

## Academic Standards Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee of Senate Special Sub-Committee on New Faculty Curriculum

### Record of Consultation

Date	Tuesday, August 13, 2019
Attendees	Gary Klaassen, Professor, Lassonde Neil Tandon, Professor, Lassonde Peter Taylor, Professor, Lassonde
Sub-Committee Members	Kim Michasiw, Chair of ASCP <i>Chair</i> Alice Hovorka, Dean, Environmental Studies Alice Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic Tarmo Remmel, Co-Coordinator (Geography) Robert Everett, Secretary

### Focus of the Consultation

The discussion focused on curriculum reform in Lassonde (where a process of creating new streams in Climate Science, Atmospheric Science and Planetary Science is underway) and program proposals developed by colleagues in Environmental Studies and Geography. Colleagues from Lassonde described the nature of the re-visioning exercise and the broad thrust of the innovations under consideration.

A 2-page overview of a proposed Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science in the new Faculty was shared with participants. Climate Change is one of the streams in the proposed BSc. Its name was chosen to capture its nature in words familiar to prospective students.

Throughout the consultation there was an emphasis on the need to ensure curriculum coherence while projecting York's collective strengths.

### Specific Topics

Among the matters discussed were the following:

- opportunities for collaboration arising from the curriculum of the new Faculty's intended BSc (which accentuates near-Earth climate change) and the strengths of EATS in ~~upper~~ atmospheric research and teaching
- the possibility of explicit pathways between degrees and streams
- the desirability of including field work in the curriculum
- the need to construct degree requirements that are not unduly onerous and permit students to explore other interests

- issues associated with Calculus requirements (along with the possibility of rematriating instruction within programs and other ways to address high failure rates and resulting withdrawals)

### **Outcomes and Further Steps**

The following were among the key outcomes:

- there will be further consultations, facilitated by Dean Hovorka; Lassonde colleagues will provide more detail about the proposed Atmospheric Stream to the FES-Geography curriculum working group
- it could be enriching for students, and promote their mobility, for the streams to have some curriculum in common
- over a longer term, it is critical to have a focused conversation about Geomatics at York (there are currently three separate programs)
- the Vice-Provost Academic will provide advice on the legislative pathway to approval of the changes under consideration by colleagues in EATS