Master of Disaster and Emergency Management graduates Alisha Khan and Magda Sulzycki founded 1033, a global network of Emergency and Business Continuity Management (EM/BC) professionals who provide free advisory and consulting services to organizations impacted by COVID-19.

The Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies announced the latest recipients of the Barbara Godard and Odessa Prizes, which recognize outstanding works that advance our knowledge of Canada:

- Best graduate dissertation: Alan Ojiig Corbiere, Department of History, for his dissertation titled “Anishinaabe Treaty-Making in the 18th- and 19th-Century Northern Great Lakes: From Shared Meanings to Epistemological Chasms”; and
- Best undergraduate paper in a fourth-year course: Natalia Santilli for her paper “The Abject Horror of the Spanish Influenza in Canadian Theatre.”

The Lassonde School of Engineering welcomed 16 female high school students to participate in the Helen Carswell STEAM Program for Women. This year, the program ran over a two-week period in a completely virtual format, and offered participants a paid research opportunity as lab assistants doing meaningful work in science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM).

Schulich Professor Yelena Larkin won the Pagano & Zechner Prize for the best non-investments paper published in the Review of Finance journal in 2019-20 for her work “Are US Industries Becoming More Concentrated?”.

York’s School of Human Resource Management (HRM), in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, won all four Canadian HR Reporter Reader’s Choice Awards for best education in Canada for the third consecutive year. Every York HRM program was nominated and selected as the winner in its respective category:

- The PhD HRM program;
- The executive master’s program (MHRM);
- The bachelor’s degree programs (BHRM); and
- the certificate in HRM.
goPeer, a financial technology start-up that makes non-traditional lending accessible on a peer-to-peer platform, won the 2019 Aird & Berlis StartupSource Market Entry Award, which includes both a $12,500 cash prize and an equal amount in Aird & Berlis LLP legal services. goPeer will also receive a $10,000 LaunchYU Accelerator Award.

The Centre for Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion launched the Anti-Racism Workshop Series, a four-part series on the critical components involved in increasing awareness and actions to address concerns of racial discrimination.

Construction of our new Markham Centre Campus (MCC) formally began last month with a small, physically distanced groundbreaking event at the project site. This important milestone was celebrated in-person and virtually by members of the York community, representatives from all three levels of government, our architecture and construction partners, community leaders and other supporters.

York launched its first-ever brand strategy to reflect its distinct identity in the higher education landscape. The new brand provides a clear, credible and differentiated articulation of our shared purpose and identity, and will enhance reputation, drive enrolment and attract funding and strategic partnerships.

The family of the late Avie Bennett, chancellor of York University from 1998 to 2004 and an honorary degree holder, has made a gift of $400,000 to support Canadian Writers in Person (CWIP), a literature course that curates a schedule of interactive opportunities with published Canadian authors for York students and the public. This one-of-a-kind course recently celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Four faculty members in the Faculty of Health were recognized with the annual Dean’s Awards, which reflect excellence and innovation within the Faculty. This year’s recipients are:

- Lauren Sergio - Dean’s Award for Research Excellence;
- Jennine Rawana - Dean’s Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership, Pedagogical and/or Curricular Innovation;
- Parissa Safai - Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service & Engagement Impact Award; and
- Jonathan Weiss - Dean’s Award for Excellence in Service & Engagement Impact Award.
Penelope Guevara, a first-year student in the criminology at program, is the winner of this year’s first-year free tuition contest.

Jack Leong was appointed associate dean, research and open scholarship at the York University Libraries.

Professor Gregory Chin was appointed to the Advisory Group of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) to advise on the UNOSSC South-South Ideas Paper Series, which collects evidence-based empirical research focused on advancing the increased understanding of pertinent international development issues in the global south.