

# The Senate of York University

## Synopsis

**The 652<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Senate  
held on Thursday, December 13, 2018**

### Remarks

On behalf of Senate, the Chair, Professor Franck van Breugel, thanked Senior Assistant Secretary of the University Bob Everett, who is retiring from the Secretariat after 31 years of service, for his decades of shepherding Senate's governance. The Chair highlighted Dr. Everett's unwavering support for Chairs of Senate, Senate committees, Faculty Councils, and faculty and staff across all corners of the University.

Adding her thanks and appreciation, President Lenton highlighted that Dr. Everett is the embodiment of a great governance professional, which is manifested through his ability to bring together diverse points of view, his respect for collegial governance and his thoughtful advice. In recognition of Dr. Everett's service, President Lenton announced that the Senate Chamber will be renamed the Dr. Robert Everett Senate Chamber, thereby embodying his presence for years to come.

Reflecting on the 2018 year, President Lenton acknowledged that it had been a challenging one and the holiday break provides a much-needed opportunity for members of the community to rest and recharge before resuming efforts to move York's vision forward in the New Year.

Other comments made by President Lenton included the following:

- regarding the development of a pan-university internationalization strategy, the plans to distribute the call for expressions of interest to participate in the President's Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement in the New Year
- regarding public policy matters, an update on the COU-led sector-wide advocacy with the provincial government, focused on relationship building with government and mitigating possible budget cuts to universities
- the status of the pan-university budget consultations, which have helped to bring about a stronger shared understanding of the budget and have provided the administration with an opportunity to receive input from the community on budget priorities
- the ongoing discussions with the provincial government, Metrolinx, York Regional Transit, and GO Transit regarding their decision to cease public transit bus service to the Keele Campus
- the recent announcement of the appointment of Professor Lorne Sossin, Osgoode, to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice

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### Approvals

Senate approved the recommendations of its Executive Committee to:

- approve the Statement of Policy on Free Speech, satisfying the provincial government's requirement that every publicly-assisted college and university develop and implement a free speech policy by January 1, 2019
- appoint Professor David Mutimer, LA&PS, as Interim Vice-Chair of Senate from January 1 to June 30, 2019, for the duration of Vice-Chair Alison Macpherson's six-month sabbatical

### Committee Information Reports

#### Executive (Professor Alison Macpherson, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee's information item was the following:

- with respect to the Committee's monitoring of the academic disruption, an update on the status of course completions and grades submissions from the FW 2017-2018 session

#### Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Les Jacobs, Chair)

APPRC provided information on these items:

- efforts to revise the Principles and Procedures Governing Non-Degree Studies, centred on clarifying the governance process and enhancing oversight of non-degree programming
- consultations regarding the establishment of a new / "revised" faculty composed of Geography, the Faculty of Environmental Studies and other possible units
- the Committee's feedback on the Statement of Policy on Free Speech which had been shared with the Free Speech Policy Working Group
- update on plans for Markham Centre Campus following the announcement of the cancellation of provincial funding for the Campus
- the status of initiatives in progress under the Provost's purview, including the pan-university budget consultations, enrolment planning with Faculties for FW 2019-2020, the plans to develop an internationalization strategy, the complement renewal strategy, and the decanal searches underway

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### **Additional Information about this Meeting**

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the December 13, 2018 meeting for details about these items.

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

### **January Meeting of Senate**

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2019.