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The York University Brief - October 2024



Ward 15 By-Election Candidate Meet and Greet

Our Glendon campus is situated in Ward 15 Don Valley West and on November 4 voters will elect a new councillor to replace the late Jaye Robinson. Our team was pleased to host campaign staff at Glendon this month for a chance to meet with students in the Centre of Excellence lobby. York looks forward to working with Ward 15's next councillor.



Deputy Minister Seminar on Disruptive Technology

York University, in collaboration with the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS), hosted a seminar titled, Disruptive AI, for federal public servants in Ottawa. It was delivered by Professor James Elder, York Research Chair in Human and Computer Vision and Co-Director of the Centre of AI & Society. Professor Elder discussed how AI is transforming society, including education, the creative industries, healthcare and transportation, and as with any disruptive technology, how there are many opportunities as well as risks to identify in this area. His remarks emphasized how leaders can strengthen linkages between academic, industry and public sectors, particularly focusing on the integration of AI into existing fabrics of technology and public policy in these key domains.

The event was moderated by Taki Sarantakis (LA&PS '93), President of the CSPS and York University's Deputy Minister Champion.

Research Stories and Institutional Highlights



Markham Campus prioritizing experiential education with unique biotechnology programs

With York University's new Markham Campus now open, the campus is prioritizing opportunities that demonstrate York's leadership experiential education (EE), which is increasingly a focus in Canada's halls of higher learning. It is doing so with innovative new programs, including two rooted in biotechnology. [Learn more here.](#)



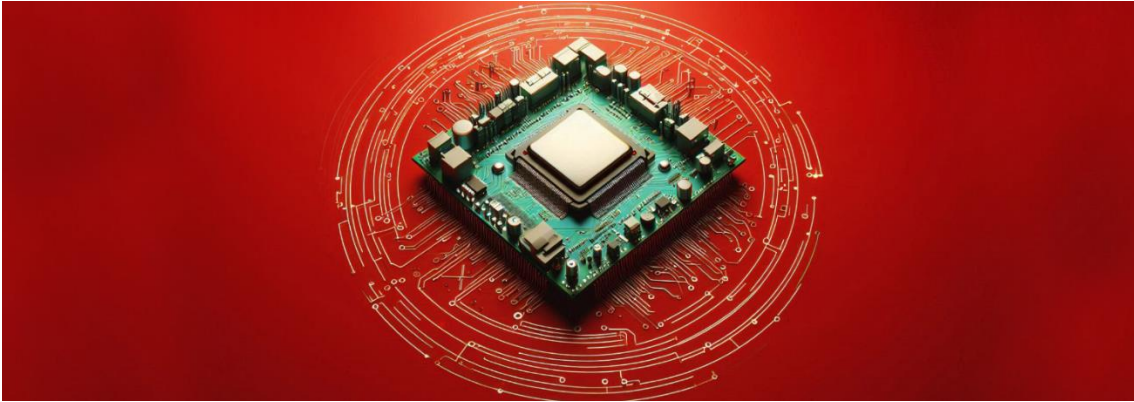
Schulich's Master of Marketing program ranked first in Canada

The [Master of Marketing](#) program at York University's Schulich School of Business has ranked first in Canada, 11th in North America and 39th globally in the 2025 QS Business Master's rankings. [Learn more here.](#)



Rare disease drug initiative led by York University researcher offers hope for millions

Professor **Conor Douglas** is leading a global initiative to uncover the economic, political and regulatory barriers that prevent costly research into drugs that could treat rare diseases. The goal is to advance new approaches to drug development that could open the door to a broader range of treatments for rare diseases, not just those for more common ailments. [Learn more here.](#)



Lassonde grad student helps transform power system cybersecurity

Electrical power systems are essential for providing energy to homes, businesses, hospitals and other sectors, ensuring the seamless operation of society. However, as the demand for energy grows and these systems become more complex, they are increasingly susceptible to cyberattacks that can disrupt daily activities and pose serious, potentially life-threatening risks. To help protect these systems and the communities they support, researchers at York University's Lassonde School of Engineering are advancing a new approach to cybersecurity. [Learn more here.](#)

The York University Brief is York University's monthly newsletter that showcases some of our latest research and institutional news. Although anyone can subscribe, our readership primarily consists of our government and community partners and is meant to provide insight into the work done at the University and its potential links to work done in government and in the community. The York University Brief is typically published monthly from September to June.

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