

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

**of the 608th Meeting of Senate held on
Thursday, November 27, 2014**

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Roxanne Mykitiuk, welcomed Senators to Glendon and advised that Senate Executive would announce shortly whether or not the December meeting would be held as scheduled.

President Mamdouh Shoukri reported that a committee composed of deputy ministers and the President of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario would soon begin evaluating applications for funding under the Major Capital Expansion framework. The University's York in York Region campus bid is one of thirteen proposals deemed eligible for the competition. Dr Shoukri also commented on the provincial government's consideration of possible revisions to the funding formula for universities.

Major Reports

Senate finalized its discussion of Provost Rhonda Lenton's October report on enrolments, complement and major planning contexts and initiatives.

Senate received and discussed the autumn report of Vice-President Finance and Administration Gary Brewer on the budget context for academic planning.

The Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, Professor Turlakis, transmitted a record of the most recent Colleagues' meeting.

Approvals

On a recommendation by the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee, Senate approved the establishment of a Graduate Diploma in Quantitative Methods.

Senate Committee Information Items

Senate Executive confirmed that amendments to the rules and procedures of the Liberal Arts and Professional Studies Faculty Council it had reviewed were consistent with principles of collegial governance and practices elsewhere at the University (but that it had asked that Council adopt the terminology of "contract faculty member" and "teaching assistant" in describing certain categories of members). It was also reported that the chairs and secretaries of Senate committees had convened for their autumn meeting.

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy reported that it had approved the following:

School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design

- a change in the rubric for the interdisciplinary Fine Arts courses from INFA to AMPD

Faculty of Graduate Studies:

- minor change to the requirements for the Master of Disaster & Emergency Management program (classifying the existing MRP requirement as a 6 credit course; adding three new courses to the list of elective credits)

- a minor change to the requirements for the MA and PhD programs Psychology (splitting the existing requirement of two 3-credits research methods courses in the PhD program to one 3-credit research methods course in each of the MA and PhD programs).

ASCP also advised that it is pursuing a number of key policy initiatives, including possible conversion of the undergraduate grade scale from 9 points to four, adoption of “Withdrew from Course” into the common grading scheme for undergraduate Faculties, and guidelines for mid-term examinations held outside of class time.

Academic Policy, Planning and Research provided a summary of the November 13 planning forum it sponsored on the topic of “Academic Priorities: Contexts, Planning and Implementation,” stimulating a discussion of recommendations contained in the AAPR Academic Task Force report.

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

University Secretariat extension 55310.

Subject to confirmation, Senate’s 609th meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m.
on Thursday, December 11, 2014
in the Senate Chamber, Ross Building, Keele Campus.