commitment to the public good, accessibility, excellence, impact, connectivity and progressivity. Unmatched opportunities await, and the University can capitalize on them through innovation, strengthened collegial governance, adherence to values, and a focus on planning objectives. It can also leverage the subway opening and transportation hub adjacent to the Keele campus to great advantage, just as new athletic facilities have attracted competitors and spectators from near and far. President Lenton will hold a series of fireside chats in Faculties, and expressed her willingness to meet with Faculty Councils. Strategic Mandate Agreement 2 will be signed off by the provincial government this week, but it is not too soon to begin a sustained collegial dialogue in anticipation of SMA 3, where funding will be tied more closely to system-wide and institutional metrics. Individuals slated to receive honorary degrees at Fall Convocation ceremonies include Vincent Tao, Rudy Bratty and Ron Mock.

The monthly “Kudos” report on the achievements of members of the York community can be accessed with other documentation for the meeting.
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Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities

In his first report of the year, the Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, Professor David Leyton-Brown, described his role on behalf of Senate and the structure, mandates and processes governing COU and its constituent bodies. The Colleague will report frequently to Senate on policy discussions and developments.

Approvals

Senate approved recommendations of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy to

- change the name of the Diploma in Arts and Media Administration to the Diploma in Arts, Media and Entertainment Management, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- change admission and degree requirements for the PhD Program in Business Administration, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- change degree requirements for the Master of Business Analytics Program, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- change the number of required credits for the Diploma in Intermediate Accounting, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- change admission and degree requirements for the Executive MBA Program in India, Schulich School of Business / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- change requirements for the PhD Program in Gender, Feminist & Women’s Studies Program, Liberal Arts & Professional Studies / Glendon / Faculty of Graduate Studies
- authorize the granting of degrees at the University’s Convocations held in Fall 2017, February 2018 (Convocation In Absentia) and Spring 2018 to those students who have fulfilled the degree program requirements for receipt of the degrees; authorize the forwarding of recommendations for certification by the Faculty of Education to the Ontario College of Teachers for those students who have been deemed “recommended for certification” by the Council of the Faculty of Education; authorize the granting of diplomas and certificates at the University's Convocations held in Fall 2017, February 2018 (Convocation In Absentia) and Spring 2018 to those students who have fulfilled requirements for receipt of the diplomas and certificates

Major Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, its Chair, Professor Thomas Loebel, facilitated discussion of an options paper on Models for Collegial Governance Structures for Markham Centre Campus prepared by the
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Provost with contributions from the University Secretariat and others. A summary of the discussion will be provided to the Provost and APPRC. Markham planning remains a standing item on the APPRC agenda and Senate will have timely, meaningful opportunities to participate in discussions during the year ahead.

Committee Information Items

As they presented reports at the inaugural meeting of 2017-2018, the Chairs of Senate committees briefly described their roles on behalf of Senate, how they conduct business and items Senate can expect will come to the floor from them during the year.

Executive (Professor Franck van Breugel, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee’s information items included the following:

- a request that Senate committee chairs of Senate committees take a few moments to describe the role played by their committees on behalf of Senate, how they conduct business, and what major items to expect in the coming year.
- the committee’s comments on the Markham Centre Campus governance paper (see major reports, above)
- approval of Senate committee members nominated by Faculty Councils
- actions taken under summer authority
- the process for nominating members of Senate committee and other positions, and current vacancies
- Senate meeting dates for 2017-2018 with changes approved for December, February and June
- the results of Senator and Senate committee member surveys conducted in April and how they help inform the Executive’s priorities
- a summary of actions taken by Senate in 2016-2017
- communications between Senate and Faculty Councils and requests made of Councils
- University Secretariat initiatives in support of governance

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Thomas Loebel, Chair)

APPRC provided information on these items:

- the Committee’s commitment to fulfilling its mandate on behalf of Senate
- Implementation of the University Academic Plan
- emerging priorities for 2017-2018
- the availability and utility of the Provost’s June 2017 year-end report which highlight Institutional Integrated Resource Plan working group recommendations
- the process for renewing the Strategic Research Plan and engagement with Senate and the collegium
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- expected Markham Centre Campus planning
- members of APPRC sub-committees for 2017-2018

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (Professor Kim Michasiw, Chair)

ASCP shared the July 2017 funding approval decisions report of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) and advised that it had approved changes to program requirements for the following graduate programs:

- PhD in Kinesiology and Health Science
- MA, MSc and PhD in Geography
- PhD in Mechanical Engineering

Appeals (Professor Natalie Coulter, Chair)

In accordance with Senate policy, the Committee reported that it had agreed with a recommendation of the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professionals Studies Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Success to rescind the degree of Bachelor of Arts conferred on a student in 2017 and that the official transcript record the reason for this action.

Awards (Professor Robert Kenedy, Chair)

The Committee reported approval of a change to nominations procedures for Distinguished Research Professorship candidates to allow files to be held over for reconsideration the following year should the nominator wish.

Tenure and Promotions (Professor Simone Bohn and Professor Victor Shea, Co-Chairs)

Professor Shea provided an overview of the Committee’s role and function on behalf of the Committee and Co-Chair.

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the September 28, 2017 meeting for details about these items.

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

September Meeting of Senate

Senate’s next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2017.