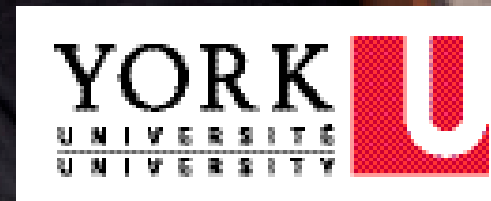


# FACULTY OF SCIENCE STRATEGIC PLAN

2015-2020





## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

For five decades, the Faculty of Science at York University has been pushing the boundaries of discovery, innovation, learning, engagement and impact. And our track record of accomplishments inspires us to aim even higher in the years ahead.

I am pleased to present the Faculty of Science's Strategic Plan for 2015-2020. The Plan emerged from extensive consultations across and beyond the Faculty—with students, staff, faculty members, alumni, friends and partners—and it reflects our collective vision and aspirations. It provides a framework for raising our research and teaching excellence, promoting student success, and enhancing broader impact. It underscores and builds upon our commitment to fostering scientific discovery, engaging our community, and inspiring humanity.

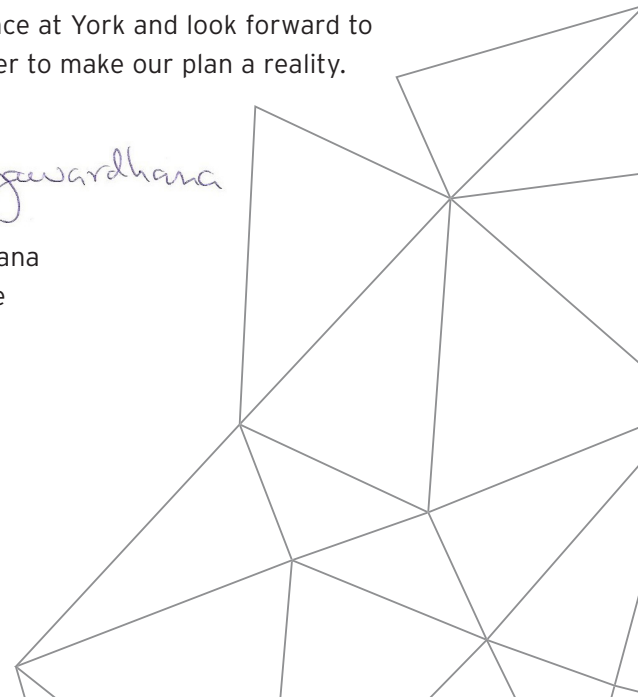
Science is at the heart of many of the biggest issues that we contend with today, from energy and the environment to health and security. It has the power to transform our lives through innovation, critical thinking and cultural enrichment. As such it is imperative that Science at York continues as a hub of distinction at the University and beyond.

I am excited about what the future holds for the Faculty of Science at York and look forward to working together to make our plan a reality.



Ray Jayawardhana

Ray Jayawardhana  
Dean of Science



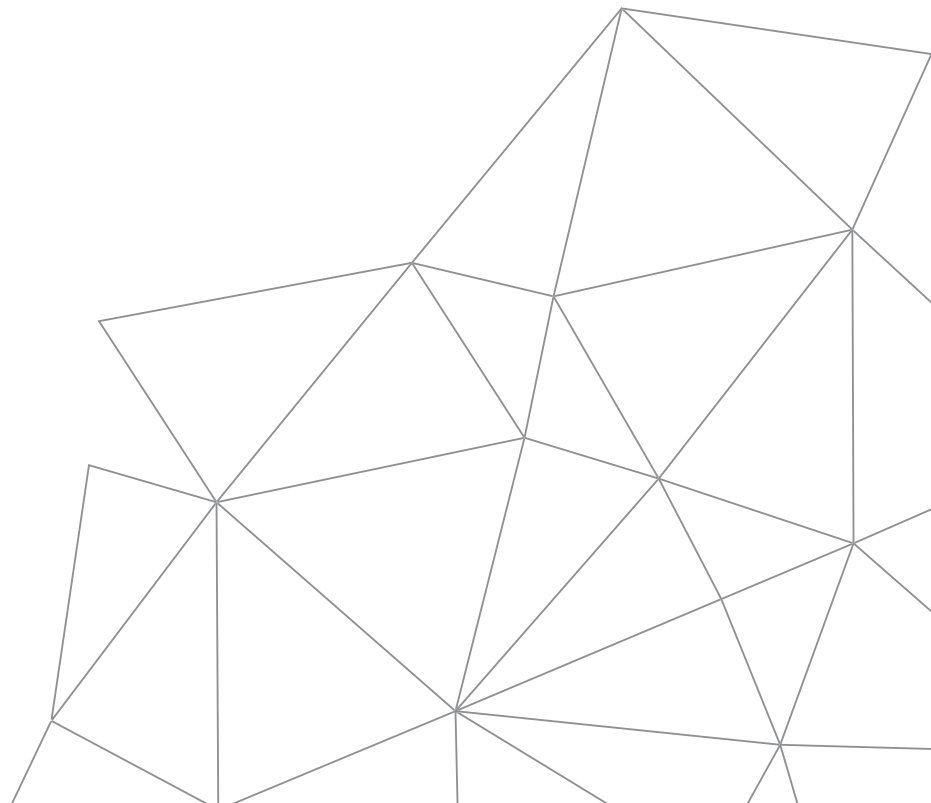


## VISION

Fostering discovery. Engaging community. Inspiring humanity.

## MISSION

The Faculty of Science is a hub of research and teaching excellence fostering scientific discovery and preparing global thinkers to advance knowledge and human progress. Our students learn from and work with outstanding faculty members, and benefit from leading-edge research facilities. Our scientists collaborate with colleagues around the world in academia, industry and government, and also engage with the community at large through extensive outreach activities and media.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## FOCUS: TEACHING & LEARNING

### GOAL:

Offer distinctive and appealing programs delivered in a culture guided by the scholarship of teaching and learning.

### PRIORITIES:

1. Develop innovative and appealing academic programs that reflect the aspirations of students, as corroborated by rising undergraduate enrollments, both domestic (by 15% in five years) and international (by 50% in five years), and rising admit averages of registrants.
2. Promote alignment of course learning outcomes, teaching and learning activities, and assessments, to be confirmed in curriculum reviews.
3. Strengthen tenure and promotion criteria for teaching excellence to recognise scholarship of teaching and learning, particularly for alternate stream faculty.
4. Recognize teaching excellence through internal and external award nominations, with the aim of at least one faculty member winning a major external teaching award within the next five years.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

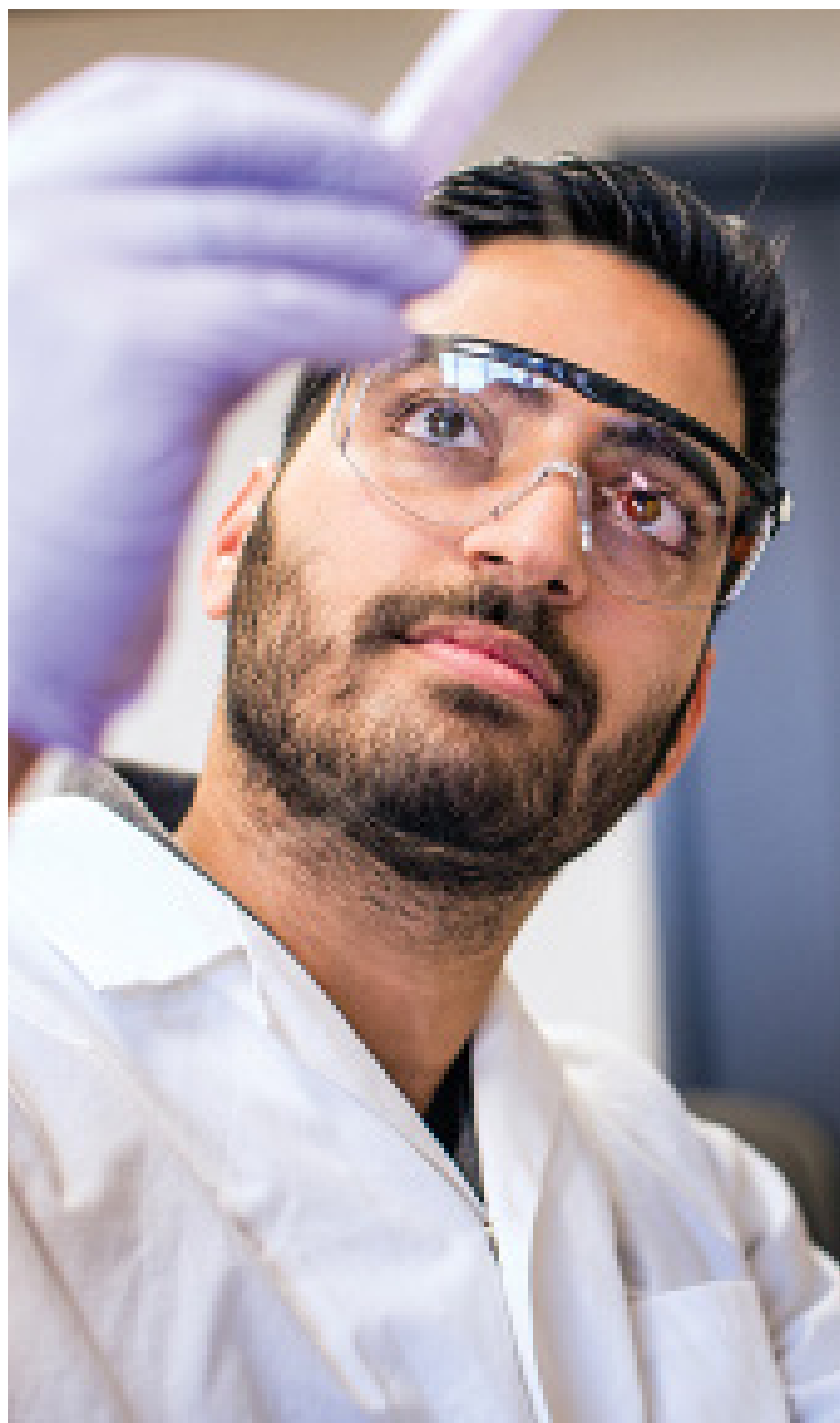
## FOCUS: RESEARCH

### GOAL:

Foster research excellence through recruitment, recognition and support, thus making the Faculty a destination of choice for future scientists.

### PRIORITIES:

1. Raise the number of research chair appointments (e.g., CRCs, YRCs, endowed chairs) and renew the professorial stream faculty complement, with a view to building 'critical mass' in select areas.
2. Increase the external funding for research by 50% within five years, from the 2014 level, from a diversity of sources including government, industry, foundations and philanthropy, in part by supporting strategic/team applications (e.g., CFI, ORF, CREATE, CFREF, Genome Canada).
3. Enable more faculty members across all ranks to receive major internal (e.g., President's Research Excellence Award) and external honours (e.g., FRCS, Steacie).
4. Make continuous improvements to keep research infrastructure competitive, and develop sustainable models for maintenance and support of major equipment.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## FOCUS: STUDENT SUCCESS

### GOAL:

Boost the success of our students during their time at York and beyond.

### PRIORITIES:

1. Enhance opportunities for research (e.g., summer research awards) and experiential learning (e.g., Mitacs placements, co-op programs) for students at all levels.
2. Working with Bethune College, enhance and streamline undergraduate advising and support, with a view to improving retention and student satisfaction.
3. Raise funds for undergraduate and graduate scholarships/awards, with a view to recruiting and supporting top students.
4. Provide professional development opportunities for postdoctoral fellows and graduate students (e.g., media workshops, career panels and networking).





# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

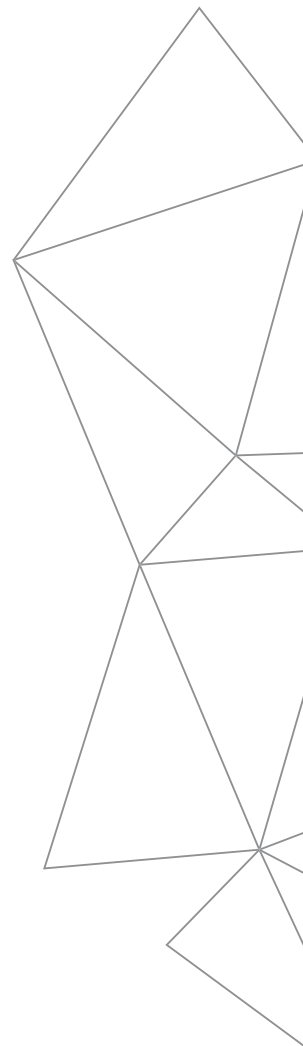
## FOCUS: INVESTING IN PEOPLE

### GOAL:

Recruit, support and promote top faculty and staff in a community that values individual contributions as well as collaboration and teamwork.

### PRIORITIES:

1. Strengthen the sense of community, through Faculty-wide events/programs that promote cross-disciplinary intellectual and social interactions.
2. Ensure success of new faculty and staff through 'on-boarding', mentoring and professional development opportunities.
3. Promote recognition and visibility of Science faculty, staff, students and alumni through nominations for awards and honors.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## FOCUS: ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

### GOAL:

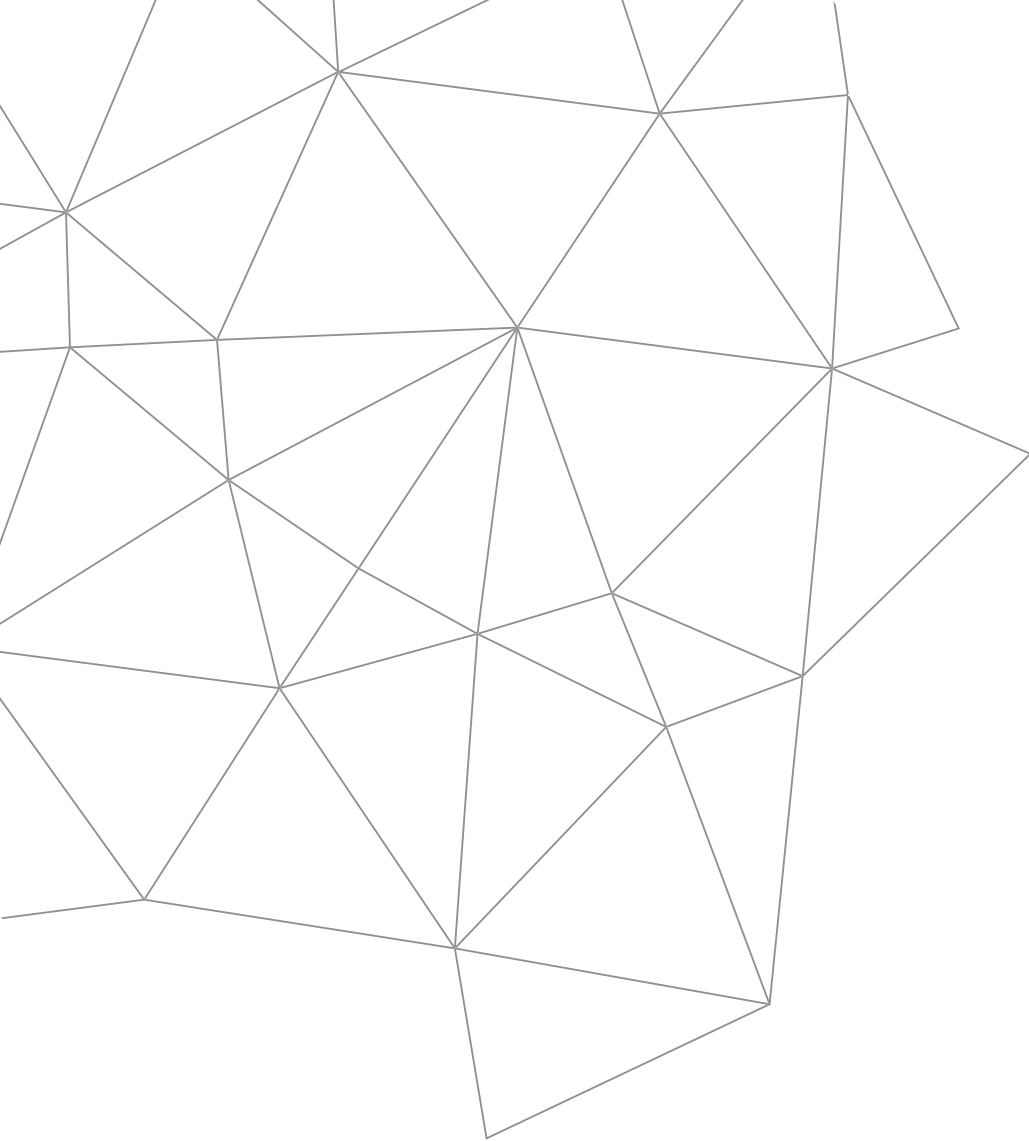
Engage effectively with the broader community and offer innovative outreach programs for youth and the public, thus raising the profile and impact of Science at York.

### PRIORITIES:

1. Engage with alumni, supporters and friends of the Faculty effectively and consistently to enhance their connections with and support for Science at York.
2. Offer exciting and innovative outreach programs for youth (e.g., SciX, Helix), high school teachers and the public, and establish a high-profile annual event (York Science Forum) that draws a large audience.
3. Raise the visibility of Science at York through extensive media engagement, by promoting coverage for our research, teaching and outreach efforts and pitching our scientists as expert commentators for breaking stories.







## Contact

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