



The Senate of Acadia University acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded 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 March 13th, 2023. This will be a hybrid meeting and will take place in person in the Langley Classroom of the Divinity College and online using Zoom.

The agenda follows:

1) Approval of Agenda

2) Other Business

- a) **Academic Data Needs** (D. Currie)

3) Minutes of the Senate Meeting of 13th February, 2023

4) Announcements ([attached, page 3-9](#))

5) Old Business

- a) **Motion from the By-Laws Committee:** Motion that the Vice-Provost, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion become a voting member of the Senate.
- b) **Motion from the By-Laws Committee:** Motion that the Associate Vice- President Research and Dean of Graduate Studies be added to the Academic Planning Committee.
- c) **Motion from the By-Laws Committee:** Motion that the Faculty of Arts Constitution be amended as outlined. (*Three documents circulated separately: current 2019 version of Faculty of Arts Constitution, proposed version with additions and deletions marked up, proposed version in clean format*)
- d) **Student Resilience Working Group** (D. Duke)

6) New Business

- a) **Motion:** It is moved that the Senate Bylaws Committee shall consider the rationale and feasibility of adding as voting members of Senate three (3) non-continuing faculty and to make a recommendation of its findings to Senate. ([attached, page 10](#)) (J. Sachs)

7) Question Period – President/Provost and Vice-President Academic

8) Additional Other Business

9) Adjournment

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

G. Menon,
Recording Secretary of Senate and University Secretary

Announcements

PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR REPORT - MARCH 13TH, 2023

President's Report to Senate March 2023

President's SDG Panel on Oceans and Life Below Water

On November 24, 2021 during the SDG Canada Week, Acadia became the first and only Canadian university to sign the UN SDG Accord, and remains so at this time. Under the *Caring for Our Planet* direction in our *Acadia 2025* strategic plan, we have been promoting the UN SDGs by adopting a goal for each academic year. This year we chose SDG #14 Life Below Water, and on March 7 we held the first annual President's panel at which we highlighted three Acadia researchers, one from each of the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies to talk about their ocean related research. The three presentations were:

“Stock structure and migration of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna” by Dr. Mike Stokesbury, Professor, Department of Biology.

“Indigenous Species Management, Stewardship, and Reconciliation: Lessons from East Coast Fisheries” by Dr. Katherine Morton Richards, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology.

“Instrumental innovation: Advancing SDG 14.A in Nova Scotia” by Dr. Ryan MacNeil, Associate Professor, Rath Professor of Entrepreneurship, F.C. Manning School of Business.

The panel was well attended and the presentations were followed by a lively discussion and Q&A session. My thanks to Jodie Noiles and the Acadia Sustainability Office for organizing what we hope will become an annual event at Acadia.

The SDG theme for the 2023-24 academic year will be SDG #2 Zero Hunger.

Provincial Priorities

Acadia is currently pursuing a number of key funding priorities with the Government of Nova Scotia, including:

- 1) Request for provincial funding to support the construction of the Centre for Student Success, which would see a complete renovation and rebuild of our two existing old student union buildings.
- 2) Academic proposals to fund the establishment of two new health programs at Acadia - a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.Sc.N.) and a Doctor of Psychology (PsyD); both of these require up-front and ongoing provincial funding in order for them to be implemented.
- 3) Acadia is proposing two student housing initiatives to be included under the imminent Student Housing Strategy being prepared by the Department of Advanced Education; these include a

proposal for on-campus independent living accommodation to complement our existing traditional residence capacity and aimed at attracting upper level undergraduate and graduate students to live on campus, and also a proposal for an affordable housing development (which would include a student housing component) on a portion of university owned land south of Skyway Drive and Basin Drive; Acadia is engaging a consulting firm to conduct a feasibility study and develop a business plan for these two potential developments.

All of the proposals were met with interest as each of them align with provincial government priorities of health care, population growth, and housing.

CONSUP PSE Solutions Initiative

At a meeting of CONSUP on January 20, we discussed the evolution of the *Shared Vision* initiative (which I have reported on previously) into what we are now calling *PSE Solutions*. This change reflects discussions with the current provincial government on how CONSUP can align its activities more closely to the priorities of the government and delivering real solutions to the major issues facing the province. *PSE Solutions* will involve greater levels of collaboration between universities in a number of areas, including both purchased and managed services. A number of projects are currently in progress under the Technology Transformation component, including the incorporation of AST's student information system under the Saint Mary's Banner system, and the onboarding of the MyCreds academic document management software (this project includes NSCC). I am co-chairing the Steering Committee for the *Nova Scotia as an Education Destination* component along with Peggy Shannon, President of NSCAD. This component is looking at how the PSE system in NS can grow to support the provincial population growth strategy and enhance the province's reputation as a prime destination for PSE education. Other components of *PSE Solutions* include Student Experience, Administrative Services, Infrastructure, and Shared Facilities.

CONSUP also discussed the importance of supporting the provincial government's priority of increasing the number of highly trained health care professionals. Although shared academic programs are not specifically included in the *PSE Solutions* initiative, the need to collaborate to address the crisis in providing more health care professionals and workers is seen as an important priority for both CONSUP and the government.

MOU Renewal

A meeting of the MOU Partnership Committee was also held on January 20, and we began discussions with the Department of Advanced Education (DAE) on the process to renew the MOU which will enter the final year of its current term in April 2023. The process and timeline are as follows: March-June: Consultation period during which time DAE will seek a negotiation mandate from Treasury Board; June-August/September: MOU Drafting in consultation with CONSUP; September-October: Submission to Executive Council. The next step for CONSUP is to review our priorities for the MOU, including our financial request regarding the operating grant, tuition fees, and any other fiscal supports. The Vice-Presidents Finance and Administration from all the universities are working on preparing the business case for our funding request.

We also received an update from the DAE Deputy Minister on the status of the University Governance Review that was required under Minister Wong's mandate letter from the Premier. After submitting all of the information and their summary report to the Executive Council, and after a meeting to discuss the matter, the DM told us that it was unlikely that there would be any further action taken and that the focus was morphing into a more strategic discussion on addressing priorities through *PSE Solutions* and other collaborative initiatives. It is not clear if this review is now complete, or if it is simply a matter of other urgent issues pushing it far down the list of priorities. Interestingly, the amendments to the St. Francis Xavier University Act passed Third Reading and received Royal Assent on November 9, 2022. The amended legislation reduced the size of their Board of Governors from 45 to 24 but did not include the addition of any Order-in-Council appointees.

The MOU Partnership meeting included updates from the Indigenous Working Group and the African Nova Scotian and Black Student Working Group, which is looking to adopt a provincial approach to addressing the Scarborough Charter, which Acadia signed last year. Also, the DAE reported that their Student Housing Strategy is under development and is planned to be released in March. It was confirmed that CONSUP would be briefed on this strategy before it is sent to Cabinet.

Research Nova Scotia

On December 20, 2022 the provincial government announced an additional \$25 million in funding for Research NS (rNS). This is welcome news as it is something the rNS Board, of which I am a member, has been working on and this will help support research at Acadia as well as the other NS universities. Also, the rNS Board facilitated a presentation on Provincial Government Priorities from Karen Oldfield in her capacity as Deputy Minister of Priorities and Planning and supported by other provincial government DMs. The presentation described the government's strategic planning process and their focus on three areas and their associated priorities:

Solutions for Health – mental health, primary care, and dignity for seniors

Solutions for the Economy – economy and the workforce, business, and housing

Solutions for the Future – environment, education, and supporting Nova Scotians

A lot of emphasis was placed on the need for more RNs, LPNs, PAs, and HCWs. It was stated that NS could use 1,500 new nurses today, and this bodes well for our proposal to establish a nursing program at Acadia as well as our other health care education initiatives.

NS in Ottawa Day

On the federal level, in my capacity as Chair of the Board of EduNova, Shawna Garrett (EduNova's President and CEO) and I led the *Nova Scotia in Ottawa Day* on Tuesday, February 6, 2023. The event was held at the Chateau Laurier and showcased NS to a number of key federal departments and national agencies and organisations involved in international education. Federal departments attending included IRCC, Global Affairs Canada, ISED, and ACOA. Other agencies and organisation such as CIBE, ApplyBoard, Universities Canada, and Colleges and Institutes Canada were also present. We had personal presentations by IRCC Minister Sean

Fraser, NS Labour, Skills and Immigration Minister Jill Balser, and NS Advanced Education Minister Brian Wong among others. We had a strong provincial team attending from the NS government, universities, NSCC, private language colleges, the NS International Student Program, and EduNova. The daytime sessions were followed with an evening reception which included guests from numerous embassies and high commissions in Ottawa, as well as many NS federal politicians and civil servants.

New Federal Deputy Minister Champion

Also attending the *NS in Ottawa Day* was Catherine Blewett, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and President of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. Following the retirement of IRCC DM Katrina Tapley late last year, DM Blewett has been named as Acadia's new Federal Deputy Minister Champion. She has a great deal of experience in public service in NS and Ottawa, including terms as Deputy Clerk of the Privy Council and Associate Secretary to the Cabinet (2019–20), Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (2016–19), and Clerk of the Executive Council and Secretary to Cabinet, Government of Nova Scotia (2015–16). In her time at DFO, DM Blewett led Canada's oceans initiatives for the G7 and achieved Canada's mandate on ocean protection targets of 5% by 2017. She has a BA and MPA from Dalhousie.

MOU with Town of Wolfville and ASU

The historic MOU that Acadia University signed on October 12, 2018 with the Town of Wolfville and the ASU includes a requirement for a formal review every four years to ensure that the shared goals and key principles are still relevant and current. The Town and Gown Committee has been engaging in a thorough review process and is now working on amendments to the agreement. The parties are still very supportive of continuing the MOU and ensuring that we work collaboratively to ensure an effective working relationship that acts in the best interests of the town, the university, and our students. The intention is to present a revised MOU for approval by the governing bodies of the three parties Board in early summer. For Acadia, this will involve taking it for approval to the June meeting of the Board of Governors.

2022/23 BMO Lecturer with the Hon. Bill Morneau Rescheduled

The Hon. Bill Morneau, former Canadian Minister of Finance, will present the 2022/23 BMO Lecture on March 23, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Harvey Denton Hall Auditorium. Mr. Morneau will speak about his new book entitled *Where To From Here: A Path to Canadian Prosperity*. This lecture is a rescheduled event due to the postponement of the original lecture on January 26 due to bad weather conditions. All are welcome to attend with registration at:

<https://bit.ly/BMOLecture>.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Peter Ricketts
President and Vice-Chancellor
March 8, 2023

PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC REPORT TO SENATE – MARCH 13TH, 2023

No report received by March 10, 2023.

ASSOCIATE VP RESEARCH & DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES REPORT TO SENATE – MARCH 13TH, 2023

Canada's Top 50 Research Universities 2022

National reporting from [Research Infosource Inc](#) in late January shows Acadia remaining among the Top 50 Research Universities in Canada for research revenue in FY2021 (\$7.8M), and leading all primarily undergraduate universities in Atlantic Canada in corporate research income (\$2.3M). Nationally, and in our class, Acadia placed 2nd for corporate research income as a percentage of overall research income, and has been in the top five in this applied research category for the past four years.

INTERNAL GRANTS AWARDED TO FACULTY

Acadia University Research Fund (Article 25.55) Winter Competition; Total Awarded = \$88,386 (N=21)

- **Kate Ashley** (Languages & Literature) - *Les Soirées de Médan - website* - **\$3,167**
- **Dan Blustein** (Psychology) - *An intervention to shift older adults' attitudes about virtual reality* - **\$5,000.**
- **Marianne Clark** (Kinesiology) - *Exploring the perceptions of young people on the relationship between physical activity and menstruation and role of social media in shaping menstruation-related information.* - **\$3,937**
- **Mariah Cooper** (History & Classics/WGST) - *Committitur Gaole per Statutum: The Entanglements of the Court of the General Eyre* - **\$4,751**
- **Tristan De Borba** (Music) - *Heavy Stones- a recording project* - **\$4,000**
- **Stéphanie Gauvin** (Psychology) - *Preliminary Evaluation of a Newly Diagnosis Class for Individuals Diagnosed with Breast or Gynecological Cancers* - **\$5,000**
- **Matthew Lukeman** (Chemistry) - *Excited State Proton Transfers in Naphthylphenols* - **\$5,000**
- **Nelson O'Driscoll** (Earth & Environmental Science) - *Seasonal trends in mercury speciation, water quality, and mercury bioaccumulation in a bog-impacted by herring gull guano and water table restoration on Brier Island, Digby County, Nova Scotia* - **\$5,000**
- **Robert Proulx** (Languages & Literature) - *“Cinquante ans de chansons québécoises sur l'écologie” (50 years of Quebec songs on the theme of Ecology). Paper to be given at the International Conference of Acadian and Quebec literatures (APLAQA) “1973-2023 Agir/ Non Agir / Réagir Du temps de l'héritage au temps de l'action? (Act / Don't Act / React, From time of heritage to time of Action?) to be held at Université de Poitiers (France).* - **\$2,348**
- **Anne Quéma** (English & Theatre) - *Dis)(Re)Learning with Liz Howard's Infinite Citizen of the Shaking Tent* - **\$2,151**
- **Jon Saklofske** (English & Theatre) - *Digitizing the Athenaeum* - **\$3,982**
- **Elhadi Shakshuki** (Computer Science) - *Preliminary Results of EEBL System for the Smartphone VANET* - **\$4,567**

- **Chris Shields** (Kinesiology) - *Physical Activity and Exercise Promotion in Diabetes Care in Canada 10 years After the Introduction of the “Toolkit”* - **\$4,212**
- **Mo Snyder** (Earth & Environmental Science) - *Producing a comprehensive sinkhole map of Irishmans Road Recreation Site, West Hants, NS* - **\$5,000**
- **Mike Stokesbury** (Biology) - *Range-Wide Assessment of Genetically Distinct Lake Trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) identified in Nova Scotia* - **\$5,000**
- **Deanne van Rooyen** (Earth & Environmental Science) - *Geochronology and tectonic evolution of the Money Point area, Cape Breton Island.* - **\$5,000**
- **Terrance Weatherbee & Donna Sears** (Business Administration) - *Nova Scotia Wine Tourists: A Longitudinal 360o view* - **\$5,000**
- **Jamie Whidden** (History & Classics) - *Saad Zaghloul, Egyptian Revolutionary: A Political Biography* - **\$4,790**
- **Julianna Will** (English & Theatre) - *Euripides Among the Victorians* - **\$2,009**
- **Peter Williams** (Physics) - *V552 Cas – Is It a RS Canum Venaticorum Variable Star?* - **\$3,454**
- **Brian Wilson** (Biology) - *Insulin-like Peptide 5 and inflammation in the Central Nervous System* - **\$5,000**

EXTERNAL GRANTS TO FACULTY

Parks Canada - General Class Grants and Contributions Program

- **Dr. Allison Walker** (Biology) received **\$50,000** in funding for her project entitled: *Fungal diversity and change in Eastern hemlock forests impacted by Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.*

Council of Atlantic Academic Libraries - 2023 AtlanticOER Development Grants

- **Dr. Eva Curry** (Mathematics and Statistics) received **\$2000** in funding to produce an OER textbook and instructional videos, indexed question bank and activities, and study skills resources for students that will align with current calculus courses.

RESEARCH & SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

- **Dr. Mark Mallory** (Biology) received **\$25,000** in funding for his project entitled: *Review of long-term vertebrate research in Arctic Canada.*

Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

- **Dr. Mark Mallory** (Biology) received **\$17,250** in funding for his project entitled: *Temporal Trends of Contaminants in Arctic Seabirds Eggs.*

OTHER AWARDS/RESEARCH FUNDING

National Research Council – Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) Projects - \$15,000

- **Dr. Andrew McIntyre** (Computer Science; AIDA) was awarded **\$5000** to collaborate with Vermeulen Farms Ltd. Project Title: *Investigation into Strawberry Production Monitoring.*

- **Dr. Robin Browne and Kendra Sampson** (K.C. Irving Environmental Science Centre and Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens) were awarded **\$5000** to collaborate with Helping Nature Heal Inc. Project Title: *Investigating effects of Abundance on mycorrhizal colonization.*
- **Dr. Amitabh Jha** (Chemistry) was awarded **\$5000** to collaborate with Halucenex Life Sciences Inc. Project Title: *Development of novel prodrugs for therapeutic use.*

OTHER ACTIVITIES

On February 13, 2023 the US Consul General Ms. Lyra Carr visited Acadia University to tour the labs in the Huestis Innovation Pavilion (ALAB, Agri-Tech Lab, Food Formulation Lab and Perennia Plant Health Lab), followed by a presentation about Acadia's applied research given. Ms. Carr's visit concluded with a reception hosted by the President's Office, and further engagement with faculty, staff and students.

RESEARCH GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS / SUBMISSION DATES

Internal

- Harrison McCain Foundation Grants – April, date TBA
- SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIG) – May, date TBA

External (not inclusive of all opportunities)

- SSHRC Connection Grants (4/yr) – February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1
- SSHRC Insight – October 1
- SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants (4/yr) – March 15, June 15, Sept 15, Dec 15
- NSERC Research Tools and Instruments – October 25
- NSERC Discovery – NOI due Aug 1; application due Nov 1
- NSERC Alliance (partnership) Grants – Open Call
- MITACS (student and post-doc internships; various programs) – Open Call
- CLARI (Change Lab Action Research Initiative; <https://actionresearch.ca/>) – Open Call

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Redden, PhD
Associate VP Research and Dean, Graduate Studies

ACADIA STUDENTS' UNION – MARCH 13TH, 2023

No report received by March 10, 2023.

COLLEGE OF DIVINITY AND FACULTY OF THEOLOGY – MARCH 13TH, 2023

No report received by March 10, 2023.

Proposed Motion to the Senate on Additional Senators

Whereas the Act of Incorporation defines the responsibility of Senate as being “to control, regulate and determine the educational policy of Acadia University”;

Whereas the Senate cannot faithfully and efficiently discharge this duty unless it can draw upon the knowledge and experience of all those charged with implementing the educational policy of Acadia University;

Whereas the faculty is more likely to trust the outcomes of Senate’s deliberation when it sees itself reflected in Senate’s composition;

Whereas non-permanent part-time and Contractually Limited Term (henceforth “non-continuing”) faculty teach a significant proportion of courses at Acadia University, as well as supervise labs, perform service, and conduct research;

Whereas section III(i) of the Senate Constitution states that faculty senators shall serve for a term of three years, a length of time that makes it extremely unlikely for any non-continuing member of the Acadia faculty to serve as a senator;

And Whereas the absence of non-continuing faculty in Senate represents an obstacle to equity and inclusion at Acadia University;

It is moved that the Senate Bylaws Committee shall consider the rationale and feasibility of adding as voting members of Senate three (3) non-continuing faculty and to make a recommendation of its findings to Senate.

In particular, the Senate Bylaws Committee shall consider the proposal to add as voting members of Senate one non-continuing faculty from each of the three Faculties. Each of these Senators would serve for a term of one (1) year and would be nominated by the Senate Nominating Committee and confirmed by the Senate.