

Remarks

The Chair of Senate, Professor Alison Macpherson of the Faculty of Health, welcomed Senators to the meeting and acknowledged the recent passing of Professor Gene Denzel, a stalwart of York for decades who, through his numerous service contributions, left a strong legacy of collegial governance in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and across the wider University.

Comments made by President Rhonda Lenton included the following:

- the improved financial outlook for the University as the implications of the pandemic on enrolment numbers were not as significant as anticipated in the spring
- highlights from the President's 2019-2020 Annual Report, [Creating Positive Change](#), the first digital iteration, which documents the impressive progress made by the York community to advance priorities and goals over the past year despite the challenges of the pandemic
- gratitude for the generous donations from the family of the late Avie Bennet, former Chancellor of York, to support the Canadian Writers in Person course, and from the Bratty Family to support the construction of Markham Centre Campus
- highlights from the "Kudos" report, including the establishment of a global network of Emergency and Business Continuity Management by Master of Disaster and Emergency Management graduates Alisha Khan and Magda Sulzycki

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

Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Provost Philipps presented the Autumn Report on Complement and Enrolment and VP Finance and Administration McAulay delivered an update on the University budget. In follow-up to the multi-year budget presentation made to Senate in June, the budget update provided revised information reflecting the fuller knowledge of the enrolment picture currently available.

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Approvals

Senate approved the recommendations of its Executive Committee to:

- establish the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change Faculty Council, effective 1 September 2020
- elect Professor Jeffrey S. Everett, Schulich, to the Tenure and Promotions Committee

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

- revisions to the *Common Grading Scheme for Undergraduate Faculties* and Honours Progression requirements, effective FW2023-2024, including:
 - the establishment of the *Policy on York University Grading Schemes*
 - the rescission of the *Common Grading Scheme for Undergraduate Faculties*, Progression Requirements to Maintain Honours Standing, and Progression Requirements to Maintain Honours Standing in Bachelor of Engineering (BEng)
 - the establishment of corresponding qualitative descriptors for the undergraduate grading scheme as an appendix to the *Policy on York University Grading Schemes*
- changes to coursework and language requirements for the PhD program in English, housed within the Graduate Program in English, LA&PS / Graduate Studies, effective FW2020-2021

Committee Information Reports

Executive (Professor Mario Roy, Vice-Chair)

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its ongoing monitoring of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academic activities, with actions pertaining to the disruption outlined in its written Report
- encouragement for Senators to assist in the process of identifying prospective candidates to fill the remaining vacancies on the Tenure and Promotions and Tenure and Promotions Appeals Committees
- its approval of Senate Committee members nominated by Faculty Councils
- its review of Senate committee priorities for 2020-2021

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- the plans to position its Sub-Committee on Equity to coordinate and facilitate implementation of anti-Black and anti-Indigenous racism and equity, diversity and inclusion measures within collegial governance frameworks and processes
- its review of the Faculty Council rules and procedures of the Lassonde School of Engineering
- temporary actions taken by the Committee to support a Faculty Council experiencing uncertainty
- the completion of the mandate of the Temporary Sub-Committee established to review and resolve cases of outstanding provisional grades assigned as a result of the labour disruption in Winter 2018
- a consolidated report on actions taken by Senate in 2019-2020
- an update on its membership for 2020-2021

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (Professor Brenda Spotton Visano, Chair)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- its reflections on the Provost's Autumn Report on Complement and Enrolment and budget update
- its confirmation of 2020-2021 priorities, with a key focus on setting the stage to advance and track progress on University Academic Plan 2020-2025 priorities
- its identification of Markham Centre Campus as a priority, plans to include it as a standing agenda item for each meeting, and receipt of a briefing from the Provost on the status of campus planning earlier in the month
- its review of the results of the 2019-2020 Senator and Senate committee member surveys
- an update on its membership for 2020-2021

ASCP (Professor Chloë Brushwood Rose, Chair)

ASCP's information items included the following:

- changes to Leaves of Absence and Registration Status regulations, Faculty of Graduate Studies
- sessional dates for three academic years, from SU2021 to SU2024, with an update to follow on the scheduling of Fall 2021 orientation activities

Awards (Professor Shayna Rosenbaum, Chair)

With the call for nominations for the President's Research Awards issued earlier in the month, Senators were encouraged to submit nominations and promote the submission

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of nominations among their colleagues. Details are available on the [Awards Committee website](#).

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate agenda and supplementary material posted online with the Thursday, October 22, 2020 meeting for details about these items.

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

November Meeting of Senate

Senate's next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday, November 26, 2020.