



The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 676th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, May 27, 2021 via Zoom

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Alison Macpherson of the Faculty of Health, welcomed Senators to the meeting. She acknowledged with sorrow the recent passing of Professor Emeritus Alain Baudot, a founding member of Glendon College, and Robert Everett, a long-serving and cherished member of the University Secretariat.

President Lenton's remarks to Senate included the following information:

- an update on York's mental health and well-being strategy for staff, faculty, and students.
- an update on the University's plans to establish a new School of Medicine that will focus on training family and community doctors in an integrated setting.

The monthly "Kudos" report on the achievements of members of the York community can be accessed with other documentation for the meeting.

Approvals

On the recommendation of its Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved:

- changes to the degree requirements for the BScN programs in Nursing housed in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health, effective FW2021-2022.
- the merger of the BA degree programs in Humanities and Culture & Expression housed in the Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2021-22.
- the closure of the BA Culture and Expression program housed in the Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW2021-2022.
- the establishment of the Undergraduate Faculty Rules and Regulations for the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change, effective FW2021-2022.

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- changes to the existing admission requirements for YUBridge students from 80% to that of the entrance average for each respective direct-entry program, effective immediately.

Senate approved two substantive motions pertaining to the application of the *Senate Policy on the Academic Implications of Disruptions or Cessations of University Business Due to Labour Disputes and Other Causes*:

- that, for the duration of the current disruption, the requirement of “reasonable alternative access” for students unable to attend in-person academic activities will be understood to have been met by the principle that ensures students will have reasonable access to academic activities delivered remotely.
- that, for the duration of the current disruption and when time permits as per rules and processes to hold regular or special meetings of Senate, Senate Executive consult Senate for input and advice to aid decision-making and preparations on matters of significant import that affect program delivery plans prior to Executive exercising the authority vested in the Committee to approve such matters during a disruption.

Senate Elections

Senate approved a slate of candidates presented by the Executive Committee with the result that a number of individuals were acclaimed to positions on Senate committees while others will be elected as the result of a ballot conducted from May 31 to June 4.

Committee Information Reports

Executive

The Executive Committee’s information items included the following:

- the authorization of Senate’s consideration of two substantive motions pertaining to the application of the *Senate Policy on the Academic Implications of Disruptions or Cessations of University Business Due to Labour Disputes and Other Causes*.
- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities at the University, including a special meeting on 6 May 2021 to approve revisions to the *Principles to Guide Course Planning for the Fall 2021 term*.

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- its review of substantive changes to the rules and procedures for the Faculty of Education Faculty Council.
- an update on the annual survey of Senators and Senate committee members.

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its ongoing monitoring of University Academic Plan implementation, including preparations for a report to Senate on academic planning that draws on the comprehensive feedback from the recent community forums and decanal discussions.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP)

ASCP's information items included the following minor changes that were approved by the Committee, effective FW2021-2022 unless otherwise noted:

Glendon

Minor Changes to the Entrance Requirements for the MA in Études françaises and PhD in Études francophones program (related to the new grading scheme implementation FW2023-2024)

Faculty of Health

Minor Changes to the Graduate Diploma in Quantitative Methods, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health

Faculty of Graduate Studies

Removal of fees for the External Student Status, and Elective Categories in the Leaves of Absence Regulation

Faculty of Science

Minor Changes to the Admission Requirements for the MA and PhD programs in Biology (related to the new grading scheme implementation effective FW2023-2024)

Schulich School of Business

Minor Changes to the Bachelor of Business Program, BBA, Schulich School of Business (effective Summer 2021)

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Awards

The Awards Committee advised Senators of and conveyed congratulations to the recipients of the President's Research Awards, who had been selected as a result of the Committee's adjudications in Winter 2021.

2021 President's Research Excellence Award

Jennifer Hyndman, Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change

2021 President's Research Impact Award

Carl E. James, Faculty of Education

2021 President's Emerging Research Leadership Award

Pouya Rezai, Lassonde School of Engineering

Rebecca Bassett-Gunter, Faculty of Health

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, May 27, 2021 meeting for details about these items.

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

June Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, June 24, 2021.