The Senate of York University

Synopsis

The 657th Meeting of Senate
held on Thursday, May 23, 2019

Remarks

The Chair, Professor Franck van Breugel, Lassonde, welcomed the recently appointed Interim Vice-President Research & Innovation, Senator Rui Wang, and acknowledged the recent passing of Professor Peggy Ng, School of Administrative Studies, a former Director of the School who served as a Senator from LA&PS on several occasions.

President Rhonda Lenton announced the individuals who will be honoured with honorary degrees at Spring Convocation:

- Paul Alofs, award-winning innovator
- Gregory Belton, business leader and philanthropist
- Anne Cools, social and civil rights activist
- Kimberle Crenshaw, civil rights advocate and scholar
- Jennifer Doudna, human genomics researcher
- Paul Gross, renowned actor, director and writer
- Cheryl McEwen, philanthropist and entrepreneur
- Marangu Njogu, national development leader
- Marie Ponte, social service activist
- Lynn Posluns, brain health advocate

President Lenton also announced the recipients of the University’s prestigious awards, who had been selected as a result of adjudications of the Awards Committee.

2019 President’s University-Wide Teaching Awards
Senior Full-time Faculty: Russ Patrick Alcedo, Dance, AMPD
Full-time Faculty: Nicolette Richardson, Kinesiology and Health Science, Health
Contract and Adjunct Faculty: Alistair Mapp, Psychology, Health
Teaching Assistant: Mohamed Abdelhamid, Mechanical Engineering, Lassonde

2019 President’s Research Excellence Award
Deanne Williams, English, LA&PS

2019 President’s Research Impact Award
Julia Creet, English, LA&PS
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2019 President’s Emerging Research Leadership Award
Engineering, Science, Technology, Health and Biomedicine Cluster: Christine Till, Psychology, Health
Social Sciences, Art & Design, Humanities, Business, Law and Education Cluster: Marcello Musto, Sociology, LA&PS

2019 University Professorships
Avi Cohen, Economics, LA&PS
Kim Michasiw, English/Writing, LA&PS

2019 Distinguished Research Professorship
Stephanie Ben-Ishai, Osgoode

Other comments made by President Lenton included the following:

- an update on the process to be employed by the provincial government for the University’s third Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA3), which may result in limiting the engagement of Senate and Faculty Councils in the development of the SMA
- an update on the plans to establish a working group to take up the additional activities and consultations recommended by the Free Speech Policy Working Group, to be chaired by Senate Vice-Chair Alison Macpherson, with a call for expressions of interest from the University community to be circulated in Fall 2019
- the plans to undertake a feasibility study on a collaborative opportunity with the City of Vaughan and Mackenzie Health to support research in health
- congratulations to the recipients of the 2019 President’s Staff Recognition Awards, listed in the Kudos report

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

Reports

Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities

The Academic Colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities (COU), Professor Andrea Davis, reported that the discussion at the Colleagues’ May meeting expanded the April focus on the assessment of student skills and learning outcomes. Marcia Moshé, project team leader for the SMA3 Pilot Projects at Ryerson, delivered a presentation on two Ryerson studies: one that tracked the development of
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Competencies among co-op students using the University of Victoria’s competency framework and another that assessed written communication among students in Liberal Studies courses using the VALUE Rubrics. The Colleagues also were joined by Martin Hicks, Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO), who reported on the findings of HEQCO’s skills assessment pilot studies and its recommendation to implement large-scale skills assessment at Ontario universities, and Cecelia Brain, COU, who provided an overview of SMA3 metrics. The Colleagues discussed the provincial government’s plans to use graduate employment and earnings as metrics and the differential hiring for visibly racialized and Indigenous graduates which may impact the ability of universities with diverse student bodies, such as York, to satisfy those metrics.

Open Access at York University

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Senator Joy Kirchner, Dean of Libraries, and Rebecca Pillai Riddell, Associate Vice-President Research, delivered a presentation on Open Access at York University in which an overview of the draft Senate Policy on Open Access was provided.

Approvals

On a recommendation of its Executive Committee, Senate elected Michael Zabrocki, Associate Professor, Science, to the Appeals Committee, and Hanna Kankowski, Associate Professor, Science, to the Awards Committee.

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

- revise the Registration Eligibility in Summer Courses (Summer Continuance) regulation, effective July 1, 2019
- change the requirements for the General Certificate in Refugee and Migration Studies, Faculty of Environmental Studies / Department of Equity Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, effective FW 2019-2020
- change the degree requirements for the MA program in Music, Graduate Program in Music, Faculty of Graduate Studies, effective FW 2019-2020
- change the degree requirements for the Master of Marketing program, Schulich School of Business, Faculty of Graduate Studies, effective FW 2019-2020
- establish a Transfer Credit program between the Departments in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design and Specialized Arts programs at Secondary Schools, effective FW 2019-2020
- close the Specialized Honours BA program in Individualized Studies, Glendon, effective FW 2019-2020
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Committee Information Reports

Executive (Professor David Mutimer, Interim Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee provided Notice of Statutory Motion for revisions to the Senate Rules, Procedures and Guidelines and engaged Senators in a preliminary discussion about the proposed changes.

The Executive Committee reported on the following items:

- the election of three members to ASCP as a result of the Senate e-vote held between April 29 and May 6: full-time faculty members Maggie Toplak, Associate Professor, Health, and Chloë Brushwood Rose, Associate Professor, Education, and contract faculty member Dagmara Woronko, LA&PS
- the establishment of a temporary sub-committee of Senate Executive to address the small number of outstanding provisional grades awarded to graduating students as a form of remediation in the 2017-2018 labour disruption where the grade affects the students’ graduating decision
- the circulation of the draft revisions to the Guidelines and Procedures for Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities for review by Senators, with encouragement for Senators to provide feedback to the Secretary
- a status review of its priorities for 2018-2019, with plans to shift some matters of business, including the planned discussion of the Principles to Govern Presidential Search Committees, to the Fall
- encouragement for Senators to complete the annual Senate and Senate committee survey, to be conducted from May 27 to June 3

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Lesley Jacobs, Chair)

APPRC provided information on these items:

- progress on the initiative to develop the new “Environment-Geography” Faculty, with plans to establish a Sub-Committee of ASCP dedicated to assisting in deliberations and consultations about the development of innovative curriculum and pedagogy that will express the Faculty’s vision
- its schedule of business for the balance of the 2018-2019 year

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (Professor Kim Michasiw, Chair)

ASCP reported on the following minor changes to degree or certificate requirements.
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Glendon

- Minor change to degree requirements for the BA (Honours) programs in Hispanic Studies
- Minor change to requirements for the Certificate in Spanish-English Translation

Graduate Studies

- Minor change to degree requirements for the Master of Supply Chain Management program

Science

- Minor change to degree requirements for the Biomedical Sciences stream within the BA (Honours) programs in Biology

Academic Policy, Planning and Research / Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (Professor Kim Michasiw, Co-Chair)

APPRC and ASCP conveyed a report from the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance.

Awards (Professor Brenda Spotton Visano, Chair)

The Awards Committee conveyed congratulations to the recipients of the prestigious awards which had been announced by President Lenton earlier in the meeting, reported on the plans to update the criteria for the awards it adjudicates, and encouraged Senators to attend the Spring Convocation ceremonies.

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the May 23, 2019 meeting for details about these items.

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

May Meeting of Senate

Senate’s next meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 28, 2019.