Record of Consultation

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Attendees: Linda Peake, Director, The CITY Institute

Sub-Committee Members: Kim Michasiw, Chair of ASCP, Chair
Liette Gilbert, Co-Coordinator (FES)
Philip Kelly, Chair Geography
Alice Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic
Tarmo Remmel, Co-Coordinator (Geography)
Robert Everett, Secretary

Summary

This meeting marked the first formal consultation involving The CITY Institute, but the Director is expecting to explore opportunities with the Dean of FES soon. In particular, the creation of a new Faculty has the potential to enhance urban research at York. In reciprocal fashion, it would also augment CITY’s profile.

All of Toronto’s downtown universities are organizing to capitalize on their urban expertise:

- the University of Toronto has recently established its university-wide School of Cities, and has a Presidential Advisor on Urban Engagement
- Ryerson University has added to its School of Urban and Regional Planning with a number of proliferating research centers: the Centre for Urban Energy, Centre for Urban Research and Land Development, Ryerson City Building Institute, and Ryerson Urban Water
- OCADu has a new focus on the urban in its Environmental Design program.

Yet there remain considerable opportunities for York, which already possesses a strong international reputation. The new Faculty that will emerge at York through the amalgamation of FES and the Department of Geography is York’s opportunity to enhance its urban profile. Participants also discussed specific curriculum possibilities, such as a BA / BSc combination.

Professor Peake described the evolution of The CITY Institute and its aspirations to widen membership. She also stressed the value of research – along with experiential education -- that supports and complements undergraduate and graduate teaching and learning.
Further and Next Steps

The Sub-Committee will re-engage with those consulted in September, and the Director will be invited to participate at that time.

This record of consultation will be forwarded to the FES-Geography curriculum working group, shared with CITY, and posted on the Sub-Committee’s Website.