

The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 626th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, May 26, 2016

Remarks

The Chair of Senate encouraged Senators to participate in convocation ceremonies and celebrate the University's graduates in the company of their family and friends.

York's President, Dr Mamdouh Shoukri, recounted highlights from successful trips to London (where he spoke on the topic of science diplomacy at a major conference), Israel and the West Bank (accompanying Premier Kathleen Wynne's delegation to promote partnerships), and Costa Rica, where he helped inaugurate the Lillian Meighen Wright Centre and EcoCampus. Among other topics discussed by the President were the following:

- the University's application for funding under Ottawa's Postsecondary Strategic Infrastructure Fund initiatives
- opportunities for the community to contribute ideas as York celebrates Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017
- the University's part in hosting the 2017 World Indigenous People's Games awarded to the city of Toronto
- a generous gift from the Mirkopoulos family of Cinespace Film Studios to the University and the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design for the creation of the Motion Media Studio
- the 50th anniversary of the Schulich School of Business
- the University's due diligence regarding a major benefactor who has been the subject of recent media coverage

Reports

The Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, George Turlakis, commented on major developments on the provincial postsecondary policy scene with special reference to the status of the Ontario University Funding Model Review, consultations underway leading to a new tuition fee framework in 2017, and changes to the student assistance framework that will be reflected in a consolidated Ontario Student Grant. Professor Turlakis, who will be succeeded by Professor David Leyton-Brown, was thanked for his service as Colleague.

Approvals

Senate approved nominees for election to Senate committees and other positions, an action that resulted in acclamations and a process leading to election by e-vote for some positions.

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Senate approved a recommendation of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee to change the name of the Graduate Program in Computer Science and Engineering to the Graduate Program in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Senate approved recommendations of the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee to:

- establish a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) degree type
- rename the Bachelor of Administrative Studies Degree Program to the Bachelor of Commerce Program and discontinue the Bachelor of Administrative Studies Degree
- establish a Bilingual Honours Bachelor of Arts In Communications, Glendon
- establish a Dual Credential program between EM Lyon Business School and the iBA in International Studies, Glendon
- discontinue the York–Ryerson Co-Registration Option
- amend requirements for a series of graduate diplomas in the field of Education (Early Childhood Education; Language & Literacy; Post-Secondary Education: Community, Culture & Policy; and Education in Urban Environments)
- amend requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Programs in Psychology, Glendon
- amend requirements for the Graduate Program in Philosophy, the Graduate Program in Francophone Studies and the Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought

Committee Information Reports

Senate Executive advised that it continues to welcome expressions of interest or suggestion as it seeks to finalize the spring round of nominations and elections.

APPRC advised that Professor Logan Donaldson has agreed to serve as the Committee's member on the Open Access & Open Data Steering Committee created by Vice-President Research Robert Haché and University Librarian Joy Kirchner.

ASCP reported that it had approved minor modifications for the following:

Education

- minor changes to the requirements for the International Education Specialization within the BEd degree program

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Graduate Studies

- minor changes to the requirements for the Graduate Program in Social Anthropology

Lassonde

- a nomenclature change within the requirements for the BEng program in Software Engineering
- a correction to the supporting documentation for a previously announced change to the General Education regulation for BA programs in the Lassonde School of Engineering

Science

- establishment of “ISCI” as a rubric for the integrated first-year program

ASCP also reported that the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities had approved for funding the Master of Real Estate and Infrastructure (anchored in the Schulich School of Business), the Master of Leadership and Community Engagement (anchored in the Faculty of Education) and the PhD in Nursing programs (anchored in the School of Nursing). The Committee continues to coordinate with the Registrar’s Office and Faculties on the implementation of “academic forgiveness” policies approved by Senate in February.

Senators joined the Awards Committee in congratulating the following individuals chosen to receive prestigious awards:

Distinguished Research Professor: Laurence Packer, Biology, Science

University Professors: Paul Delaney, Science and Eileen Fischer, Schulich

The Awards Committee also responded to questions raised at the April meeting of Senate about funding for students in part-time programs.

Please refer to the full Senate agenda posted online for details about these items.

<http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/senate-agenda-20160526.pdf>

Senate’s next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2016.