The York University School of Public Policy and Administration Alumni Network (YUSPPAAN) is pleased to announce the inaugural recipient of the Foster-Greene Award for Excellence in Public Policy, Administration Law.

Amuna Baraka-Clarke (MPPAL class of 2018) Director of Human Resources and Operations for the Jane/Finch Centre

Amuna is passionate about access. As a university student she worked with marginalized youth in Montreal to help confront barriers in the education and justice system. With the completion of her undergraduate degree in Political Science and English Literature she decided to use her powers for good and embark on a career in the service of community. Almost three decades later and over 15 years in senior leadership roles, she has had the privilege of working in the areas of homelessness, education, social justice and legal advocacy.

Amuna decided to pursue a Master’s in Public Policy, Administration and Law as a means to gain insight and skill in working with the policy levers that have a direct impact on multi-barriered communities. The program has helped to advance her work in the areas of financial literacy and education where she is currently supporting people to participate and be included. She also uses this policy lens in her delivery of workshops and facilitation of discussions on the issues of equity and inclusion.

Currently she works as the Director of Human Resources and Operations for the Jane/Finch Centre. In this role she strengthens organizational structures and practices through strategic human resources interventions and the engagement of policy. She is also a CivicAction DiverseCity Fellow and sits on various boards, including the newly engaged York University Black Alumni Network.

Congratulations to Amuna!
Call for Community Partner Nominations

This past summer, our LA&PS Internship Awards Program provided eighteen LA&PS students an internship experience at local non-profits working towards social and economic justice and indigenous rights. These internship opportunities are supported by generous donor funding, providing a paid work experience in the form of a financial award to our students in organizations that may otherwise not have the budget to hire a summer student.

We are pleased to be able to again open a call to our York community to nominate and/or refer potential non-profits and community organizations who can provide meaningful opportunities to extend and enhance student learning, while benefiting from the added capacity of a summer student to support a range of valuable projects such as research/archival work, communications/marketing, community engagement and organization (to name a few).

Interested organizations may be directed to Kathleen Garces, Experiential Education Partnerships Coordinator at garckath@yorku.ca or 416.736.2100 x 33882 to enter into the selection process. The deadline for applications from community organizations is December 8th.

The themes of the award are below:

1. Indigenous Rights
Students should seek to work with organizations that are engaged with the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in areas such as Child Welfare, Education, Language and Culture, Health and Justice. Students may also seek opportunities with indigenous organizations and local indigenous communities to develop community projects.

2. Social Justice, Equity & Inclusion
Students should seek assignments that will allow for effective strategic thinking, planning, action and development in the area of social justice, equity and inclusion with agencies, organizations and enterprises where such principles are fundamental to the organization.

3. Economic Justice
Students should seek to work with community organizations, cooperatives, credit unions and similar other organizations which focus on issues of economic justice.

Canadian Blood Services will hold a clinic at the Keele Campus, Nov. 26 and 27

If you are considering giving the gift of life through a blood donation, Canadian Blood Services will be on campus Nov. 26 and 27. The clinic will be set up in the CIBC Lobby located in the Accolade East Building on the Keele Campus.

Each year, York shows its community spirit by saving lives through hosting Canadian Blood Services on campus. On average, one unit of blood helps three people and your donations will be used to help hundreds of people in the Greater Toronto Area.

What would it take to make you give blood?
- If you knew you knew you could save a life, would you?
- If you knew only 3.5 per cent of eligible Canadians gave blood, would you give?
- If you knew that patients in our area hospitals use at least 650 to 700 units of blood each day, would you help them by donating blood?
- What if you knew that cancer patients use an average of eight units of blood products each week during their treatment?

For more information on how to become a donor, or to schedule an opportunity to donate during one of their many clinics throughout the community, visit https://blood.ca/en or call 1-888-2-DONATE.
Announcements

York Cares United Way Campaign announces Pancake Breakfast and silent auction

As the largest supporter of social services in Toronto, the United Way Greater Toronto is dedicated to creating opportunities that people need to improve their lives and build a better future. Every year, the York University community engages in the York Cares United Way Campaign to raise much-needed funding for the United Way Greater Toronto. This year’s goal is to raise $180,000. There are several ways to contribute to the campaign.

2019 York Cares United Way Campaign Pancake Breakfast
Show your support of social services in the GTA by attending the annual York Cares United Way Campaign Pancake Breakfast, taking place Nov. 15 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Central Square Cafeteria. For only $2 you can enjoy delicious pancakes and a hot beverage. This is an opportunity to learn more about the United Way Greater Toronto while supporting a good cause and learning more about the campaign. Come out and cheer on our senior leaders along with our York Cares United Way Campaign committee and student ambassadors as they flip pancakes for an important cause. This event is supported by Aramark.

2019 York Cares United Way Campaign Silent Auction
On Nov. 20 and 21, the Division of Advancement will host its annual Silent Auction in support of the 2019 York Cares United Way Campaign. This is an event where you can donate and bid on exciting prizes and showcase your creativity, skills and ability in areas of interest outside of work. It is a great way to share hidden talents with your colleagues, while helping to raise funds for United Way of Greater Toronto, which includes Peel, Toronto and York Region.

Let the campaign team know if you have an item you would like to add to the exciting line up of products, skills, talents, services available for auction. Some examples of items you can contribute are: home baked treats and other delicious baked goods, art, services (photography, tutoring, coaching, etc.), handmade candles, jewelry, charms and bookmarks, resume, cover letter and LinkedIn review, vintage designer handbags, household items (small electronics, kitchenware, etc.). Confirm your donation by end of day on Nov. 15 by emailing yucares@yorku.ca. The auction will be held from 12pm to 2pm, Nov. 20 and 21 in room 135 Big Egg, West Office Building.

To view the full Y-File article, click here.

Donations Urgently Needed by the Food Bank on Campus

The long and the short of it is that more YorkU students are using the food bank to make ends meet. The food bank is funded by a levy paid by undergraduate students. Graduate students have never been denied access to the food bank thankfully, but the (undergraduate) York Federation of Students is asking for the help in being able to meet all of the need. A minimum of $10,000 is needed to meet just the added needs of graduate students.

Donations in cash and/or kind can be made to the Food Support Centre, 005 Second Student Centre.

Food Centre Information
The YFS Food Support Centre, provides food bank services and is open to any York University or Seneca@York Student (full-time or part-time, Undergraduate or Graduate). Our primary goal is to have food and basic needs available, at all times, to students of York University who are in a position where they can no longer afford to purchase these items for themselves due to the strains of high tuition and living costs. Our secondary goal is to provide healthy, balanced food choices and to ensure that the food provided can, to whatever extent possible, fit cultural and dietary needs.

Membership to the Food Support Centre grows by at least 25% every year. As of October 01, 2019 this year, 250 more Members have signed up compared to October 01 of last year 2018. On average it has 1500 - 1750 visits every month, and distributes at least 2000 individual food items each day. The YFS is also concurrently holding a campus wide Fund Raising Campaign, from which all proceeds go directly to support the YFS Food Support Centre. All funds collected will go to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables for the membership. During the fall and winter months, when the price of fresh fruits and vegetables goes up, The YFS Food Support Centre desperately needs the funding to ensure that students continue to have access to fresh and nutritious food.

Most needed items include: Canned fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, canned soups, canned milk, dry pasta, pasta sauce, fruit and vegetable juices, canned meat and fish, peanut butter, boxed cereal, beans in sauce, rice and other non-perishables.

For more information please contact us at: 005 Second Student Centre, (416) 736-2100 ext. 44861 and visit http://www.yfs.ca/food-support-centre
Research and Policy Officer - Daily Bread Food Bank

The Research & Policy Officer will conduct research to understand trends in food bank use and the root causes of food insecurity, develop policy recommendations, and support advocacy initiatives to help end poverty in Toronto. They are looking for a highly motivated, passionate person with policy chops and lots of creativity and resourcefulness.

Policy Analyst - AdvantAge Ontario

AdvantAge Ontario is currently offering a rewarding opportunity for a committed, knowledgeable and passionate Policy Analyst to join their team. The Policy Analyst will report to the Director of Public Policy and will support association members through advocacy, providing information and resources, and education in the areas of long-term care, regulated health professions, seniors’ housing and community services, labour relations, health human resources, and other areas of seniors’ care.

Health Policy Analyst - Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

RNAO is looking for someone to help them advance healthy public policy. Candidates should be passionate about social policy, justice and advocacy for health with three years progressive experience in health-related research. RN is preferred, but someone with experience in social determinants of health and can conduct research for policy development.

Engagement Coordinator - University of Toronto

Under the general direction of the Director of Strategic Initiatives and Engagement in the Government Relations Office the Engagement Coordinator provides engagement and event support on a broad range of interactions stemming from the University of Toronto’s interactions with government, institutional partners, and other external stakeholders.

Director of Shareholder Advocacy - SHARE

SHARE is seeking a Director of Shareholder Advocacy to lead the organization’s shareholder engagement and policy advocacy program and contribute to building the strategy of the organization as a whole.

Reporting to SHARE’s Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Shareholder Advocacy will be responsible for the development, oversight and implementation of SHARE’s engagement and policy advocacy program, which seeks to demonstrably improve corporate sustainability policies and practices. The ideal candidate will be comfortable leading a team of analysts and being the public face of SHARE’s shareholder engagement and policy work to its growing investor network, media, corporate boards and senior management and the broader responsible investment community.

Manager, Confronting Anti-Black Racism - City of Toronto

As Manager in the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit, you’ll provide focused, strategic leadership to drive the implementation of the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism, coordinating with divisions and agencies, and deploying resources to divisions and the Toronto Public Service and senior management. Given the scope and impact of this mandate, within and beyond the City, you’ll be coordinating with the other levels of government and key funders, providing monitoring and evaluation, reporting annually on progress, new priorities and work plans, and managing stakeholder relations, including the Partnership & Accountability Circle and the Mayor's Roundtable on Black Business.
Public Affairs Intern - Crestview Strategy
Crestview Strategy internships offer the opportunity to work on some of the most challenging, comprehensive files in Canadian public affairs as part of a team of experienced professionals from different backgrounds. They are looking for qualified candidates from across the political spectrum and place added value on those with a digital skill set, research experience, communications experience, or graphic design experience.

Director, Corporate Projects, Policy and Liaison - City of Brampton
Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of Corporate Projects, Policy and Liaison provides management oversight and leadership in completing corporate projects, developing and maintaining the corporate policy framework, and managing intergovernmental and community public affairs.