

# The Senate of York University

## Meeting Synopsis

**The 711th Meeting of Senate held on Thursday, 28 November 2024**

### Remarks

#### Chair

Acting Chair, Senator Burke Wood, welcomed Senators to the 711<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate. In the context of the land acknowledgment, she reflected on the role of universities, reminding that it is important to be mindful of obligations to the land and one another. Thanks and appreciation were expressed to Senator Robichaud who is stepping down in December as University Secretary, for his support of Senate throughout his tenure, which included navigating the challenges for governance arising from the pandemic and supporting academic continuity during the labour disruption.

#### President

The President outlined York University's budget challenges, including a \$111 million deficit for 2024-25 due to missed enrollment targets and external policy impacts like tuition freezes and international student caps. Since the June budget approval, in-year revenue for 2025-26 is projected to fall \$68 million below budget expectations. Efforts to address this include contingency planning, revenue diversification, and partnerships. Emphasizing York's vision of access, interdisciplinarity, and community impact, the president stressed improving student experience and addressing reputational challenges. Despite setbacks, achievements like the Markham campus opening and alumni engagement reflect York's potential to adapt and thrive.

### Approvals

On the recommendation of the Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP), Senate approved the establishment of the Graduate Diploma in Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (Type 3), to be housed in the School of Nursing, Faculty of Health, effective F/W 2025-2026.

Senate approved a motion that all ongoing plans and associated academic resources required for the establishment of a medical school be fully transparent and provided through regular reports to Senate.

### Referrals

Proposed minor revisions to the Academic Conduct Policy were referred back to ASCP for further consultation.

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## Reports

Under the auspices of the Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee, Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic David Peters presented the annual autumn report on Enrolments and Faculty Complement. The report is accessible from the Senate Meeting website.

## Discussions

Under the auspices of the Executive Committee, Senate discussed the option of changing to an earlier statutory meeting time of Senate.

## Committee Information Items

### Executive Committee

Senate Executive information items included:

- approval of members of Senate committees nominated by student Senators
- a meeting between the Senate and Board Executive Committees on November 5, which included discussions on internationalization and recruitment trends' impact on enrollment, faculty, program delivery, and the University's profile
- an update on the Committee's consideration of actions in response to a motion to establish a Senate Finance and Budget Advisory Committee,
- confirmation that there will be a meeting of Senate on 12 December 2024
- approval of a revision to the Faculty of Health's Faculty Council Rules to include a Decolonizing, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee as a standing committee of Council.

### Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC)

APPRC reported on the following items:

- the Committee's engagement in the budget consultations exercise led by the President, Interim Provost and Vice-President Finance & Administration
- governance actions taken to support academic planning for the establishment of the medical school, specifically the creation of the School of Medicine Planning Group (SoM PG) and the Ad Hoc Oversight Group (AOG). It also reported on the results of the APPRC forum focused on the development of school of medicine plans. The SoM Planning Group and the Ad Hoc Oversight Group have begun to reflect on the input received at the forum.
- the Forward Action Plan Academic Projects

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- the Connected Minds project highlighting activities and contributions at the one-year mark.

## **Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy (ASCP)**

ASCP reported on the following:

- new and ongoing priorities such as updates to Course Outline Guidelines, the new grading schemes Faculty conversion exercise, feedback received on the policy document speaking to the waiver of requirement for an attending physician statements, and plans to review the Senate Policy on Conduct of Examinations.
- minor changes to degree requirements for the following programs:
  - AMPD: Changes to degree requirements to the Bachelor of Design Program, Department of Design, AMPD, effective F2025
  - FGS: Update to Faculty Regulations on guidelines for Hired/Professional Editors, effective 1 December 2024
  - Glendon: Changes to the Certificate in Spanish-English Translation, Department of Hispanic Studies, effective Fall 2025

## **Additional Information about this Meeting**

Please refer to the full Senate [agenda](#) of **28 November 2024** for details about the items reported.

Senate's next meeting will be held at **3:00 pm on Thursday, 12 December 2024.**