Dean, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Toronto, Ontario

Established in 1959 and now the third-largest university in Canada, York University enjoys an international reputation as an engaged institution committed to providing a broad demographic of students with access to a high-quality, research-intensive university. Known for its dedication to social justice, York is a comprehensive university with 11 Faculties and Schools, 25 research centres, and 280 global partnerships; it has several campuses in the Greater Toronto Area and internationally. With a community of 55,000 students, over 6,000 faculty, librarians and staff, and more than 300,000 alumni, York is proud to be one of the most diverse universities in Canada. To learn more about York University, visit yorku.ca.

The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS) is renowned for its cutting-edge research and outstanding teaching and learning across the humanities, social sciences, and selected professional programs. With over 23,000 undergraduate and graduate students, over 1,500 full-time and contract faculty and staff, and 21 academic departments and schools, LA&PS is the largest liberal arts faculty in Canada. Through innovative programming and course design, diverse experiential learning opportunities, and a supportive community environment, LA&PS students gain knowledge and skills to prepare them to create big ideas that make an impact on the world. To learn more about LA&PS, visit laps.yorku.ca.

Reporting to the Provost and Vice-President Academic, the Dean makes a vital contribution as a member of the University’s senior leadership team to advancing institutional priorities and values. The Dean is the Faculty’s academic and administrative leader, ensuring excellence and equity in teaching and learning, research, scholarship, and student experience, and is responsible for budgeting and general administration - all within today’s context of rapid change. The Dean is also responsible for advancing Indigenization, including the initiatives and principles expressed in The Indigenous Framework for York University: A Guide to Action indigenous.info.yorku.ca/framework.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the academic qualifications, administrative leadership experience, and interpersonal skills necessary to successfully lead this large and complex faculty. Respected for collegiality as well as operational acuity, the next Dean will build trust, engagement, and a shared strategic vision. Progressive, practical, and inclusive, the Dean will lead the recruitment and retention of high-performing and diverse scholars and students, and will guide LA&PS in increasing tenure-track appointments, intensifying research, enhancing teaching and learning, and building reputational stature within a dynamic environment that encourages cross-disciplinary intersections and synergies. An excellent listener who is incisive and politically astute, the next Dean will build productive relationships and constructive partnerships - with students, within the Faculty and the broader University, and externally (locally, nationally, and internationally) with peer institutions and partners in the community, government, and industry. Exemplifying and encouraging the highest standards of scholarship, collegiality, transparency, ethical behaviour, and creative enquiry, the next Dean of LA&PS will be valued not just as a trusted leader but also as a mentor and role model.
York University is an Affirmative Action (AA) employer and strongly values diversity, including gender and sexual diversity, within its community. The AA Program, which applies to women, members of visible minorities (racialized groups), Aboriginal (Indigenous) peoples, and persons with disabilities, can be found at yorku.ca/acadjobs or by calling the AA office at 416-736-5713. In accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, accommodation will be provided throughout the recruitment process to applicants with disabilities. Please note that all qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, but applications from Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and Indigenous peoples in Canada will be given priority. Applications will be reviewed commencing in February; please indicate interest in Project 181034 in confidence at www.caldwellpartners.com/apply.php.