

Office of the Senate Secretariat

Acadia University  
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***The Senate of Acadia University acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq People.***

Dear Member of Senate:

I advise you that a meeting of the Senate of Acadia University will occur from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 in BAC 132.

The agenda follows:

**1) Approval of Agenda**

**2) Minutes of the Senate Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

**3) Announcements**

- i) Link for updated list of membership of all standing and ad hoc committees of Senate:  
[http://senate.acadiau.ca/Senate\\_Comm\\_Membership.html](http://senate.acadiau.ca/Senate_Comm_Membership.html)
- ii) Senate Orientation Meeting: Monday September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in **BAC 138**.
- iii) Other Announcements

**4) Old Business**

- a) Senate Committee Annual Reports
  - i) Library Committee Report (2018-2019)
  - ii) Faculty Support Committee (2018-2019) (*did not meet*)
  - iii) Awards Committee Report (2018-2019)
  - iv) Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee Report, Part 2 (2018-2019) (*attached*)

**5) New Business**

- a) Election/Acclamation of Senate Executive members for 2019-2020
- b) Election/Acclamation of Faculty Elections Officer for 2019-2020
- c) Academic Planning Committee – Ranking of Permanent Faculty positions for 2020 (*D. Keefe*) (*attached*)

**6) Other Business**

**7) Adjournment**

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED  
Rosie Hare  
Recording Secretary to Senate

## Announcements

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SENATE – SEPTEMBER, 2019:**

#### Welcome to a New Academic Year

I am pleased to welcome you all to the start of the 2019-20 academic session. I hope everyone had a productive and enjoyable summer, and that you all managed to get some time off to recharge your batteries and spend time with family and friends. I would especially like to thank all who have worked so hard to make the start of term a success. Our enrolment is looking strong with an increase in our incoming class of just under 2%, including an 8% increase from Nova Scotia and a more than 14% increase in international students. We are delighted to welcoming new students from 50 countries around the world, and to be host to students from over 60 countries.

We are very much on target for our enrolment projections for this year, which is always good news to hear. To make these numbers in this increasingly competitive recruitment environment is very satisfying. I would like to thank our wonderful recruitment team, and all those who have been involved in the recruitment, admission and registration process. These efforts continue to make Acadia a university of choice for students who are seeking a higher quality of educational experience. Thanks also to those who helped in preparing the campus for the Move-In weekend and orientation activities. It is always such an enjoyable and exciting time, and many people remarked at how beautiful the campus looked and how everyone was so helpful.

In my Meet the President sessions on the Sunday of Move-In weekend, I was delighted to hear so many great stories of how well our students felt they were treated during the recruitment and admission cycle. So many spoke about how they felt personally welcome from the very first point of contact, and how that feeling of belonging increased as they completed the process. Some of the most frequent reasons why students chose Acadia were our small size, our location, Acadia's reputation as an institution of high quality, the reputation and quality of our academic programs, the personal service that they received, the ease of the process of admission and registration, our website, our excellent scholarships, and the beauty of our campus and the region. Many said that their decision was finalised when they visited campus, often during one of the Open House sessions or sometimes individual visits. Despite our small size, it is always surprising how many students chose between us and a much larger university.

Whatever their reasons, we are grateful that they have chosen Acadia for their university education, and it is now the time for us to demonstrate the wisdom of their decision.

So, we are off to a good start and I wish everyone all the best for a successful and enjoyable year ahead.

### Hurricane Dorian

One of the largest (if not the largest) groups of international students at Acadia are from The Bahamas, and it is with great sadness and deep concern that we have watched the devastation of parts of those islands due to the ferocity of Hurricane Dorian. Our hearts go out to everyone in and from The Bahamas, and especially to our Bahamian students, employees and *alumni* who have been and continue to be so badly impacted by this storm. We have reached out to all of our students to ensure that they are being supported, and to find out how each of them is being impacted by the tragedy. We are in contact with the federal and provincial governments, as well as other universities to see how we can best provide enhanced support to Bahamian students in NS. We will remain engaged with this issue as more news emerges about the lives lost and the degree of devastation, and the long term impacts that will result.

### New Appointments

Over the summer, Acadia was very fortunate to welcome a number of new senior leadership appointments, as well as many new faculty and staff appointments. Dr. Dale Keefe joined us from Cape Breton University as Provost and Vice-President, Academic; Scott Duguay joined us from St. Thomas University as Vice-Provost, Students, Recruitment and Enrolment Management; and Dr. Laura Robinson became our new Dean of Arts, joining us from Memorial University. Also, Anna Robbins became our new Dean of Theology along with her appointment as the 7<sup>th</sup> President of the Acadia Divinity College. Anna is the first female President of the ADC and for the first time, all of Acadia's Deans are women, as well being *alumni* of Acadia. It is an historic moment in time for our university. I was also pleased to welcome our new professors at the faculty orientation, and hope they have a wonderful time working here at Acadia.

### Acadia 2025 Strategic Plan

The summer has been a busy period for the strategic planning process. Following the last report of the Strategic Planning Task Force in May, in which the strategic directions were defined (see [https://acadia2025.acadiau.ca/tl\\_files/sites/Acadia%202025/Acadia%202025%20-%20Strategic%20Directions%20May-16-2019.pdf](https://acadia2025.acadiau.ca/tl_files/sites/Acadia%202025/Acadia%202025%20-%20Strategic%20Directions%20May-16-2019.pdf)), we have engaged the Task Force members with the university's leadership team to generate a draft of the plan itself. Since the end of the 2018-19 academic year, the Strategic Plan Task Force members have been consulting across campus and beyond, and senior academic and administrative leaders have been working alongside them to refine strategic themes, goals, and actions that are reflective of how we as a community envision capitalizing on opportunities and meeting challenges that are ahead of us. We engaged the Task Force in a strategic planning review with the Board of Governors at the annual Board Retreat in June, and then we established working groups to address each strategic direction and their associated goals, objectives and key performance indicators. We have adopted *Transforming Lives for a Transforming World* as a working title for the plan, as

this reflects what Acadia does so well in providing a transformative educational experience that prepares students for success in their lives and their careers. The next draft of the plan will be distributed to the entire Acadia community very soon for comment and feedback. I am hopeful that everyone will take the time to read it and provide any comments that will strengthen its content so that we can present the final version to the Board of Governors in October. I will be asking for Senate to have the opportunity to discuss the draft plan either at a special meeting or at the October meeting.

#### Progress on Provincial MOU

Over the summer, CONSUP has been working on preparing proposed amendments to the MOU that was presented by the Government of Nova Scotia as part of the provincial budget. We have been working on changes that would see the government's commitment to a 1% annual increase in our operating budget as a minimum, and providing the opportunity for greater than 1% increases if possible. We are also seeking further commitments to help with the financial costs of accessibility, deferred maintenance, and IT infrastructure renewal. While this is not the level of secure funding commitment that we were hoping for, it would be a better agreement than the one that is currently on the table. We have a meeting of the MOU Partnership Committee on September 12, and we hope to have answers from the Ministry of Labour and Advanced Education at that time or shortly thereafter.

#### Maple League Town Hall

Over the summer, the Maple League Presidents' Council approved a Strategic Vision document (see <http://mapleleague.ca/about/strategic-vision/>) to chart a course for strengthening the partnership between the four member institutions over the coming years. As Chair of the Presidents' Council, I am delighted that we have been able to approve this document, and Executive Director, Dr. Jessica Riddell, has been working tirelessly to start implementation of the vision. A Maple League "relaunch" is underway including Maple League Town Halls at each institution (11am, September 9 in Fountain Commons for the Acadia event) to promote the relaunch of the Maple League website and new initiatives being supported under the strategic vision. These include new funding opportunities to support research, teaching and student activities. The Up for Debate event at Bishop's University will be held earlier this year on October 25-27 in an attempt to avoid the often brutal weather that is so prevalent in February!

#### Federal/Provincial Visits

The summer season saw a number of visits from federal and provincial ministers. On August 6, the new federal Minister for Rural Economic Development and MP for South Shore-St. Margarette's, Bernadette Jordan, paid a visit to campus and on Aug 26, Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains, and the Nova Scotia Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Leo Glavine, made joint announcements of ACOA funding for the Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre and provincial funding for the Innovation Sandbox program. On August 27, Acadia hosted a visit by NS Minister of Labour and Advanced Education, Labi Kousoulis. After a meeting with the senior leadership team, Minister Kousoulis toured the newly refurbished science complex and the heating plant, both projects which

received significant provincial infrastructure funding within the last few years. The Minister also toured the new SUB (to highlight the significant accessibility issues that we face with that building) and had a meeting with ASU President, Kyle Vandertoorn. Then on Aug 29, we had a visit from Chris Forbes, the Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to discuss opportunities for Acadia to expand our research and innovation initiatives in agriculture, food and technology, and to advance our Indigenous strategy. All of these visits were very successful, and they help to raise Acadia's profile provincially and federally.

### EduNova

This summer, I was appointed by CONSUP to sit on the Board of Directors of EduNova, and then (to my surprise) was asked to become Chair of the Board. EduNova is a not-for-profit agency that supports Nova Scotia's educational institutions to attract international students to study, and also facilitates those international students who wish to stay on in Nova Scotia after graduation. I am pleased to be able to contribute to the development of this important organisation, of which Acadia is a very active member. A recent study found that international education is now Nova Scotia's second largest export sector, after the seafood sector but ahead of all others. For more information on EduNova, please visit the website at <https://studynovascotia.ca>.

### Amazing Race

Sometimes it seems that we are constantly in an amazing race in our lives, but The Amazing Race actually came to town during the spring (or what passed for spring this year) and aired on CTV on Sept 3. It was great to see Acadia, Wolfville and the Valley so proudly on display during this episode, and to see members of the Acadia community involved in the production.

I wish you all a very successful and enjoyable academic year.

Respectfully submitted by:

Peter Ricketts  
President and Vice-Chancellor

### **PROVOST AND VPA REPORT TO SENATE - SEPTEMBER 2019:**

This report covers the period from July 1 to September 3, 2019.

My first two months as Provost and Vice-President Academic have been a great opportunity for me to learn about Acadia and its proud history. I thank everyone who has met with me over the last couple of months and look forward to working with everyone over the coming months and years. Everyone has been extremely welcoming and helpful, making my transition as seamless as possible.

As most people are aware, there have been additions to the leadership team over the summer. Dr. Laura Robinson joined as Dean of Arts and Scott Duguay joined as the Vice-Provost, Students, Recruitment, and Enrolment Management. I extend a warm welcome to both and also welcome Dr. Jeff Banks back to the role of Director of Open Acadia. I also acknowledge and thank Dr. Heather Hemming for her service as Vice-President Academic and for her help during my transition.

Over the last two months, I have been working to establish the Provost Council as the senior academic leadership group and to collectively determine priorities for the upcoming year.

**Acadia Colleague Enhancement (ACE) Project**

The ACE project has been proceeding but is at the larval stage. The steering committee consists of Dale Keefe (Executive Sponsor), Gary Doucette (Project Sponsor), Dylan Boudreau (Project Manager), James Sanford, Mark Bishop, Mary MacVicar, Scott Duguay, and Suzie Currie. A communications strategy is in the process of being developed, project staff are being hired and an implementation partner is being selected. As the project progresses, I will be providing regular updates to Senate.

**Enrolment Update**

Mark Bishop, Registrar, will provide a more detailed report on enrolment at the October Senate meeting. Comparing September 2, 2019 to December 1, 2018, enrolment for the 2019/20 academic year looks promising and is on track to meet targets.

	September 2, 2019	December 1, 2018
Total Undergraduate	3512	3350
U/G NS	1886	1749
U/G Other Domestic	1098	1127
U/G International	528	474
Total Graduate	106	111
Grad NS	52	58
Grad Other Domestic	28	32
Grad International	26	21

Of course, the numbers for September will change between now and December, but they are certainly encouraging. It is important that we do everything we possibly can to ensure that all students have an opportunity to succeed and that we retain as many students as possible. Over the coming months, Vice-Provost Duguay and I will be developing a strategic enrolment management plan with a focus on recruitment and retention strategies.

**Dean FPS**

The Board of Governors has approved an external/internal search for the next Dean of the Faculty of Professional Studies. It is my aim to have the search committee in place this month and to advertise and shortlist candidates this fall with a goal of having the next dean identified early in the new year to assume the role in July 2020.

What follows are announcements from the faculties and the division of research and graduate studies.

## **FACULTY OF ARTS**

**The Conference, Celebrating 550 years of Malory's More Darthur, co-hosted by Dr. Kevin Whetter, Department of English and Theatre,** and Cory James Rushton was held at Acadia University from August 8-10, 2019. Celebrating the 550th anniversary of the completion of Sir Thomas Malory's *Morte Darthur*, the conference offered an unrivalled opportunity for scholars from around the globe to gather together to discuss the diverse array of approaches to Malory and his text, including his characters, contexts, sources, and influence.

**Dr. Richard Cunningham,** Department of English and Theatre, presented a paper, "A Comparator for the First and Second Editions of *Paradise Lost*" at the joint session of the Annual Conferences of the Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies / Société Canadienne d'Études de la Renaissance and the Canadian Society for Digital Humanities / Société Canadienne des Humanités Numériques, UBC on June 3, 2019. A paper was also presented by **Dr. Patricia Rigg** at the June 3 Congress titled, "'Thus am I mine own prison': Christina Rossetti, Baudelaire, and Wild Thoughts of a Victorian Flâneuse in 'The Thread of Life' and 'Later Life'".

**Kait Pinder** presented papers at the Canadian Literature Symposium in Ottawa, May 3-5, 2019 and the Association of Canadian and Quebec Literatures in Vancouver, June 1-3, 2019.

**Wanda Campbell** presented "Bronwen Wallace and the Vulnerable Body" at the Association for Canadian and Québec Literatures ACQL Conference at Congress, University of British Columbia, in Vancouver on June 2, 2019.

**Patricia Rigg** presented the paper "'Thus am I mine own prison': Christina Rossetti, Baudelaire, and Wild Thoughts of a Victorian Flâneuse in 'The Thread of Life' and 'Later Life'" on June 3 at Congress 2019.

**Erin Crandall,** Department of Politics, has published the co-edited volume, *What's Trending in Canadian Politics? Understanding Transformations in Power, Media, and the Public Sphere* with UBC Press, June 2019. Crandall also contributed a co-authored chapter to the volume entitled, "Covering the Court: News Media Framing of Physician-Assisted Dying from Rodriguez to Carter," also with UBC Press.

**Lesley Frank,** Department of Sociology is an invited speaker to deliver the talk, "Food insecurity as a social constraint to optimal infant feeding: Implications for policy and practice," at the Breastfeeding Committee for Canada, Baby-Friendly Initiative 2019 Symposium - Beyond the Ten Steps: Critical Connections for Transformative Change. Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, October 1-3, 2019.



**Rebecca Casey**, Department of Sociology, launched a live-streamed report for The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, "A rising tide to lift all boats: Recommendations for advances to Nova Scotia's Labour Standards Code" in Halifax, NS, on August 1, 2019. Four Acadia students worked on the report as research assistants. The report was picked up by several media outlets in Nova Scotia.

## **FACULTY OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

### **School of Business**

Thanks to the persistent dreaming of **Dr.s Terry Weatherbee and Donna Sears** in the School of Business Acadia University's Makerspace for Everyone, an interdisciplinary educational work-in-progress since 2013, will be opening this year. The project is establishing a makerspace on campus outfitted with various technologies to support a wide range of innovative and creative 'making' activities. Unlike most university campus-based makerspaces, Steamspace will be open to all members of the Acadia community: students, staff, and faculty from across all disciplines, and designed from the ground up to support not only academics on campus, but also to serve as a community makerspace. Steamspace will be located in Raymond House where renovations are nearly complete. The makerspace will be brought online in stages throughout the fall semester, hosting various activities and events, and is anticipated to be fully operational in the Winter of 2020. It includes a digital humanities studio (3d scanner, sound and film recording/editing), equipment to materialize ideas (a variety of 3d printers, laser cutter, etc.), and other creative tools and materials. **Steamspace has been made possible through funding from Windsor and Webster Foundations (\$800,000 over 5 years)**, with the assistance of student employees partially funded through summer student and co-op grants.

### **School of Kinesiology**

Congratulations to **Dr. Jason Holt** who has recently had two books accepted for publication: a scholarly work, *Kinetic Beauty: The Philosophical Aesthetics of Sport* (Routledge), and a book of poetry, *Fledges and Phraselings* (Anaphora Literary). Both books will be published this term.

### **School of Music**

Congratulations are due **Kevin Pirker**, who has just won the NewWorks Canadian Choral Composition Competition for his recent composition, "Meditations". Kevin also received a Barbara Pentland Award for Outstanding Composition from the Canadian Music Centre after being selected as a finalist in Chor Leoni's Canadian Choral Composition Competition earlier this year.

Congratulations also go to **Dr. Mark Hopkins**, who was the recipient of the 2019 National Band Award from the Canadian Band Association.

**Dr. Michelle Boyd's** lecture on "In Flanders Fields" music has been accepted by the Society for American Music's for their Digital Lectures Channel. The lecture features colleague Paula Rockwell and some truly AUSOM students!

Three recent School of Music Graduates received a Joseph Armand Bombardier CGS Scholarship from the Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada for their Master's or Doctoral studies. The School congratulates **Breanna Stewart (BM '18; BAMH '19)**, **Rena Roussin (BAMH '14)** and **Michelle MacQueen (BM '16)**, and of course their musicology supervisors Dr. Michelle Boyd, Dr. Jeff Hennessy and Professor Emeritus Dr. Gordon Callon.

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE

The Acadia **Environmental Science** programs were formally re-accredited by the Canadian Environmental Accreditation Commission in July. The programs are now accredited until July 2025, providing graduates with fast entry as Environmental Professionals, and several workplace benefits as they start their careers.

The **School of Nutrition and Dietetics** is cohosting the 9<sup>th</sup> International Critical Dietetics conference with MSVU Applied Human Nutrition from October 4-6, 2019 in Bedford. Dr Catherine Morley is the lead from Acadia. The conference theme is *Sharing, Learning, Transforming the Future: Building Allyship with Indigenous Communities Through Dietetics Education, Practice, and Research*. The Keynote speaker is Dr. Ian Mosby, Department of History, Ryerson University, who will speak on nutrition experimentation in residential schools. Dr. Mosby will also give a public lecture on Oct 6 at the Halifax Public Library that will be broadcast to several sites including Acadia University. All are invited to this public event.

Three recent Bachelor of Science in Nutrition graduates received awards at the 2019 Dietitians of Canada national conference held in Ottawa in June:

- **Both Kristin Genereux '19 and Katherine Hillier '18** were presented with a National Undergraduate Student Award, recognizing academic excellence and leadership. Only two of these awards are given yearly and it is a significant honour that both went to Acadia University graduates. Kristin begins her Acadia University Dietetic Practicum in September 2019 and Katherine will complete her practicum at the Nova Scotia Health Authority (Capital Health Zone) this month.
- **Heather Bray '17** who currently practices as a dietitian at a Family Health Centre in Mississauga, Ontario was the recipient of the Atlantic Region Morgan Medal Award in recognition of achievement in practice-based research. Heather's research was completed during her Acadia University Dietetic Practicum and assessed the level of knowledge that clinical dietitians have about food security.

## RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES

### Research Awards

**“Examining the upstream passage of migrating fish through the White Rock dam”: Dr. Michael Stokesbury (CRC and Dept of Biology)**

This project is aimed at promoting the conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat in the Gaspereau River, NS. Dr. Stokesbury and his students will be studying a traditionally, ecologically, and economically important species of fish, the alewife. They will examine upstream migration timing and passage success of alewife at the White Rock Dam on the Gaspereau River, NS over the next two years. This is a **\$50,000 award received through the Environment & Climate Change Canada-Environmental Damages Fund (EDF)**.

**“Happy Community Project”: Dr. Mary Sweatman (Community Development)**

This project invites community members to imagine the community they want. Grass root members of the community decide what they should do to increase social connectedness in their community. The proprietary process provides a platform for citizens to find the confidence and resources to turn those ideas into action. Through Acadia’s participation in the Change Lab Action Research Initiative (CLARI), a cross-province, multi-post-secondary education partnership located at St. Mary’s, Dr. Sweatman received support of **\$7500 for a summer student**.

**Industry & Community Engagement Office**

**Research Agreement with Aqualitas, Inc. - Development of a Delivery System for Cannabis Beverages**

Acadia first engaged in a research project with Aqualitas, one of NS’s largest cannabis producers, in 2016. This project, led by Dr. Russell Easy (Biology), involved the development/testing of a small-scale (proof-of-concept) cannabis aquaponics system - growing tomato plants as a proxy. This successful industry partnership continues under a new research agreement to develop a delivery system for cannabis-infused beverages, including an examination of bioavailability characteristics and sensory profiles. The first stage of this project, **valued at \$119,063, involves faculty members from Biology (Dr. Kirk Hillier), Nutrition & Dietetics (Dr. Matt McSweeney) and Chemistry (Dr. Nicoletta Faraone)**.

**Springboard Atlantic Receives \$9.6M – Acadia’s ICE Office Allocated \$720,000 Over Three Years**

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, the Government of Canada announced three-years of funding for Springboard Atlantic – the industry engagement and technology commercialization network that is helping the region’s businesses improve their competitiveness by fueling partnerships with 19 universities and colleges.

ACOA is investing \$9.6 million from its Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF). This investment is in addition to contributions from Springboard’s 19 member institutions totalling \$5.1 million. Acadia currently has two positions in Office of Industry & Community Engagement (ICE; Leigh Huestis & Peggy Crawford) that are funded through Springboard.

**Research Collaboration Agreement Signed with the University of Manitoba to Study Wheat Midge**

A multi-year Research Agreement was recently finalized with the University of Manitoba to study wheat midge resistance to selected varieties of wheat. Estimates suggest that the orange wheat blossom midge may cause upwards of \$60M in damages to Western Canadian wheat farmers each year. Under the study, **Dr. Kirk Hillier (Biology)** and his team will identify and quantify volatile organic compounds from wheat varieties capable of being sensed by female wheat midge in an effort to help identify resistant varieties of wheat.

**“Analysis of lobster fisheries data to inform commercialization directions”: Dr. Trevor Avery, (Biology & Mathematic/Statistics)**

Trevor Avery was awarded an additional **\$5,000** in July from the Springboard Lobster Food File Innovation Mobilization (IM) Fund to expand his project analyzing lobster fisheries data to help inform commercialization directions for the lobster industry. He is working with data from the Cape Breton Fish Harvesters Association.

**Continued Mitacs Success for Acadia Graduate Students**

Acadia researchers continue to have success with the Mitacs program that funds graduate students to gain work experiences with companies and organizations. **Joe Hayes (Psychology) was successful on receiving a \$30,000** award for the project “Cannabis and Death-Anxiety”. In partnership with True North Clinical Research, Dr. Hayes and his student will be examining the moderating effect of using cannabis on anxiety in response to death-thoughts. This research will help the company understand the potential benefits of prescribing cannabis for the clinical treatment of anxiety and contribute broadly to a growing literature on the medicinal effects of cannabis, as well as the literature on how people cope with the awareness of death.

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Dale Keefe**

**ACADIA STUDENTS’ UNION:**

We had an exciting and busy rest of our summer at the ASU preparing for students to return to campus this fall.

- Our Get Out The Vote Campaign started to ramp up as we prepared and finalized our plan for the campaign to launch at Acadia. We attended CASA's GOTV conference at UPEI in July to learn more about the federal election and mobilizing students to vote;
- ASU President and VP Academic & External attended Students Nova Scotia's Strategic Plan Retreat and Annual General Meeting in July and in August at SMU;
- We've been working on sponsorship and alumni engagement programming;
- Wrapped up planning for the O-Week schedule;
- Launched our new website and app;
- Tower Park Grand Opening;
- Minister of LAE came to visit campus and took time to meet with ASU;
- Dealing with internal changes and departures with our General Manager and VP Finance and Operations;

-Are now busy welcoming students to campus as O-Week begins!

**COLLEGE OF DIVINITY/FACULTY OF THEOLOGY:**

No report submitted.

**Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee  
Report to Acadia University Senate, Part 2 (2018-2019)  
September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee met on the following dates since fall 2018: April 26<sup>th</sup>, June 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, and August 8<sup>th</sup>. Work was also carried out electronically when necessary. There was a quorum of voting members present at all meetings.

Through its procedural planning work, the Guidelines for Students document (see AASA Report Appendix 1) and the questions in Step 1 of the questionnaire (see AASA Report Appendix 2) were reviewed and revised from what had been used in the previous year. The submission process for students and the committee's review process were again carried out the ACORN system.

There were two appeal deadlines:

June 14, 2019- for students who received notification of dismissal or probation by May 17  
July 26, 2019- for students who received notification of dismissal or probation after May 17 (due to grade changes, etc)

*Considered during the June meetings (received by the June 14<sup>th</sup> deadline):*

**105 students with Dismissal academic standing**

- 55 students appealed
- 43 appeals granted (academic standing changed from Dismissal to Probation)

**90 students with Probation academic standing**

- 24 students appealed
- 1 appeal granted (academic standing changed from Probation to Good Standing)

*Considered in August:*

**11 additional students with Dismissal academic standing**

- 4 students appealed
- 3 appeals granted (academic standing changed from Dismissal to Probation)

**4 additional students with Probation academic standing**

- 1 student appealed
- 0 appeals granted

The committee for 2018-2019 was:

Chair (Chair of Senate): Anna Kieft — ex-officio

Registrar or Delegate (non voting): Mark Bishop — ex-officio

Executive Director of Student Services or Delegate (non voting): James Sanford — ex-officio

1 Arts faculty member: Michael Dennis  
1 Arts faculty member: Stephen Maitzen (until June 2019), *vacant* (as of July 2019)  
1 Prof. St. faculty member: Harish Kapoor  
1 Prof. St. faculty member: Glyn Bissix (until June 2019), Jason Holt (as of July 2019)  
1 P&A Sc. faculty member: John Murimboh  
1 P&A Sc. faculty member: Cindy Trudel  
1 Theology faculty member: Harry Gardner (until June 2019), Anna Robbins (as of July 2019)  
1 Student: Makenzie Branch (until April 2019), Mackenzie Jarvin (as of May 2019)

Others invited to attend, non-voting:  
Shawna Singleton, Associate Registrar

The committee does not plan to make substantial changes to their procedures for the next year but will review the process next spring to ensure that any new members are aware of procedures and to make any relevant minor changes. The Chair wishes to express her gratitude and appreciation to the committee for their work this past year. The Chair also wishes to thank Terry Aulenbach for his careful work in creating the secure ACORN “courses” for this process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Kiefe  
Chair

**AASA Report APPENDIX 1**  
**Guidelines for Students: Submitting an Academic Appeal (Dismissal or Probation)**  
**Spring/Summer 2019**

The Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee is the committee of Senate that will consider your appeal of your dismissal or probation.

If you wish to appeal, you must complete the submission process before midday/noon (12:00 pm Atlantic Daylight Time) on the deadline date stated on the notification letter that you received from the Registrar. The appeal is completed on ACORN ([acorn.acadiau.ca](http://acorn.acadiau.ca)) and appears in your current course tab as the course **Academic Appeal Process**. You can access and resubmit your appeal up until that deadline. If you encounter *technical* difficulties as you complete your submission, please call the Registrar's Office at 902-585-1222.

You must complete the appeal yourself. The appeal questionnaire will ask you to confirm that no one else is completing the form on your behalf.

Any information you submit will be treated confidentially and maintained according to the Records Retention Policy of the University. It will be used only to guide the committee's decision on your appeal and to inform any recommendations it may make if your appeal is granted. The decision made by this academic committee has no bearing on any pending decisions regarding your financial status with Student Accounts or the University.

There are three steps to complete:

**Step 1- Required Self-Reflection Questionnaire:**

A series of questions about your academic experiences at Acadia.

**Step 2- Required Personal Letter:**

A letter written by you, in your own words, outlining why your academic appeal should be granted and how you plan to improve your academic performance in the future.

**Step 3- Additional Documents:**

If you are claiming a physical or mental health condition or diagnosis, you must submit supporting documentation from an appropriate health professional. If you cannot do so before the deadline, please contact [mark.bishop@acadiau.ca](mailto:mark.bishop@acadiau.ca) before the deadline to explain the delay.

To support your submission, you may also submit any of the following documents or information before the appeal deadline as part of your submission.

- Letter(s) from faculty member(s), staff member(s), and/or student leader(s) at Acadia who know you and your personal or academic situation and who are willing to write in support of your academic appeal.
- Letter(s) from a credible advocate from outside Acadia who is willing to write in support of your academic appeal.



- Any other paperwork documenting your circumstances.

*Note: If you have asked someone for a letter, and they wish to submit it confidentially to the university on your behalf, please ask them to email the letter directly to [mark.bishop@acadiau.ca](mailto:mark.bishop@acadiau.ca) and it will be added to your submission.*

Additional information considered by the committee:

When the committee considers your appeal, it will review the documentation and information that you submit as outlined above, as well as the following internal information:

- Your complete Acadia University transcript. Only grades up to and including the most recent winter term will be considered by the committee as part of your appeal.
- Anything else in your internal record at Acadia relevant to your appeal (documented absences, your previous academic standing, academic integrity infractions, non-academic offenses, awards, scholarships, etc.) up to and including the most recent winter term.
- Whether you completed the Academic Success and Support Program (ASSP) and an assessment of your performance in the ASSP if available.
- Correspondence with the Registrar's Office or other unit on campus that relates to your appeal or academic standing.

There are various staff members who may know your situation or be able to support your appeal. The questionnaire will ask if you consent to having your name and academic status confidentially shared with the following individuals:

- Academic Success and Support Program (ASSP) Coordinator (Adam Detienne)
- Student Advisor and ASSP Instructor (Meaghan Mousseau)
- Coordinator, International Student Advising and Wong International Centre (Carissa Campbell)
- Coordinator, Indigenous Affairs and Student Advising (Dion Kaszas)
- Coordinator, Accessible Learning (Abu Kamara)
- Disability Resource Facilitator (Marissa Mcisaac)
- Director, Student Resource Centre, Health and Counselling (Erica McGill)
- Executive Director, Student Services (James Sanford)

*Note: You are not required to consent to sharing this information.*

If you have questions about completing your appeal, you may contact the following individuals. These individuals cannot give you specific advice about the contents of your appeal or an opinion about the likelihood that your appeal will be granted by the committee.

- Representative from Student Services: [studentsupport@acadiau.ca](mailto:studentsupport@acadiau.ca)
- Acadia Students' Union Vice President Academic & External: 902-585-2127, additional contact information at <http://theasu.ca/who-we-are/executive-leadership-team/>

**AASA Report APPENDIX 2**

**Step 1- Required Academic Appeal Self-Reflection Questionnaire:**

This questionnaire and appeal submission must be completed by you personally. By answering YES below, you are verifying that you are the individual person who is appealing your own dismissal or probation status.

Are you completing this appeal for yourself?

- Yes
- No

What degree program are you registered in?

How long have you been studying at Acadia University?

Please access your **Acadia Transcript** to answer the following three questions. To do so, open a new browser window or tab and log in to Acadia Central at <https://central2.acadiau.ca/my>. Then select “View Transcript” from the left side menu.

What is your current academic level? (*The Academic Calendar defines Academic levels by number of completed credit-hours, not as 1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, etc.*)

What is your cumulative Acadia CGPA (all courses ever taken at Acadia)? (*Grading system information is in Acadia Calendar, and your CGPA is available at the bottom of the table you see after selecting the “View Transcript” option within Acadia Central.*)

What is your current sessional SGPA (fall and winter terms of this academic year only)? (*Grading system information is in Acadia Calendar, and your current SGPA is available in the second column near the top of the table you see after selecting the “View Transcript” option within Acadia Central.*)

Why did you choose to study at Acadia University?

Why did you choose your current academic program?

Do you think your current program of study is the right choice for you? Please explain your response.

What was the best part of your academic experience this past year?

Please describe your commitment to regularly attend classes, labs, tutorials and other course related activities.

Please describe your ability to complete course work (e.g. assignments, quizzes, papers) on time.

Please indicate if you experienced challenges in any of the following areas:

- Subject material and content
- Time management
- Study skills
- Writing
- English language skills
- Math skills
- Group work
- Transition from last year to this year
- Other

Please describe how any of the above challenges may have affected your learning.

Did any of the following have an impact on you?

- Emotional difficulties
- Extra-curricular activities

- Financial issues
- Issues of conflict
- Physical difficulties
- Social problems
- Spiritual concerns
- Stress management issues
- Obligations (e.g. employment, care giving, athletics, volunteering)
- Other

Please describe how any of the above issues may have impacted your learning.



Acadia University has many resources to support students, including, but not limited to:

Faculty Office Hours  
Dean's Offices  
Chemistry Tutoring  
Physics Help Centre  
Economics Help Centre  
French/Spanish/German  
Language Tutorials  
Math and Statistics Help  
Writing Centre  
Academic Advising  
Wong International Centre  
Library Resources  
English Language Centre  
Financial Aid  
Safety and Security  
Career Services  
Student Health Services  
Counselling Services  
The Women's Centre  
Acadia Pride  
Aboriginal Student  
Advisor  
Accessible Learning  
Services  
Chaplain  
Equity Officer

Were you aware of these supports on campus, and if so, have you ever used any of these types of services? If yes, which ones?



There are various staff members who may know your situation or be able to support your appeal. Do you consent to having your name and academic status confidentially shared with the following individuals?

- Academic Success and Support Program (ASSP) Coordinator (Adam Detienne)
- Student Advisor and ASSP Instructor (Meaghan Mousseau)
- Coordinator, International Student Advising and Wong International Centre (Carissa Campbell)
- Coordinator, Indigenous Affairs and Student Advising (Dion Kaszas)
- Coordinator, Accessible Learning (Abu Kamara)
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- Director, Student Resource Centre, Health and Counselling (Erica McGill)
- Executive Director, Student Services (James Sanford)

*Note: You are not required to consent to sharing this information.*

- Yes
- No

**Academic Planning Committee  
Report to Senate, September 2019**

**Committee Membership:**

Dale Keefe, Provost and VP Academic (Chair)  
Ann Vibert, Dean of Professional Studies  
Suzie Currie, Dean of Pure and Applied Sciences  
Laura Robinson, Dean of Arts  
Daphne Flanagan, University Librarian  
Anne Quema, Faculty from IDST Program  
Rachel Brickner, Faculty from Arts  
Janna Wentzell, Faculty from Professional Studies  
Danny Silver, Faculty from Pure and Applied Sciences  
Mackenzie Jarvin, Student Union, VP Academic and External

**Mandate:**

The Academic Planning Committee shall make recommendations to Senate on matters relating to academic principles and planning.

In carrying out its work, the Committee shall consult widely with all stakeholders and relevant bodies on campus. The APC shall report regularly to Senate, no less than two times per year.

**Meetings:**

The Committee met on August 20 and August 22, 2019.

During the August 20 meeting, the committee reviewed its mandate and the change in process approved by senate in winter 2019. The committee discussed the requests put forward by the faculties and the library in terms of institutional priorities, program needs and long-range planning. The committee felt that all the requests put forward were worthy, however, recognized that it is very unlikely that the university will be in a position to approve all of them. The committee decided that members would review each request and determine their own initial ranking, and that at its next meeting, each dean will have five minutes to provide an overview of the requests from her faculty and then an additional five minutes would be provided for questions to the dean. After each faculty requests were reviewed, the committee will rank the requests.

On August 22, the committee met from 10am to noon. After each dean reviewed the tenure-track requests from her faculty, the committee decided each committee member would provide a ranking from 1 (highest priority) to 10 for the requests. The rankings were collected by the Provost and scored with the resultant priority list:

RankScore

1. Education 2.44
2. Sociology 2.78
3. Earth and Environmental Science 2.78
4. Kinesiology 4.78
5. Psychology – Neuroscience 4.78
6. English and Theatre 6.22
7. Community Development 6.56
8. Economics 8.67
9. Psychology – Applied 9.00
10. Mathematics and Statistics 9.44

In the case of a tie score, the rank was determined by the number of votes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>.

After the tenure-track requests were ranked, the committee considered the requests for Librarian and Instructor positions.

Daphne Flanagan spoke in support of the library's request for a Systems Librarian. There was only one request and the Committee was unanimous in their support.

There were requests for three instructor positions and the committee was unanimous that all three are needed and ranked the positions as follows:

1. Kinesiology – critical for accreditation (7 ranked as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup>, 0 as 3<sup>rd</sup>)
2. Mathematics and Statistics – (2 ranked as 1<sup>st</sup>, 6 ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1 as 3<sup>rd</sup>)
3. Earth and Environmental Science (0 ranked as 1<sup>st</sup>, 1 ranked as 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8 ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Keefe