

The Senate of York University

Meeting Synopsis

The 709th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, 26 September 2024

Remarks

Chair

The Chair, Lauren Sergio, welcomed Senators to the 709th meeting of Senate. Senator David Peters was welcomed as the incoming Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic, and thanks and appreciation were extended to Senator Lisa Philipps for her contributions to Senate and governance during her term as Provost and Vice-President Academic.

President

The President spoke to various topics, including the upcoming release of the President's Annual Report, updates on the university's financial challenges, advancements in research and the DEDI strategy, the development of a medical school, innovations in 21st-century learning, sustainability initiatives, the opening of the Markham campus, and the impact of provincial and federal policy decisions on tuition, international student caps, and enrollment-related budget issues.

Approvals

Senate approved a recommendation of the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee to authorize:

- the granting of degrees at the University's convocations held in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025, and individually to students at any point during the year who have fulfilled the degree program requirements for receipt of the degrees and the granting of diplomas and certificates at the University's Convocations held in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025, and individually to students at any point during the year who have fulfilled the requirements for receipt of diplomas and certificates;
- the forwarding of recommendations for certification by the Faculty of Education, to the Ontario College of Teachers, for those students who have been deemed "recommended for certification" by the Council of the Faculty of Education.

York University Senate

Committee Information Items

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee's information items included the following:

- its approval of Senate Committee members nominated by Faculty Councils and those nominated by student Senators
- the results of the Senator and Senate committee member surveys conducted in June and July, along with actions that will be taken to address key findings
- revisions to the Structure, Rules and Procedures of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Faculty Council to integrate considerations of DEDI principles in a Council Committee's mandate and enhance clarity of committee reporting functions.
- Preliminary discussion of its priorities for Executive for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- Continued discussion of possible options to address the issues and concerns stemming from a motion submitted by senators recommending the creation of a Senate Finance and Budget Advisory Committee.
- Actions taken under summer authority
- Senate meeting dates and planned modes of delivery of them for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)

APPRC's information items included the following:

- continued discussion of its 2024-2025 committee priorities.
- the decision to extend the 2020-2025 University Academic Plan by one-year, to June 2026, with a retrospective progress report towards the current priorities to be prepared this academic year to guide the development of the succeeding UAP.
- Ongoing developments in the planning for the establishment of a school of medicine.
- A preliminary enrolment outlook for 2024-2025.
- Updates on the "Faculties of the Future" initiative to advance financial sustainability and the University's vision.
- recent research and innovation activities and success across the University.

York University Senate

Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee

APPRC's information items included the following:

- An update on ongoing policy work, which includes making clarifying edits to the Academic Conduct Policy regarding implementation, and the continuation of work on the Attending Physician's Statement Policy, which was referred back to ASCP at the June Senate meeting. It is anticipated that these items would be brought back to Senate later in the term.
- ASCP reported that it had approved minor changes to degree requirements for the following programs:
 - FGS: Changes to Faculty of Graduate Studies Guidelines on Thesis/Dissertation Prizes, effective Fall 2024
 - FGS: Changes to Graduate Regulations on Courses and Grading – Academic Standing, effective Fall 2024
 - Lassonde: Updates to the guidelines, in the graduate academic calendar, on acceptable formats for the thesis and dissertations, effective F2024
 - Science: Change in program name from “Biophysics” to “Biomedical Physics”, Bachelor of Science Specialized Honours degree program, effective F2025
- The Committee Chair reported on sub-committee membership for 2024-2025. Work is ongoing to populate its Coordination and Planning Sub-committee, which still has one remaining vacancy. The Committee reported that the Joint Sub-Committee on Quality Assurance was fully constituted with a complement of seven sitting members.

Additional Information about this Meeting

Please refer to the full Senate [agenda](#) of **26 September 2024** for details about the items reported.

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 24 October 2024**.