

## **Role of Presidential Advisory Committee (PAC) and Odgers Berndtson for the recruitment of Provost and Vice-President Academic**

### **Role of the Presidential Advisory Committee**

York University's President and Vice-Chancellor has struck an Advisory Committee for the role of Provost and Vice-President Academic. The members of the committee are drawn from the faculty, students, staff, and administrative ranks of the university community (see list below).

The role of PAC members is to ensure that the ambitions and desires of York University stakeholders are considered in the progress of the search. They are also expected to make recommendations to the President that will serve the interests of York University overall. The President will then make a recommendation of the final candidate to the Board of Governors for approval.

In the early stages of the search, members of the committee engage in consultation with a variety of individuals and groups to solicit input regarding the issues, challenges, and opportunities in the current York University environment, and what the committee ought to be seeking in the background, experience, and qualifications of candidates. Using the feedback generated from community consultations, the committee will reach consensus on the qualifications being sought in the ideal candidate for the position.

The committee will work in a collaborative and collegial fashion over the duration of the search. Members of the committee have agreed to hold information related to candidates and committee discussions in strict confidence, during search proceedings and after an appointment is made.

### **Role of Odgers Berndtson**

The University has retained the services of an executive search firm, Odgers Berndtson, to assist with the search for York University's next Provost and Vice-President Academic.

The search firm brings deep sectoral knowledge and networks in global higher education. Within each of the Canadian, Australian, US, and UK offices at Odgers Berndtson, there are



teams focused solely on search within the post-secondary education sector. The Academic Practice division found in each office rely on the networks of their respective colleagues—which are truly global given the company’s 56 offices worldwide—to assist in the identification of outstanding academic leaders.

It is critical to acknowledge that the profile of the ideal candidate being sought is determined by the Presidential Advisory Committee and the York University community, not the executive search consultants at Odgers Berndtson. Part of the search firm’s role is to ensure a rigorous and quality process; to facilitate and bring committee members together around a common understanding of what they are seeking and why; to bring outstanding candidates to the table; and, to work with the committee through a process of evaluation and interviews to identify and recommend a successful candidate for this challenging role.

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Presidential Advisory Committee

Rhonda Lenton, President & Vice-Chancellor [Chair]

Paul McDonald, Dean, Faculty of Health

Richard Ooi, Senior Executive Officer

Alice Pitt, Vice-Provost Academic

Gelila Mekonnen, Undergrad Student, Glendon College

Aytak Akbari-Dibava, Political Science PhD Candidate - Recipient of Trudeau Doctoral Scholarship

Ijade Maxwell Rodrigues, Chief of Staff and Director, Government Relations [Secretary]

Faculty Representatives

Professor Qiang Zha, Education

Professor Marshall McCall, Science

Professor Sonia Lawrence, Osgoode

Professor Ellen Gutterman, Glendon

Professor Ida Ferrara, LAPS

Professor Laura Levin, AMPD

Adam Taves, Acting Associate Librarian

Odgers Berndtson Consultants

Ms. Gerri Woodford (Partner and Co-Lead, National Academic Practice)

Mr. Jason Murray (Engagement Manager, National Academic Practice)