

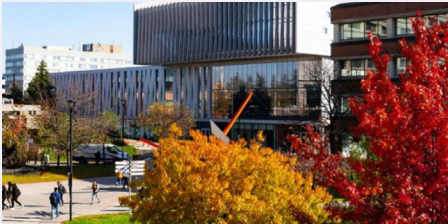
PRESIDENT'S KUDOS REPORT

OCTOBER 2023



York University awarded [honorary degrees](#) to four outstanding individuals recognized as exemplary changemakers during the 2023 Fall Convocation, which took place from Oct. 11 to 20. Below are the honorary degree recipients:

- Itah Sadu, author, entrepreneur (Honorary doctor of laws)
- Wes Hall, Chair and founder of WeShall Investments, television personality (Honorary doctor of laws)
- Andromache Karakatsanis, justice of the Supreme Court of Canada (Honorary doctor of laws)
- Nnimmo Bassey, architect, poet and environmental activist (Honorary doctor of laws)



York University has climbed 47 spots in the latest [Times Higher Education \(THE\) World Rankings](#) and continues to establish itself as a beacon of excellence and a leader in international outlook. The World University Rankings assess university performance to inform students, academics and those within higher education of institutional missions and successes. It considers data for three main areas: research, impact and teaching. This year, York has placed in the 300s out of more than 1,900 universities worldwide. The University's upward movement in the rankings reinforces York's exceptional international co-authorships, commitment to collaboration and overall international reputation as a global influencer.



On Sept. 28, York University's Schulich School of Business hosted a milestone event celebrating the renaming of the school's Executive Learning Centre in honour of Dean Emeritus [Dezső J. Horváth](#). Horváth led the school for 32 years, making him the longest-serving dean of any major business school in the world. As dean, Horváth helped Schulich attain international prominence and renown. He transformed Schulich into a global business school and expanded its reach and influence around the world. He also spearheaded the development of innovative degrees and pioneering programs and helped make Schulich a world leader in the field of responsible business, among others.



Glendon College hosted a bilingual [Student Entrepreneur Competition](#) on Sept. 28. Presented by the Glendon ENtrepreneuriat et Innovation A L'international (GENIAL) team and Desjardins Group, this pitch competition showcased innovative projects developed by Glendon students looking to hone their entrepreneurial skills. The grand prize went to Oriane Diebou for her startup *Ori-Krea: La mode africaine sur mesure*, which creates garments and accessories using African fabrics and materials.



[Patricia Burke Wood](#) received a Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute award for Faculty Collaboration and Internationalization (SFCI). Wood will work with colleagues from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) on "Urban Theory and Methodology - Integrating Perspectives from the Global South and North." The project will strengthen the collaboration between the two participating faculty members (Wood and Himanshu Burte from IIT) and their institutions in thematic areas of urban studies, geography, planning and infrastructure.



Each year, the [York University Alumni Awards](#) recognize outstanding alumni who have achieved the extraordinary and are working to right the future by creating positive change in their fields. The Awards celebrate the broad York alumni community of innovators, activists and researchers and its long-standing commitment to the public good. This year's recipients are:

- Outstanding Contribution: Harry S. LaForme (LLB '77, LLD '08) OC, IPC, senior counsel, Olthius Kleer Townshend LL.P
- Outstanding Achievement: Fatima Israel (MBA '06), EY Canada chief marketing officer
- Tentanda Via: Flavien P. Jourbert (MES '03), minister for agriculture, climate change and environment on the island of Seychelles
- One to Watch: Temo Primrose Gare (BA '12), journalist, television host, executive producer, Fibe TV; founder, Okavango Media



Faculty of Science Professor [Peter Backx](#) has been named a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences for his research advancing understanding of the heart, and his discovery of new approaches to treating cardiac arrhythmias. Election to Fellowship in the Academy is considered one of the highest honours for individuals in the Canadian health sciences community and carries with it a covenant to serve the Academy and the future well-being of the health sciences irrespective of the Fellow's specific discipline.



YSpace, the entrepreneurship and innovation hub of York University within the Office of the Vice President of Research & Innovation, celebrated a significant occasion on Sept. 28th by hosting the [Technology Accelerator Demo Day](#). During this event, the top three startups from the 2023 cohort were recognized for their innovation in Tech with a combined total of \$30K in cash awards. The winners were:

- First Place: [Linggo](#), for providing assistive communication technology and clinical training to support a person's ability to communicate, develop language and socialize with others on a daily basis.
- Second Place: [Carity](#), for transforming car buying and selling through consumer-led digital solutions, powered by conversational AI.
- Third Place: [Aruna Revolution](#), for revolutionizing the way we manage our menstrual health by creating compostable menstrual pads, that are made of local food and crop waste.



Thirteen women with affiliations to York University are recognized as key figures in how the city of Toronto is shaped as part of the Myseum of Toronto's latest project, [The 52: Stories of Women Who Transformed Toronto](#). The multi-year project celebrates the contributions of women to the city of Toronto in art, culture, politics, sports, technology, business and more, and debuted Sept. 23 during Nuit Blanche. The work premiered as a participatory performance where the stories of the 52 women were brought to life through original monologues written by 24 playwrights. Participants had the opportunity to step into the shoes of one of the 52 women by reading excerpts from the monologues. Among those honoured were six York alumni, one former faculty member and six honorary degree recipients. These honourees include:

York University alum:

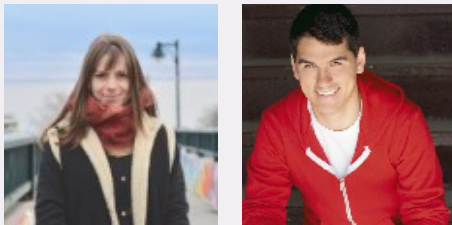
- Jillian Andrew (BA '01, '02, BEd '03, PhD '18) – MPP, Toronto-St. Paul's
- Cheri DiNovo (BA '94) – United Church of Canada minister, activist and politician
- Saadia Muzaffar (BA '01) – tech entrepreneur and author
- Rosemary Sadlier (BA '75) – social justice advocate, researcher and author
- Judith Snow (MA '76) – independent living advocate, community organizer and disability justice activist
- Kathleen Taylor (JD '84, MBA '84, LLD '14) – Chair of the Board of Directors of Royal Bank of Canada/business executive, York University's 14th chancellor

Former faculty:

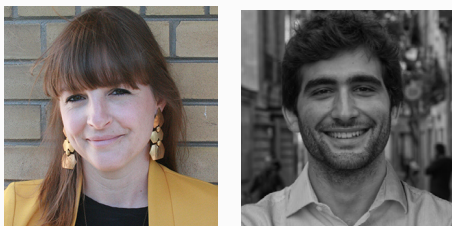
- Menaka Thakkar (DLitt '93) – dancer and choreographer

Honorary degree recipients:

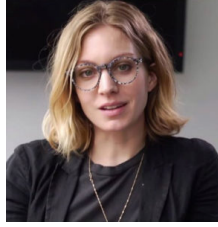
- Roberta L. Bondar (DSc '92) – Canadian astronaut and neurologist
- Adrienne Clarkson (LLD '03) – governor general, journalist and author
- Cathy Crowe (LLD '10) – nurse and health-care activist
- Karen Kain (LLD '79) – ballet dancer and artistic director
- Rosalie Silberman Abella (LLD '91) – Canadian Supreme Court justice
- Min Sook Lee (MES '14) – filmmaker and activist



At the [2023 Ontario Professional Planners' Institute \(OPPI\)](#) conference, two York U alumni took home prestigious awards for their professional work. MES-Planning grad, Jenna Davidson and team were recognized with the "PlanOn Vision Award: Planning Process" for their project respecting the Saugreen First Nation Creator's Garden and Amphitheatre Master Plan. Another MES-Planning alum, Will Lamond and his colleague were announced as this year's recipients of the "PlanOn Vision Award: Planning Documentation" for their work on the Town of Kingsville Temporary Farm Worker Housing Study.



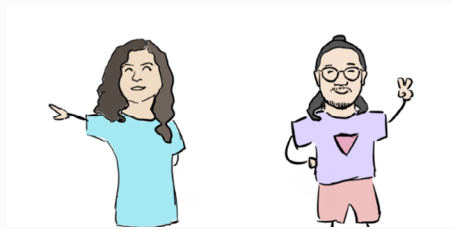
Launched Sept. 27 at York's Glendon Campus, the [Observatory of Populism in Canada](#) is a first-of-its-kind research endeavour that will work to generate, support and highlight empirical and theoretical research on populism's role in Canadian society. The Observatory is led by Emily Laxer (associate professor of sociology at Glendon and York Research Chair in Populism, Rights and Legality) in collaboration with Rémi Vivès (assistant professor of economics at Glendon) and Efe Peker (assistant professor of sociology and political science at the University of Ottawa), and supports the University's priority to advance research on significant developments of our time.



[Associate Professor Danielle Robinson and Assistant Professor Robyn Cumming](#) received York University's School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design (AMPD) Teaching Awards in recognition of excellence in mentorship, curriculum and pedagogy. Robinson, who was awarded the AMPD Senior Teaching Award, and Cumming, who received the AMPD Junior Teaching Award, were honoured at the first Faculty Council of the 2023-24 academic year on Sept. 20.



A Will To Dream, a film by [Patrick Alcedo](#), Chair and professor in the Department of Dance, won Best Documentary Film or Video from the International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance. The International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance Documentary Film or Video Prize is awarded annually for an exceptional film or video, which makes a significant contribution to the ICTMD's mission: "To promote research, documentation, safeguarding, and sustainability of music, dance, and related performing arts, taking into account the diversity of cultural practices, past and present, and scholarly traditions worldwide."



Kai Zhuang, assistant professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and Mojgan Jadidi, associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at York University's Lassonde School of Engineering, were honoured with a [Best Paper Award](#) at the 2023 American Society of Engineering Education Annual Conference for a paper titled, "Visual Verbal Integrated (VIVID) Comics – A pedagogy for teaching." As summarized in their awarded paper, Zhuang and Jadidi are developing and piloting a pedagogy called Visual Verbal Integrated (VIVID) Storytelling, which aims to address the challenges associated with teaching humanistic skills to engineering students.



Academy Award nominee and York theatre alumna [Rachel McAdams](#) (BFA '01) will make her Broadway debut starring in *Mary Jane*, a play written by Pulitzer Prize finalist Amy Herzog. Anne Kauffman, who recently oversaw an acclaimed revival of *The Sign in Sydney Brustein's Window*, will direct. The production will begin previews on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre. An opening date and additional casting will be announced later.



[Christina Sharpe](#), a professor and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Black Studies at York University, was recently recognized by the National Book Foundation for her new book, *Ordinary Notes* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux/Macmillan Publishers, 2023). Longlisted for the National Book Award for non-fiction, Sharpe's book was named among nine other finalists for the prestigious award, out of 638 publisher submissions in the non-fiction category. *Ordinary Notes* has garnered widespread acclaim for its literary innovation and careful exploration of profound themes surrounding loss and the dynamics of Black life.



York nursing student [Leo Macawile](#) received the prestigious Student of Distinction Award from the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario. The Student of Distinction award honours a current undergraduate nursing student who has made significant contributions acting as a change agent, resource and mentor within their undergraduate nursing program. This student also shows active involvement in RNAO regions, chapters or interest groups. He has created and organized several equity-based initiatives, which include Canada's first and largest student-led initiative to recognize the contributions of Filipino nurses in Canada, a "Walk with Prof" initiative to encourage student-faculty connections, and celebrations for Asian Heritage Month, Black History Month and Pride Month.



[Marianna Shepherd](#), an adjunct professor in the Centre for Research in Earth & Space Science at York University's Lassonde School of Engineering, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP) in recognition of nearly a decade of serving as a scientific secretary. SCOSTEP is a thematic body of the International Science Council that aims to strengthen and share knowledge on solar-terrestrial physics across broad scientific communities. In collaboration with members from over 34 countries, SCOSTEP brings its vision to life through interdisciplinary and public outreach programs and projects related to sun-Earth connections. As scientific secretary, Shepherd's list of responsibilities included organizing international symposia, facilitating educational programs and supporting international collaborations. In doing so, she has helped contribute to the elevation of SCOSTEP's global impact.



Student researchers, supervised by professors Regina Lee and Jinjun Shan in the Department of Earth & Space Science & Engineering at York University's Lassonde School of Engineering, launched and tested new space technologies into the stratosphere as part of the [Strato-Science 2023 campaign](#), which provides post-secondary students with opportunities to design, build and test small payloads aboard high-altitude balloon systems. The two projects, and their experiential impact, were:



- Resident Space Object Near-space Astrometric Research (RSOnar) v2: This project, which was equipped with four independent imaging systems, was propelled to a cruising altitude of 37 kilometres, where it surveyed the stars and captured images of passing satellites and space debris via a dual-purpose star tracker concept.
- Miniature Imaging Fabry-Perot Spectrometer (MIFPS): This scientific instrument takes accurate, high-resolution measurements of the molecular oxygen atmospheric band, providing useful information on various parameters that can help improve understanding of cloud and aerosol properties and inform solutions for climate and air quality concerns.



Thirteen faculty members from York University's Lassonde School of Engineering were awarded Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grants, totalling \$2.73 million in funding to support new and ongoing research. Two other faculty members received NSERC Research Tools & Instruments grants totalling a combined \$300,000. The programs that received funding this year aim to tackle emerging global issues and complex challenges in engineering and science, with many programs exploring the diverse applications of artificial intelligence (AI) methods, extending research to flood forecasting, medical devices and digital cameras, to name a few examples. Learn more about the individual recipients, and their funded research programs [here](#).



Professor [Kohitij Kar](#), from York University's Department of Biology in the Faculty of Science, is among 28 early-career researchers who received grants valued at \$100,000 from Brain Canada's Future Leaders in Canadian Brain Research program. Kar, a Canada Research Chair in Visual Neuroscience, combines machine learning and neuroscience to better understand visual intelligence. His new project funded by Brain Canada will explore these intersections in the context of autism.



[Christina Petrowska Quilico](#), pianist and professor emerita, will receive the 2023 Oskar Morawetz Award for Excellence in Music Performance. This award acknowledges Canadian classical musicians and is presented biennially to an exceptional Canadian performer in this field. Petrowska Quilico will be honored with the award during the opening night gala of the Kindred Spirits Orchestra's 2023-24 season in Markham, Ontario on Saturday, Oct. 21, where she will perform the piano concerto by Witold Lutoslawski as part of a program titled *War and Peace*.



[BEST Bridge to Startup](#) (BB2S), the four-month Bergeron Entrepreneurs in Science and Technology (BEST) summer entrepreneurship experience that launched in the summer of 2023, has empowered students in the Lassonde School of Engineering to create startups aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on areas including artificial intelligence, accessibility and energy consumption. The resulting inaugural projects are:

- **Chatbase:** Created by computer science students Yasser Elsaid and Pegah Fallah, Chatbase is an AI chatbot builder that trains ChatGPT on an individual's data and lets them add a chat widget to their website.
- **Reefers:** Created by mechanical engineering students Mhd Youssef Demashkieh and Jad Zeitoun, Reefers is an energy recovery system that uses exhaust gases to create electricity to power the refrigeration system of refrigerated truck trailers.
- **Handifuel:** Created by computer science alum Abbas Qassim and computer science student Solomon Ukwosah, Handifuel automates the fuelling process by building a robotic arm that will eliminate the need for mobility-challenged individuals to manually complete the process.
- **PowerRanger:** Created by mechanical engineering alum Rizwan Bhatti, electrical engineering student Christopher Korfmann and software engineering student Mohammed Fulwala, PowerRange is an autonomous, remote power line inspection robot that helps minimize production downtime and prevent unexpected power outages by quickly identifying faults, pinpointing their locations and understanding their causes.
- **MechTronX:** Created by mechanical engineering students Mohammad Shamail, Muhammad Ali Toor and Eric Wong, MechTronX is a tech company that specializes in providing cost-effective, customized solutions that cater to the unique technical requirements of early-stage companies.



York University Professor Emeritus, [Stanislav Kirschbaum](#), has been honoured with the Daniel Rapant Prize for his contributions to advancing knowledge of Slovak history. He was awarded the prize via Zoom with Slovakia on Sept. 20, at the conclusion of an academic conference organized in Bratislava by Matica Slovenská. Matica Slovenská is a historic Slovak cultural institution founded in 1863, which, since 1995, awards this medal to persons recognized for their contributions to the development of the historical sciences and their efforts to make Slovak history and the life of Slovaks known at home and abroad. The award is named after Daniel Rapant, a professor at Slovak (now Comenius) University in Bratislava, who was the most outstanding Slovak historian of the 20th century and is considered generally to be the father of Slovak history. Kirschbaum, who taught at Glendon College from 1970 to 2022, is recognized internationally as a leading expert on Slovak politics and history. His book *History of Slovakia: The Struggle for Survival* (2nd edition, 2005) is the first comprehensive history of the Slovak people, not just in English but in any non-Slovak language, as is his *Historical Dictionary of Slovakia* (3rd edition, 2014).

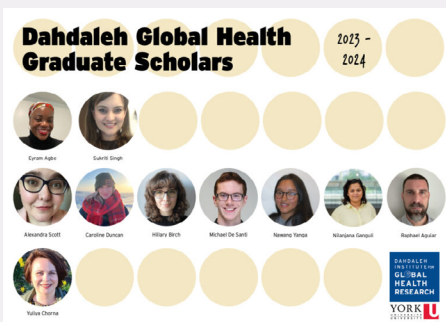


More than 20 faculty members from York University's Faculty of Science were collectively awarded over \$4 million in Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grants to continue advancing scientific innovation. Faculty from chemistry, physics, math, biology and other departments were represented among the recipients of grants with either one- or five-year terms. The funding will go towards enabling Faculty of Science researchers to independently pursue long-term research programs, innovative research activities, diverse partnerships and interdisciplinary collaborations. Learn more about the individual recipients, and their funded research programs [here](#).



York University's Schulich School of Business recently announced the winners of three prestigious scholarships in the [Master of Real Estate & Infrastructure \(MREI\) program](#). The award winners are:

- Jessica Anane (MREI candidate '24): The Gary Whitelaw Strength in Diversity Award
- Bianca Gornik (MREI candidate '24): The Edward Sonshine Scholarship
- Sonal Bagga (MREI candidate '24): The inaugural Graywood Developments Master of Real Estate & Infrastructure Award



Ten scholars will advance York University's growing global health research community as recipients of the [2023-24 Dahdaleh Global Health Graduate Scholarship](#). The program was created to support graduate research and related scholarly and creative activities in line with the three themes of the Dahdaleh Institute: planetary health; global health and humanitarianism; and global health foresighting. The scholarship is granted annually to graduate students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement in global health research.

The new recipients are:

- Alexandra Scott – The Myth of “Good Enough”: Law, Engineering, and Autonomous Weapons Systems
- Caroline Duncan – Optimizing Water Safety in Cambridge Bay Using Participatory System Dynamics
- Efram Agbe – Digital deprivation: ICT education and social vulnerability in Ghana

The returning recipients are:

- Hillary Birch – More than Access: The urban governance of water quality in Lusaka, Zambia;
- Michael De Santi – Improving Water Safety in Humanitarian Response with a Novel AI-Enabled Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment Model;
- Nawang Yanga – Tuberculosis in Tibetan Refugee Settlements in India: Insights into Lived Experiences;
- Nilanjana Ganguli – Assessing community resilience to the gendered health impacts of climate change in Malawi's Lake Chilwa Basin;
- Raphael Aguiar – Urban Political Ecologies of AMR and other interdependent threats;
- Sukriti Singh – Building a Model of Global Mental Health Governance to Support the Mental Health of Health Professionals; and
- Yuliya Chorna – Anthropology of global health policy-making and financing of Tuberculosis response.



York University's [Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies](#) has announced the winners of two prestigious academic awards recognizing the best graduate dissertation and undergraduate paper in a fourth-year course that advances knowledge of Canada. The award winners are:

- Min Ah (Angie) Park: The Barbara Godard Prize for the Best York University Dissertation in Canadian Studies, for "Diversity in 'the Korean Way': Transcultural Identities in Contemporary Diasporic Korean Literature and Media in North America."
- Christine Cooling: The Odessa Prize for the best undergraduate paper in a fourth-year course for "Reimagining Broadcasting Policy in a Networked Canada: Debating Digital Sovereignty and Democratic Reform."



York University's Schulich School of Business and [Techstars Toronto](#) have formalized a new annual talent partnership, with six top Schulich MBAs assigned to support the accelerator and its cohort of 24 startups. The MBA students will assist in developing marketing plans, lead generation, financial forecasting and modelling, and will also support Techstars startup founders with achieving their in-program benchmarks and milestones. The partnership also provides the six Schulich MBA students with access to Techstars workshops, resources and their community of founders and venture capital leaders. The students will work from both the Techstars Toronto office at OneEleven and at Schulich's Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship on York University's Keele Campus. The first five Schulich MBA students hired are:

- Aasma Pratap Singh (MBA '24 – former senior consultant at EY and PwC India)
- Harjot Singh Juneja (MBA '24 – former investment analyst with Dexter Angels in India)
- Abhishek Bapat (MBA '24 – past intern at Define Capital)
- Kumar Shanu (MBA '23 – past intern with Telus Ventures)
- Payal Aggarwal (MBA '23 – former founder institute program manager)



York University Faculty of Health Professor [David Hood](#) received a more than \$1 million grant over five years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) to study the role of exercise, sex and age on muscle decline by delving into the role of lysosomes in clearing out bad mitochondria from muscles. Hood, founder of the Muscle Health Research Centre at York, has been studying the synthesis of mitochondria and musculature for decades. More recently, he has taken an interest in the role of lysosomes – the "Pac-Man" organelles responsible for clearing out cellular materials when they no longer function as they should – in the removal process of worn-out mitochondria.



The Capital Markets Tribunal announced the appointment of [Mary Condon](#), Professor of Law at Osgoode Hall Law School as one of two new Adjudicators. The Adjudicators will serve a two-year term, effective Sept. 28, 2023. Condon teaches Securities Regulation and Advanced Securities Law. Most recently, she served as Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School from 2019 to 2023. Previously, she served as Interim Dean and Associate Dean (Academic). Mary was a Commissioner and Board Member of the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) from 2008 to 2016. She served as one of two full-time Vice-Chairs of the OSC from 2011 to 2014, during which time she was an active member of the OSC's tribunal and executive sponsor of a number of policy initiatives. She also served as a member of the CEO's Advisory Council at the OSC.



[Six Osgoode alumni](#) have been honoured by Canadian Lawyer magazine as being among *Canada's Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers for 2023*:

- Lisa Mantello '02, Partner, Financial Services with Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, was recognized in the Business category. She practices in all areas of financial services, with particular expertise in domestic and cross-border financing transactions, structured finance and derivatives.
- Yaman Marwah '18 (LLM), Founder, President and Managing Lawyer with Ottawa-based Marwah Law, was recognized in the Governments, Non-Profits and Associations category. He holds a PhD in law, is a serial entrepreneur in the tech industry and leads the business and real estate departments at Marwah Law.
- Janice Rubin '89, Co-Founder and Co-Managing Partner for Toronto-based Rubin Thomlinson LLP, was recognized in the Human Rights, Advocacy and Criminal Law category. She is a highly accomplished employment lawyer, one of Canada's foremost experts in workplace investigations and a trusted advisor to senior human resource professionals.
- Laura Salvatori '10, General Counsel with Anson Funds, was recognized in the In-House category. She oversees all legal, litigation, risk and regulatory matters for Anson's Canadian and U.S. operations. She previously served as vice-president, assistant general counsel, for Goldman Sachs and general counsel and senior vice-president, human resources, for Toronto-based Match Marketing Group.
- Karl Tabbakh '97, Managing Partner, Region of Quebec, with McCarthy Tétrault LLP, was recognized in the Business category. He is also co-leader of the firm's International & Business Strategy Group and a member of its senior leadership team. He specializes in private equity, mergers and acquisitions, securities and capital markets.
- Muneeb Yusuf '09, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary for Toronto-based health-technology firm League Inc., was recognized in the In-House category. He is responsible for managing and evaluating risks facing the corporation, leading its legal department and acting as a key negotiator for strategic transactions.



Sept. 24 marked the much-anticipated arrival of the Bennu asteroid sample to Earth — the largest asteroid sample captured in space — which will allow researchers across Canada and around the world to study it and better understand the origins of the solar system, thanks in part to work led by a York professor at the Lassonde School of Engineering. [Mike Daly](#), York Research Chair in Planetary Science with the Centre for Research in Earth and Space Science (CRESS) led the OSIRIS-REx Laser Altimeter (OLA) science team for the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). Daly is among the four Canadian researchers who are scheduled to receive additional portions of the asteroid sample for some of the mission team's initial studies. Daly is preparing to measure the thermal properties of the material, which should help scientists understand how Bennu and similar asteroids respond to solar heating, an effect that can slightly alter an asteroid's orbit and add to uncertainty over the risk of future collisions with Earth.

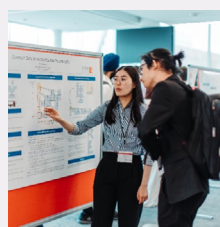


York University Professor Emeritus, the [Hon. Peter A. Cumming \(K.C.\)](#), received an honorary doctorate at The University of Winnipeg's 123rd Convocation on Friday, Oct. 13. In 1968, Cumming joined Osgoode Hall Law School at York University, Toronto, where he taught contracts, commercial law, tax, fiscal federalism, energy law and Indigenous rights. It was during this time that he became very involved in First Nations rights. Cumming's work was recognized by the Province of Ontario in 1984 when he was appointed Queen's Counsel. In 1995, he was named Professor Emeritus at York University and appointed to what is now named the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. His career as a judge involved in particular the development of the law relating to class actions and significant decisions for the specialized Commercial List. Since his retirement in 2013, Cumming has been working as a mediator and arbitrator.



York University's [Faculty of Health](#) recognized six early-career faculty members on Oct. 4 for their accomplishments in curricular innovation, teaching, research and service during the annual Dean's Awards. Recipients this year are:

- Lynda van Dreumel – Dean's Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership, Pedagogical and/or Curricular Innovation
- Jodi Martin – Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Jessica Vorstermans – Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Skye Fitzpatrick – Dean's Award for Excellence in Service & Engagement Impact Award
- Andria Phillips – Dean's Award for Excellence in Service & Engagement Impact Award
- Tarra Penney – Dean's Award for Excellence in Research



Eight York University undergraduate students received awards at [Lassonde's Undergraduate Summer Research Conference](#) in recognition of summer projects that aimed to address the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The projects received funding from the Lassonde Undergraduate Research Awards (LURA), an initiative that promotes experiential learning, skill building and professional development through funded research opportunities, and the Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council Undergraduate Student Research Awards (NSERC USRA).

The following students received LURAs for their poster presentations:

- Prachurya Deepta Adhikary, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and their project "Markov Chain Monte Carlo Method for Generating Naturalistic Shapes" won first place;
- Ammar Mohamed Mohieldin Ahmed Abouelmaati, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and their project "Optimal Spectrum Partitioning and Power Allocation in Semi-Integrated Sensing and Communications System" won second place;
- Haydar Isa Senturk, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, won third place for the project "Design and Optimization of Micro-Coils for Efficient Power Transfer to Brain-Implanted Medical Devices."

The following students received LURAs for their oral presentations:

- Alice Fours, a student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and their project "Vascularization in Tissue Engineering: Engineering Functional Blood Vessels in 3D-Printed Biomaterials for Enhanced Transplantation Outcomes" won first place;
- Sharon Musa, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and their project "Audio-Video Scene Recognition" won second place; and
- Tyler Chung, a student in the Department of Earth & Space Science & Engineering, won third place for the project "Development of a Remote 2-D Imaging Fabry-Pérot Spectrometer for Climate Change Sensing and Monitoring."

The following undergraduates received Student Choice Awards for presentations:

- Kumar Vaibhav Jha, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and their project "Graph Based Multi-Object Tracking for Traffic Intersection Analytics" won best poster presentation; and
- Stefan de Lasa, a student in the Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, won best oral presentation for their project, "Using Semantics and Geometry to Scale Monocular Depth Estimation Models."