University Academic Plan
Community Consultations

Fall/Winter 2019-20
Consultation goal

To share ideas on the future of York University and the University Academic Plan 2020-2025
What is the UAP and why talk about it now?

- The University Academic Plan (UAP) is a foundational document, approved by the University Senate, to articulate our vision and academic priorities as an institution.
- The current UAP runs from 2015-20.
- The Academic Policy, Planning & Research Committee (APPRC) of Senate has initiated the process to create our next UAP.
3 Strategic Documents Spanning 27 Years

- 1992: 2020 Vision
- 2010: White Paper
- 2015: UAP
- 2020
York’s Current UAP: 7 Priorities

1. Innovative, Quality Programs for Academic Excellence
2. Advancing Exploration, Innovation and Achievement in Scholarship, Research and Related Creative Activities
3. Enhanced Quality in Teaching and Student Learning
4. A Student-Centred Approach
5. Enhanced Campus Experience
6. Enhanced Community Engagement
7. Enabling the Plan
What are Other Universities Doing? Brief Environmental Scan

We reviewed:

- 21 International Universities and 19 Canadian Universities across 11 Countries and 5 continents
- Top QS schools, Canadian Universities across provinces, comprehensive universities

Three formats are common across institutions:

- **Traditional**: organized around excellence in programming, research, student success, and community engagement
- **Thematic**: organized around one or more central themes (e.g., impact of technology on society)
- **Grand Challenges**: organized around local/global challenges/opportunities
Thematic Approaches

E.g. Northeastern University
- Focus on evolving a new kind of university for a digital and artificial intelligence age: blueprint for the “networked university”

E.g. Sorbonne University strategic themes
- Acting in a global world
- Contributing to the open science, digital and data revolutions
- Learning, understanding and undertaking in a changing world
What is a “Grand Challenge?”

- complex and urgent societal issues of our time
- with global and local dimensions
- too big to be understood from any one perspective
- calls for thinking across disciplines, collaborating across institutions, sectors and borders
- focus on social innovation, solutions and impact
Grand Challenges Approach:
E.g. University of Minnesota
Q1

What do you see as York's greatest values?
Q2

Describe using one word the greatest opportunities for York that should inform the next University Academic Plan.
Q3

Which of these approaches seems most appealing to you?

- Standard approach (organized by different activities of research, teaching, etc.)
- Thematic approach
- Grand challenges/big questions approach
Q4

Are there local or global challenges that York is especially well placed to help solve?
Should APPRC frame the University Academic Plan around Grand Challenges?
Traditional UAP Themes

• Advancing:
  – the teaching mission
  – research, scholarship and creative activity
  – student success
  – community engagement
Q6

How might we best advance the teaching mission of the University over the next 5 years?
How might we best advance research, scholarship and creative activity over the next 5 years?
How might we best advance student success over the next 5 years?
Q9

How might we best advance community engagement over the next 5 years?
UAP Process

1. White Paper and UAP Progress Report
2. Community Engagement
3. UAP 2020-2025 Drafting
4. Community Consultation on Draft UAP
5. UAP Finalisation and Senate Submission

- Fall 2019
- Winter 2020
- April 2020
Engagement Options

There are many ways to provide input to the Senate Committee:

• Faculty Council discussions
• By posting your thoughts on public bulletin boards located at Scott Library and Vari Hall
• Through the feedback form on the UAP Renewal website
• By email to info.univsec@yorku.ca
Thank you for your participation!
Links to Notable UAP Examples

- Delft University of Technology: Interactive plan online
- University of Saskatchewan: The University the World Needs
- Northeastern University: No boundaries
- Sorbonne University: Focus on technology
- OCADU: Strategic Directions and Summary
- University of Sydney: Best title