



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, November 18, 2024. 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) Consent Calendar Items

a) Announcements and Communications

- i. Chair (*A. Kieft*)
- ii. President and Vice-Chancellor (*J. Hennessy*) ([attached, pages 4-5](#))
- iii. Provost and Vice-President Academic (*A. Cunsolo*) ([attached, pages 5-17](#))
- iv. Associate Vice-President Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies, Interim (*K. Ashley*) ([attached, page 17](#))
- v. Vice-President Student Experience (*S. Duguay*) ([attached, pages 17-27](#))
- vi. Acadia Students' Union (*Y. Gahlot and S. Taylor*) ([attached, page 27](#))
- vii. Acadia Divinity College and Faculty of Theology (*A. Robbins*) ([attached, pages 27-28](#))
- viii. Other announcements

b) Unfinished Business from October meeting of Senate

- i. Graduate Studies Committee Transition Report (*K. Ashley*) ([attached, pages 29-30](#))
- ii. Ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee Report (*C. Haigh*) ([attached, pages 31-35](#))
- iii. Research Ethics Board Transition Report (*S. Jones*) ([attached, page 36](#))
- iv. Scholarships, Prizes, and Awards Committee Transition Report (*S. Landry, C. Bird*) ([attached, page 37](#))

c) Reports from Senate Sub-Committees

- i. Archives Committee Transition Report (*C. Purdome*) ([attached, page 38](#))
- ii. Curriculum Committee Policy Transition Report (*J. Torbert*) ([attached, page 39](#))
- iii. Faculty Support Committee Transition Report (*L. Wilson Finniss*) ([attached, pages 40-41](#))
- iv. Honours Committee Fall 2024 Report (*M. McSweeney*) ([attached, page 42](#))

3) New Business

- a) Motion from the Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee: Motion to add a third annual academic appeal deadline to the Academic Calendar Dates for the previous academic year's academic standing changes, starting in the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar. The deadline shall normally be the first Friday in October each academic year. ([attached, pages 43-44](#))
(A. Kieft)
- b) Notice of Motions from the By-Laws Committee ([attached, page 45](#))
(J. Carlson)
 - i. Notice of Motion #1: Motion to add three non-continuing faculty members to Senate as voting members. These Senators shall serve for one-year terms and shall be drawn from amongst the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies. They shall be nominated by the Senate Nominating Committee and confirmed by Senate. To be eligible, a faculty member must hold a part-time, Contractually Limited Term, Lector/Lectrice, or Pädagogischen Austauschdienste position at the time of their appointment to Senate.
 - ii. Notice of Motion #2: Motion that Senate recommends to the Board of Governors that these three Senators (three non-continuing faculty members) receive a stipend for their service from the Board of Governors.
 - iii. Notice of Motion #3: Motion that the non-voting Senate member currently listed as the Coordinator of Indigenous Affairs become a voting member of Senate and be listed as the Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization.
 - iv. Notice of Motion #4: Motion to add "or delegate" to the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning Excellence position and "or delegate" to the Coordinator of Academic Technologies on the Faculty Support Committee.
- c) Discussion item: Announcement of Academic Strategic Planning and Next Steps (A. Cunsolo and D. Duke)
- d) Discussion item: Academic Strategic Planning – To discuss the proper role of Senate and its committees in determining Acadia's Academic Strategic Plan.
(J. Sachs)

4) Question Period – President and Provost & Vice-President Academic

5) Other Business

6) Adjournment

Sincerely,

S. Pineo,
Recording Secretary of Senate and University Secretary



Announcements and Communications

PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

President's Report to Senate November 2024

AUDITOR GENERAL REVIEW

The Auditor General of Nova Scotia has informed the ten publicly-supported universities that they will be conducting a performance audit of *Public Funding to Universities*. The audit will be conducted at the Provincial Department of Advanced Education, and will “examine if the Department is effectively funding, monitoring, and holding universities accountable for public funds.” Although they are not auditing Nova Scotia’s ten universities specifically, the final report “may include publicly available information from sources such as audited financial statements or data from the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission”, and could “include information about university revenue from tuition, long-term debt balance, or enrolment in a particular program or faculty.” The results of the audit will be submitted as a report to the House of Assembly and may contain recommendations pertaining to the public use of funds to support universities.

STUDENT CENTRE CAMPAIGN

We continue to make substantial progress in fundraising for the renovation of the student centre, which will combine the “old” and “new” student union buildings. The capital campaign goal is \$24 million and to date we have raised \$18.7 million thanks to the excellent work of the Development Team in External Relations and the Chancellor. We hope to be able to bridge the last \$5 million in time to be able to break ground in the Spring of 2025.

FINANCIAL SERVICES RESTRUCTURING

The Department of Financial Services is in the process of restructuring under the leadership of Vice-President Erin Beaudin. We hope to elevate the level of financial service delivery to employees and students including areas such as expense reimbursements, procurement, and budget management. The Department is also improving its financial forecasting capabilities and is designing a new budget process that seeks to be more transparent, timely, and collaborative. The restructuring will take several months, but action is already being taken on improved service delivery in some key areas.

DISCLOSURE OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

As part of our commitment to transparency, Acadia will publish annually its investment holdings as of Dec 31 each year. These reports will be available as part of our [Financial Services Reports](#) page on the Acadia website. The endowment contains invested funds from donors and provides a return each year that predominantly funds scholarships and awards, campus infrastructure, research, and academic programming support. No revenue from tuition is included in the endowment. The endowment fund is managed through an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer (OCIO) and contains several pooled funds managed externally. The current value of the equity holdings in the endowment is \$72 million.

NEW WOLFVILLE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The recent Nova Scotia municipal elections returned a new Mayor and Council for the Town of Wolfville. Acadia looks forward to continuing its positive relationship with the Town of Wolfville, which has grown stronger recently. I would like to congratulate Mayor Jodi MacKay on her election, and to publicly thank outgoing Mayor Wendy Donovan for her service and contributions to Wolfville and Acadia.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey J. Hennessy, Ph.D. (he/him)
President and Vice-Chancellor

PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

PVPA Updates

The fall semester has been flying by, and it's been so wonderful get to know many students, staff, and faculty these last three months, and learn about all the things that make Acadia so vibrant and special. I have continued to attend talks, participate in classes, connect with researchers, cheer on sports teams, and support student and community events, and am enjoying all that I am learning and hearing from people across the campus.

It was also such a joy and honour to attend many events related to Mi'kmaq History Month, and to be back in Mi'kma'ki to celebrate the Treaties of Peace and Friendship and Treaty Day. Congratulations to Zabrina Whitman, Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and

Indigenization, and her fabulous team in the Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization, on a very special month of learning and engagement!

In my October Senate report, I shared five overarching key priorities for my first year as Provost and Vice-President, Academic, and will be updating each Senate Report moving forward under these categories: Strategic Academic Planning; Enhancing Academic Policies, Procedures, and Processes; Committee Reinvigoration and Streamlining; Enhance, Strengthen, and Develop Relationships with Indigenous and African Nova Scotian Communities; and Streamlining & Unifying Academic & Financial Portfolios and Planning.

I. Strategic Academic Planning

As I will share at this month's Senate Meeting, I am delighted to announced that we are embarking on a strategic academic planning process, which will begin in the coming weeks, and help shape an overall strategic academic plan for Acadia University. Strategic Academic Plans are important, as they will help us set clear goals and priorities and provide a unified vision and direction for the entire university community. They can also help us to differentiate ourselves, and to celebrate unique strengths, while bringing people together across disciplines and units – and outside of the university – to engage in identifying common goals and opportunities.

This process will provide many active, iterative, and ongoing opportunities for engagement and input at the department, faculty, and university-wide levels, and unfold in the coming months. It will be an exciting opportunity for collaboration, brainstorming, and creativity, while considering how to highlight and celebrate what makes Acadia the place of choice for students, staff, and faculty.

In particular, this strategic academic plan will look to pick up and build upon the input from faculty in the last strategic plan for the university, gather and identify what already exists, and respond to and reflect what Acadia is already known for around environment, climate change, sustainability, food security, community connections, biodiversity, health and wellness, and critical thinking (to name a few) from all different disciplinary perspectives.

A key part of this will be the establishment of a Strategic Academic Planning Working Group, co-chaired by myself and David Duke. As we will discuss at Senate, we are proposing the following Working Group membership:

1. Ashlee Cunsolo, Provost & Vice-President Academic: **Co-Chair**
2. David Duke, Dean, Faculty of Arts: **Co-Chair**
3. Natalie Weekes, Strategic Climate Change Initiatives
4. Lauren Wilson Finnis, Vice-Provost Teaching and Learning Excellence
5. Lerato Chondoma, AVP Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism
6. Zabrina Whitman, Executive Advisor L'nu Affairs and Indigenization
7. Jodie Noiles, Sustainability Coordinator
8. Senate Representative (elected)
9. Senate Representative (elected)
10. Board of Governors Representative from Faculty Reps (elected)

11. Faculty of Arts Representative (elected)
12. Faculty of Professional Studies Representative (elected)
13. Faculty of Pure & Applied Science Representative (elected)
14. Library and Archive Representative (elected)
15. Acadia Divinity College Representative (elected)
16. Student Representative (Arts) (elected)
17. Student Representative (Professional Studies) (elected)
18. Student Representative (Sciences) (elected)

Everyone has a role to play in this very collaborative strategic planning process, and we look forward to hearing your ideas and working with everyone throughout this process. More details will be forthcoming once the working group is solidified.

II. Enhancing Academic Policies, Procedures, and Processes

I have been examining and analyzing academic policies and procedures, with an eye to remove barriers, enhance accessibility, support Indigenization and EDI-AR, streamline processes, reduce workload, and support recruitment and retention. This work will be ongoing, but several key initiatives include:

- **Establishing a Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Process:**
Under the leadership of Mark Bishop, Registrar, we are developing a Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process for Acadia University.
PLAR is a process that evaluates and acknowledges the knowledge, skills, and abilities individuals have acquired through various life experiences, including formal education, work, and personal endeavors. Having PLAR processes at universities allows students to receive academic credit or gain admission to educational programs based on their prior learning.

PLAR processes often make education more accessible, and opens new pathways to enhance Indigenization, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the university. For example, PLAR recognizes lived experiences, cultural knowledges and backgrounds, professional experiences, and non-formal education. This recognition welcomes diverse perspectives and backgrounds to the university, enriching the learning environment, and creating a more inclusive campus. PLAR can also support increased student recruitment and retention.

Most universities and colleges in Canada have long implemented a process for PLAR, and Acadia is an outlier. We are seeking to remedy this with the establishment of a PLAR process for Acadia.

The working document has been circulated with senior leadership, Deans, and Heads/Directors, and has been discussed at the Academics and Academic Standing (Policy) Committee. Feedback is currently being incorporated, with the aim of bringing this to Senate in December 2024.

- **Additional Academic Policy Enhancements & Adjustments:**

Under the leadership of Mark Bishop, Registrar, we are also looking to streamline and enhance existing academic policies related to GPA Alignment and Transfer Credits, to better support students, staff, Heads/Directors, and Deans. Conversations and work on these processes are ongoing.

In addition to these initiatives, there is also ongoing work with the AVP Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism, the Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization, and the Academic Program Development, Quality Assurance, and Planning offices on enhancing policies and procedures (see below).

III. Committee Reinvigoration & Examination

Another focus of the last three months has been examining committees that exist within the academic portfolio, and having discussions on their roles and functionality, and looking for opportunities to reinvigorate committees, and consider opportunities for streamlining to reduce workload.

- **Faculty Council:** One exciting opportunity for reinvigoration is through Faculty Council, and the opportunity to hold these meetings more regularly to discuss university-wide areas of interest, concern, and opportunity, and to grapple with some of the key questions facing Acadia and the sector. I look forward to the work of Faculty Council, and to engaging in these discussions moving forward. Special thanks to the new Chair, Krissy Kreech, for stepping in, and to Anna Kiefert as Vice-Chair and Natalie Swain as Secretary, for continuing to support this important committee!
- **Academic Planning Committee:** The Academic Planning Committee is continuing its work to make recommendations on academic planning processes, including taking in feedback from members of Senate. We will be hosting an open meeting through Faculty Council on November 28th, 2024, to start talking about the key over-arching criteria that people would like to see inform position ranking and recommendation. The APC will be creating guidelines to share with Senate for discussion in 2025, which will then be shared up front with Heads, Directors, Coordinators, and Deans to help inform decision-making. We will also be working on shorter templates for units to use in academic planning, which tie into changes being made to budgeting/planning processes (see below).

IV. Enhance, Strengthen, and Develop Relationships with Indigenous and African Nova Scotian Communities

Since Lerato Chondoma (AVP Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism) and Zabrina Whitman (Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization) started in September 2024, we have been working together to develop new relationships and opportunities, and strengthen existing relationships, to support students, develop new research and education opportunities, and enhance EDI-AR and Indigenization throughout the university. We are also working together to identify gaps in policies and procedures, and to find ways to enhance

policies and processes through Indigenization and EDI-AR lenses. Their presence and leadership in each of their portfolios has been a game-changer for Acadia, and I look forward to continuing to support their important and needed initiatives and work. (See below for their individual updates.)

V. Streamlining & Unifying Academic & Financial Portfolios and Planning

Since starting at Acadia in August 2024, I have been working closely with Erin Beaudin, VP Finance and Administration and CFO, to streamline the academic and financial processes, and unify our portfolios to strengthen and enhance the academic sector procedures, particularly around budgeting, forecasting, and faculty relations. Some key initiatives to date include:

- **Collaborative Budgeting Planning:** We are currently working on re-designing the academic budgeting process to provide more collaborative input from the academic portfolios, and to align with the new budgeting processes being developed in the VP Finance and Administration Portfolio. As part of this process, several meetings are being held with the Heads/Directors, Deans, and members of the Provost Council to discuss budget needs and priorities and to strategically think about future needs. We will be having a budget retreat with the VPFA and Provost's Council on December 12, 2024 to prepare for the 2025-2026 budget cycle.
- **Enhancing the Faculty Model:** We are working on enhancing the faculty model by combining data from the Provost's Office, the VP Finance and Administration Portfolio, and working with AUFA's files. As part of this process, Kris Strong is rebuilding the faculty model with this input, so that all parties have near-real-time access to faculty complement numbers, planning, and forecasting.
- **Faculty Relations:** We are also linking our portfolios together to enhance faculty relations processes, and to collaboratively respond to concerns, needs, and grievances, and to strengthen relationships.

AVP Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism: Lerato Chondoma

October has been a busy month for our campus community and the broader Valley communities. It was wonderful to celebrate Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month at Acadia. It has been an honour to experience Mi'kmaq culture and bear witness to Mi'kmaq strength and resilience- to begin to understand as a newcomer here, the true spirit and intent of the Treaties of Friendship and the responsibility and accountability that we all have as Treaty People.

I am grateful to have gained a better understanding of the equity issues most pressing and important to the Valley communities by engaging with candidates who were running for our local municipal elections. It was truly enthusing to see the Town of Shelburne elect Stanley (Tanny) Jacklin as the town's first Black mayor and to see Annapolis Royal elect its first, all-female group of first-time councillors with incumbent Amery Boyer, re-elected as Mayor. How exciting to see such inclusive diversity at levels of municipal leadership. I look forward

to continuing to build relationships across the Valley and into Halifax to better serve our Acadia community.

Some key updates about the portfolio include:

1. **Developing a new proposed structure for the AVP EDI-AR portfolio:** I look forward to sharing more details with the community about this structure in upcoming months.
2. **Acadia Institutional Accessibility Plan:** We continue to work towards our 2025 update to the Acadia Institutional Accessibility Plan due in April 2025. We plan to share more about our institutional plan through a couple of events leading to and after December 3rd, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Please mark December 3rd in your calendars for a day of engagement, celebration and recognition.
3. **JACBA MOU & Partnership:** Through my portfolio, Acadia is re-engaging with the Black communities of Jordantown, Acaciaville and Conway through revitalization of an MOU signed in 2017 with the Jordantown-Acaciaville-Conway Betterment Association (JACBA). This partnership presents great opportunities for:
 - a. Joint educational and research activities, especially as these pertain to the cultural life and history of the JACBA communities.
 - b. Joint exploration of ways of encouraging and supporting JACBA youth to attend Acadia University.
 - c. The establishment of collaborative relations with those departments and schools at Acadia that can most contribute to the cultural pedagogy of the JACBA communities.

Again, I look forward to sharing more details with the community about the revitalization of the MOU in upcoming months.

I continue to meet with folx to learn more about the diverse EDI-AR needs across campus, but I am also learning about some phenomenal work that this currently underway that I am excited to support and amplify.

As I shared in a joint message with President Hennessy to campus on November 8th, there are many socio-cultural and geo-political contexts that are having significant impacts on the lives of students, staff and faculty within our campus community. I want to reiterate my offer of support and my open-door policy for anyone who wants to reach out and who may need extra supports at this time. Please reach out to me directly at lerato.chondoma@acadiu.ca should you be feeling uncertainty, fear or anxiety.

A reminder of my focus for the remainder of this year:

- Develop a design for an AVP EDI-AR portfolio that includes-
 - an overview of current EDI-AR offices, initiatives, supports and programs,
 - contemplates new initiatives,
 - a plan for strategic consolidation of efforts and activities.

- Develop an understanding of the baseline of EDI Initiatives outlined in the February 22, 2024, EDI Report sent to Board EDI Committee.
- Identify a few cross-campus initiatives from the 2024 EDI Report across the four main operational areas of Academic, Student Experience, Administration and Advancement to pilot the development of a template/process to support departmental, unit and program environmental scans (EDI-AR audits).
- Earmark some targeted funds to support key EDI-AR campaigns and create a small working group to support this work.
- Develop and roll-out an 8-part, pilot learning series involving staff, faculty and administration focused on intersectional and nuanced themes around EDI-AR and decolonization.
- Engage with and build relationships with VANSDA and other African Nova-Scotian individuals and groups at Acadia, in the valley and Halifax.
- In collaboration with and supported by the Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization, engage with and build relationships with Mi'kmaq individuals and groups at Acadia, within the Glooscap First Nation, Annapolis Valley First Nation and other Mi'kmaq communities and groups.

Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization (OLAI): Zabrina Whitman

Acadia is extremely fortunate to be in an area that is culturally and historically rich for the Mi'kmaq, but we have to yet to incorporate that richness into spaces on campus. The creation of the Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization is a conscious statement not only to say that we recognize that Acadia is within Mi'kma'ki, but to find ways to meaningfully incorporate Mi'kmaq and other Indigenous pedagogies and epistemologies into the University.

After wrapping up a very successful Mi'kmaq History Month, the OLAI team has been working on several key guiding documents, processes, and protocols, while responding to faculty, student and staff needs as they arise and planning for winter engagement with Mi'kmaq communities. These include:

- **Annual Calendar of Events:** We have drafted an annual calendar template that will support information sharing and coordination related to Indigenous speakers and events throughout the year.
- **The Indigenous Protocols Handbook:** A newly revised and updated handbook is under a redraft and will be shared with the university community shortly.
- **Teepee Protocol:** A draft teepee protocol has also been created and will be shared with the university community shortly.
- **Honorarium Guideline:** In conjunction with the AVP EDI-AR, we are creating a guideline for honorariums. This is moving through approval processes and will be shared with the university community shortly.

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) is having its first meeting of the year on November 14th, 2024 at Acadia. This committee brings together Elders and Knowledge Holders with Acadia representatives to discuss shared opportunities for educational partnerships. The Indigenous Education Advisory Council will also be reviewing and

discussing the above guidelines and protocols. We will also be discussing OLAI engagement and strategic planning, student recruitment, and seeking direction on identity-based policy.

Potential Educational Partnerships

- The Dean of Professional Studies, the AVP EDI-AR, the Provost and Vice-President Academic, and the Executive Advisor of OLAI met with health directors and Tajikeimik Health Authority to discuss collaborations, including for nursing, curriculum development, and health research. Our next meeting is scheduled for later this month.
- The Executive Advisor of OLAI will also be meeting with all Mi'kmaq educator directors and staff at Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey at their next Board Meeting in December.

Academic Faculties & Units Updates

Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Faculty of Arts members have been very active this last month, with several achievements to share:

- Dr. Chelsea Gardner was awarded a SSHRC Insight Grant to explore the Classical history and archaeology of the Mani Peninsula in Greece
- Julia Rombough's *A Veil of Silence: Women and Sound in Renaissance Italy* was published with Harvard University Press.
- Mariah Cooper's *Representations of Rape and Consent in Medieval English Laws and Literature* was published, the latest addition to ARC Humanities Press' *Gender and Power in the Premodern World* series.
- *Visions of Cannabis Control*, Johannes Wheeldon's latest book, was published by OUP.

In addition, faculty have been recognised for their work through nominations of excellence: Wanda Campbell's "String Theory", a beautiful poetic meditation on T.S. Eliot's work, was a finalist in this year's prestigious Montreal International Poetry Prize competition.

Currently showing at the Acadia Gallery is *Beyond La Llorona: Women and Resistance in Oaxacan Printmaking*, a striking marriage of socio-political resistance with the power of the image. This runs until 5 December.

The Women's and Gender Studies program is well into its planning for events to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women on 6 December.

Jennifer MacDonald and Kevin Whetter co-host the Atlantic Medieval Association conference on November 15 and 16. This is a small but important conference which brings together the high concentration of mediaeval scholars from a variety of fields and interests, and both Jennifer and Kevin are leaders in that group. It's been more than ten years since Acadia last hosted the AMA, so this was a welcome return of the conference.

Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

School of Business

The Business Society hosted the annual banquet on Oct 17 with an audience of 160 attendees. The event was entirely student led and run this year.

The FC Manning School of Business launched the first faculty-led field school under the leadership of Dr. Conor Vibert and in collaboration with Study Abroad. The course “Doing Business Abroad”, includes a two-week intensive experience in Japan in partnership with Kurume University, where students study customs, language and business practices.

The unit recently passed a motion at Council to join PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education). PRME’s mission is to transform management education. PRME advances sustainable development and human rights through the adoption of the SDGs.

Department of Community Development

The Community Development program, led by Dr. Alicia Noriega-Mundaroy, hosted over 40 students and 10 teachers/counsellors of African descent on November 8th to explore the CODE program, Acadia University, and understand the services and facilities that support student success.

School of Education

Students from the new Africentric Bachelor of Education cohort were on campus for the first time on Saturday October 19th, 2024. Many students from the cohort are currently taking two cognate courses, one in Biology, and one in Mathematics and Statistics. They will begin their Bachelor of Education courses this winter semester.

The Red Spruce Mental Health Centre will be opening its doors again this winter as a community facing counselling centre, serving our rural community while providing unique experiential learning opportunities for our Counselling students.

School of Kinesiology

The fall marked the opening of an Academic Support for Kinesiology students (ASK) Help Centre which provides free academic support as an alternative to hiring a private tutor.

The School of Kinesiology recently passed a Code of Professional Conduct for students in Athletic Therapy, which has been in progress for the last 1 ½ years.

The School’s community engagement programs are up and running again, including a new exercise program for individuals with Parkinson’s disease. Kinesiology students have also initiated numerous community projects in our capstone Senior Seminar course, as well as in Social Determinants of Health.

School of Music

On campus, the School has hosted the Nova Scotia Youth Choir, Nova Scotia Youth Wind Ensemble, and held our annual Music Monday event bringing middle school aged youth from every school in the Valley to our campus.

The nine-foot Steinway Piano in Denton Hall auditorium was one of the final pieces of a decades long initiative to improve the equipment necessary for all musicians to thrive at the School of Music. This 1969 Steinway was placed here in the original opening of Denton Hall when both the building and the piano were new. We are pleased that this significant upgrade and refurbishment will positively impact our student and guest experience.

School of Nursing

Adam Elliott, NP, has been appointed as the new Chair of the Acadia-CBU expansion department.

Plans are still underway for a forthcoming Nursing building on Acadia campus, and the creation of our own stand-alone curriculum.

Students in this 2024-2025 academic year are taking the first Nursing courses and entering their first clinical (field) placements for this Acadia-CBU satellite program in long-term care facilities in the Annapolis Valley.

Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

Math, Stats, & Comp Sci Science Atlantic Conference:

This conference was held at Acadia on October 4 and 5, 2024 and was a tremendous success.

Two Acadia students won significant awards:

- Errol DaRocha: 1st place Undergraduate Research Award in Computer Science
- Erin Hughes: 1st place Undergraduate Research Award in Mathematics

There were 3 plenary lectures: the Blundon Lecture in Mathematics, the Field Lecture in Statistics, and the Sedgwick Lecture in Computer Science. The Sedgwick Lecture was given by Dr. Alexis Morris of OCAD University, director of the Adaptive Context Environments (ACE) Lab, and Tier II Canada Research Chair in the Internet of Things. Alexis is a graduate of Acadia's Computer Science program.

Atlantic Universities Geoscience Conference:

Students from the Department of Earth & Environmental Science attended the AUGC conference at Dalhousie in late October, and Acadia students won 4 of the possible 6 awards given at the conference!

- Tess Gates-Flaherty: won the Canadian Energy Geoscience Award for their talk, titled "The taxa world sure can be taxing: Creating an open source Windsor Group fossil database".
- Abbey Smith: won the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists Award for their talk, titled: "Get off my lawn: Coastal erosion in Hantsport, NS".
- Tiernan Davies: won the Frank S. Shae Memorial Award for their talk, titled: "Geology and economic mineral potential of the central Jeffers block, Cobequid Highlands, Nova Scotia, Canada".
- Hayley Newell: won the Atlantic Geoscience Society Environmental Geoscience Award for their talk, titled: "Mercury in soil horizons from southwestern Nova Scotia: Relationships with vegetative bioindicators and mineralogy".

FPAS Speaker Series

The FPAS Speaker Series is returning for another year and kicked off on November 5th with a talk by Dr. Liesel Carlsson (Nutrition and Dietetics) on *The Social Impact Potential of Dietitians on Planetary Health*. The next talk will feature Dr. Allison Walker (Biology), who will speak on *Dispatches from the Bay of Fungi: Coastal fungal biodiversity research at*

Acadia (Tues Nov 19th, 1:00-2:00pm in HSH 336).

The Vaughan Memorial Library: Jennifer Richard

In response to feedback gathered last spring from students, we have made the following enhancements to the Vaughan Memorial Library:

- Table lamps
- Bean bag chairs
- Additional printer
- Additional power outlets
- White boards in all study rooms

The Library now has bone models, a stethoscope, and a blood pressure cuff on Reserve for students to borrow

The Acadia Archives has debuted a new and improved [website](#).

On November 21, from 12-1 pm, the Vaughan Memorial Library will host a talk by Dr. El Jones, “Animals, Humanity and Abolition.” This will be a hybrid event at the Fountain Commons Great Hall with a virtual attendance option [via Teams](#).

Teaching & Learning Portfolio: Lauren Wilson Finnis

On Saturday November 2nd, 2024 Acadia welcomed approximately 150 people from throughout Atlantic Canada to the [AAU Teaching Showcase](#). This event celebrated all things teaching and learning, and was an exceptional opportunity to highlight our campus, our exceptional instructors and educators teaching, and to learn from our colleagues at Acadia and throughout the 16 Atlantic Canada universities part of the AAU. Acadia's representation included an exceptional keynote workshop by Dr. Jodi Porter and Rev. John Campbell from Acadia's Divinity College, *Ay, Ay, AI!: Innovate or Die?*, and 21 presentations by faculty, instructors, and students. Thank you to all who participated, presented, and volunteered!

The Learning Technologies and Instructional Design (LTID) team has hosted three teaching and technology workshops so far this fall, Interactive PowerPoint, Collaborative Wikis, and Teaching Quizzes. The final workshop this fall will take place on Thursday November 21st from 2:00-3:30pm, Interactive Multimedia with Michael Shaw. Check out teaching.acadiau.ca for more information on teaching programming and resources including LTID workshops.

Academic Program Development, Quality Assurance, and Planning: Shawna Singleton

The academic review portfolio is very busy, with several active programs reviews ongoing this semester, and multiple upcoming for 2025, including the MPHEC university wide review process.

As part of the work on developing stronger and more inclusive review processes, the Associate Vice Provost EDI-AR and the Executive Advisor, L’nu Affairs and Indigenization are reviewing the Academic Program Review Guidelines to advise on wise practices for EDI-AR and Indigenization in program reviews, from the self-study to the review process itself.

Additionally, recognizing the key role that the Vice-Provost Teaching and Learning Excellence plays for program reviews, the Academic Program Review Committee of Senate is submitting a request to have the Vice-Provost – Teaching and Learning added to the APRC membership.

Program Reviews

There are two active program reviews with in-person site visits for Fall 2024:

1. The Department of Economics External Reviewer’s Report has been received and submitted to the Department.
2. The Department of Math and Statistics program review site visit ran from October 21-23, 2024. The reviewers were:
 - i. Dr. Christian Léger, Professor, Mathematics and Statistics Department, Université de Montréal (external)
 - ii. Dr. Sara Faridi, Professor, Mathematics and Statistics Department, Dalhousie University (external)
 - iii. Dr. Michael Robertson, Professor, Physics Department, Acadia (internal)
 - iv. Dr. Xiaoting Wang, Professor, Economics Department, Acadia (internal)

Preparations for the MPHEC 2025 Assessment

Preparations continue for the 2025 MPHEC assessment. More details will be coming shortly.

Ongoing and Upcoming Reviews

Faculty of Science		Current Status
Computer Science	Year 1 (2023)	Meeting with Dean and Director of School to plan for combined accreditation and academic review, September 25.
Mathematics and Statistics	Year 1 (2023)	Site visit scheduled, October 21- 23.
Biology	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, August 22. Templates and dataset provided.
Faculty of Professional Studies		
Community Development	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, September 9. Templates and dataset provided.
BEd	Year 2 (2024)	Will occur in 2025 to align with accreditation requirements. Date to be determined.
Faculty of Arts		
Economics	Year 2 (2024)	Site visit, September 25-27.
English and Theatre	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, August 14. Templates and dataset provided.
Languages and Literatures	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting to be held in late October.
Philosophy	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, June 6. Templates and dataset provided.
Sociology	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, September 5. Templates and dataset provided.
Support		

Library and Archives (Research and Support)	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting. Presentation to Library and Archives staff, August 21.
Graduate Studies (Support)	Year 2 (2024)	Introductory meeting, July 15. Templates provided.

Respectfully submitted,



Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD (she/her)
Provost and Vice-President Academic

ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND GRADUATE STUDIES REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

No report received by November 15, 2024.

VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

[Student Experience Update](#) - As shared with the Board of Governors October 2024

Update on the 2022-2025 Enrolment Plan

Since the launch of Acadia University’s Enrolment Growth Plan two years ago, the university has made significant strides in student recruitment and retention. Despite challenges – such as lingering effects of the pandemic, a significant labour dispute in the second year of the plan, ongoing geopolitical issues and more recently government policies mid-recruitment cycle that led to major declines in international enrolment in Canada – Acadia has achieved record application numbers and has achieved the highest enrolment figures in years.

By most measures, the 2022-2025 enrolment plan is a very resilient plan built on principles that enabled Acadia to weather unexpected storms and see enrolment growth in a highly volatile environment. A focus on creating professionalized, high-quality university promotion, developing and supporting key areas of student success, and ensuring proper staffing levels make up a cohesive and comprehensive plan that will serve the university well moving forward.

While there is much work left to do as we continue to evolve recruitment and retention practices at Acadia leaning on data to inform decision making, the university has stabilized student recruitment and retention efforts, enhanced services for

underrepresented student groups, and introduced many new support initiatives made possible by the key investments made two years ago. Consequently, we are seeing much stronger responses to marketing and communications efforts, growing application numbers, noticeable gains in student satisfaction, increased student retention, and a renewed sense of belonging on campus.

That said, the international situation this year has put pressure on university finances and threatens to derail Acadia from meeting its planned target of 3,868 by 2025. While it is impossible to say where we would be if not for the current plan, recent Atlantic Association of Universities (AAU) enrolment comparison would suggest that we could be in a substantially worse situation, Acadia having fared much better than its counterparts this year.

Enrolment Plan Objectives

In 2022, the Acadia Board of Governors increased university spending in key areas of student support to achieve enrolment goals outlined in the Acadia 2025 Strategic Plan and improve student experience.

Adopted in 2019, the Strategic Plan included the following goals:

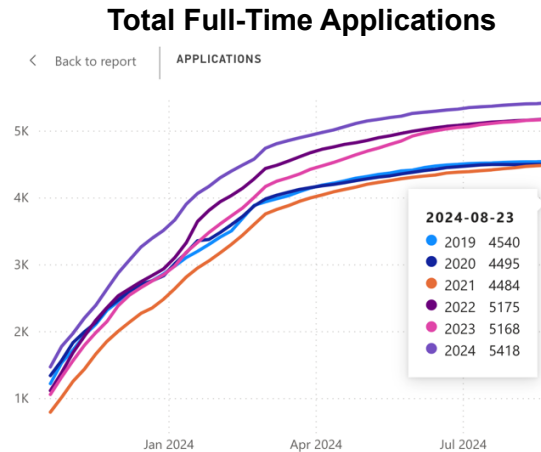
- A controlled and measured approach to increase overall undergraduate enrolment by at least 10% (*2019 baseline enrolment was 3,516 = 2,987 Domestic and 529 International*)
- Increase African Nova Scotian and Indigenous student enrolment as a percentage of domestic student enrolment
- Increase international student enrolment to at least 20% of the overall undergraduate student enrolment
- Increase student retention and graduation rates to exceed regional averages for Maritime universities with a longer-term goal of being in the top quartile for Canadian Universities

2022-2024 Enrolment Plan Results

2024 Enrolment Levels

The 2023-2024 recruitment campaign generated the most applications in years, totalling over 5,400 by summer 2024. Domestically, Nova Scotia (57%), followed by Ontario (12%) and New Brunswick (10%), represent our largest application pools. After a dip in Nova Scotia applications in Fall 2023, Acadia received over 2,000 applications for this Fall, a 19.0% increase year-over-year.

Overall applications for Fall 2024 surpassed 2019 pre-pandemic rates by 878. Even after accounting for applications for the new Nursing program and the drop in international applications due to government policy announcements, Acadia is generating an increasing amount of interest from prospective students.

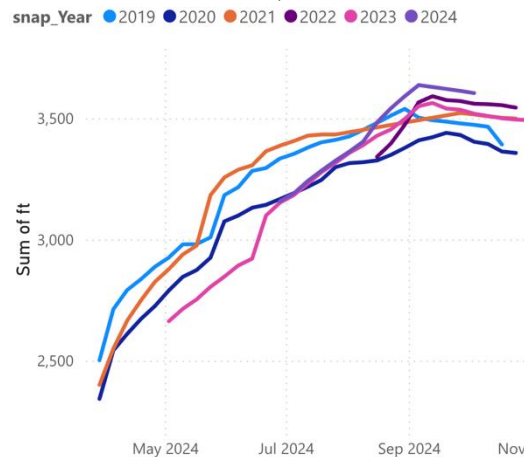


While overall and domestic numbers are healthy, international recruitment challenges have been well documented. With the Federal announcement in January that capped international enrolment and saw a long pause in application assessments, and the more recent efforts to reduce immigration opportunities for international graduates, international numbers are down and will impact the university's financial position significantly. While international applications to Acadia were up 48% by January, they only reached 1,581 by September 13th, a 9.9% drop from this time last year with many of those applications coming before the announcements and decline of Canada's brand internationally.

For Fall 2024, total Full-Time Undergraduate registrations reached 3,604 - 85 more than this time last year - on October 4, the highest point in many years.

Full-Time Undergrad Registrations

October 4, 2024



Within this total, 3,142 domestic registrations represented a 3.9% increase, while international registrations fell to 462 for a 6.5% decrease.

A similar trend bore out in 1st year student registrations with domestic students increasing by 6.7% to 990 FT students, and international registrations going from 206 last year to 172, a 16.5% decrease.

The following table represents Acadia's enrolment over time, based on [AAU](#) submitted data. Notably, Acadia experienced an overall increase in FT Undergraduate enrolment this year, even with the considerable challenges brought on by government policy changes leading to a decline in international enrolment.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Last Year % Change
FT Undergraduate	3549	3628	3533	3608	3612	3559	3680	3.4%
FT Graduate	188	176	169	206	176	161	146	-9.3%
Totals	3737	3804	3702	3814	3788	3720	3826	2.8%
PT Undergraduate	426	339	410	416	364	322	330	2.5%
PT Graduate	335	359	368	312	334	303	314	3.6%
Totals	761	698	778	728	698	625	644	3.0%
PT + FT All Totals	4498	4502	4480	4542	4486	4345	4470	2.9%
FT Visa	545	584	504	508	447	521	502	-3.6%
FT First Year	869	863	760	996	934	846	871	3.0%
New Transfers	430	369	271	261	291	260	330	26.9%

From a comparative perspective, Acadia fared well. Only University of New Brunswick, and A.S.T. on a smaller scale, experienced a larger year-over-year percentage increase. Collectively, Nova Scotia universities experienced a decline of 1,369 students, or -3.4%, while NL, NB, and PE saw a -7.5%, +3.2%, and -3.2% change. Overall, Atlantic Canada saw a decrease of almost 2,000 students enrolled in the region.

Atlantic Association of Universities 2024-2025 Enrolment Report October 15, 2025

INSTITUTION	UNDERGRADUATE			
	2023-10-03	2024-10-01	CHANGE	%
Memorial University	12,333	11,405	-928	-7.5
Acadia University	3,559	3,680	121	3.4
A.S.T.	5	11	6	120.0
Dalhousie University	14,608	14,588	-20	-0.1
Mt. St. Vincent	2,372	2,418	46	1.9
NSCAD University	679	590	-89	-13.1
Saint Mary's Univ.	5,186	4,838	-348	-6.7
St. Francis Xavier	3,904	3,872	-32	-0.8
Cape Breton University	8,287	7,148	-1,139	-13.7
U. of King's College	828	877	49	5.9
U.Ste.Anne	452	489	37	8.2
Total - Nova Scotia	39,880	38,511	-1,369	-3.4
Mount Allison Univ.	2,346	2,403	57	2.4
St. Thomas Univ.	1,610	1,599	-11	-0.7
U. de Moncton	4,821	4,917	96	2.0
Univ. of New Brunswick	7,756	8,138	382	4.9
Total - New Brunswick	16,533	17,057	524	3.2
U.P.E.I.	4,841	4,685	-156	-3.2
TOTAL-ATLANTIC	73,587	71,658	-1,929	-2.6
TOTAL-MARITIME	61,254	60,253	-1,001	-1.6

Contrasting the overall trends identified in the AAU data above, Acadia saw increases across all enrolment measures, with only two exceptions: full-time graduates and full-time visa students. These key increases speak to the successful work done thus far under Acadia's enrolment growth plan. Acadia's enrolment levels in relation to other Nova Scotian universities on specific enrolment measures are summarised below.

Overall, Acadia has had its best year since 2018 for full-time enrolments, demonstrating the largest year-over-year increase (+106 students) in full-time enrolments of any Nova Scotian university. This is driven by Acadia's undergraduate enrolments, as graduate enrolments are the lowest since 2018. Notable increases in full-time enrolments were also seen at Université Sainte-Anne, University of King's College and Mt. St. Vincent.

Five Nova Scotia Universities experienced significant decreases ranging from 0.7% to 12.5%, with the greatest single year decreases seen at Cape Breton University, NSCAD University and Saint Mary's University.

Acadia saw slight year-over-year increases in part-time enrolments for both undergraduate and graduate populations. Only 3 Nova Scotian Universities identified part-time enrolment increases: NSCAD University (+82.46%), St. Francis Xavier (+8.9%) & Acadia University (+3.04%).

On average Nova Scotia Universities with 100 or more full-time visa students saw a 4.2% decrease in enrolments. Acadia University saw a 3.6% decrease, equating to 19 students. Mt. St. Vincent, St. Francis Xavier and Université Sainte-Anne were the only universities showing an increase in full-time visa students from 2023/24 to 2024/25.

As this data includes visa students from all years of study, it underrepresents the effects felt from the Federal cap on international students announced in January 2024.

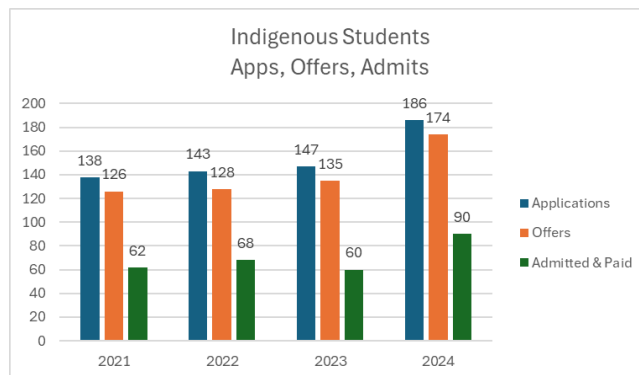
Acadia saw a 3.0% increase in full-time first-year post-secondary students. Overall, four other Nova Scotian Universities saw increases ranging from 1.6% to 29.1%. The remaining 4 universities saw decreases ranging from -7.1% to -24.1%.

Acadia saw a 26.9% year-over-year increase in new transfer students, making it one of four universities to see growth in this area.

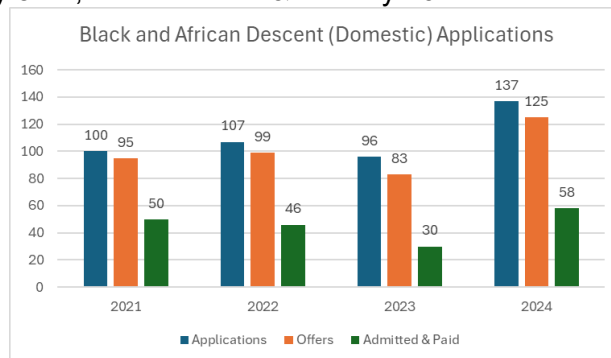
Targeted Groups

Achieving our goal of increasing African Nova Scotian and Indigenous student enrolment as a percentage of domestic student enrolment, Acadia has seen rising interest from Indigenous and Black student groups, supported by targeted recruitment strategies and dedicated staff positions. Key metrics include:

- Indigenous students: Applications have risen by 34.7%, offers by 38%, and Admitted & Paid by 45%.



- Black and African Descent (Domestic) students: Applications have risen by 37%, offers by 32%, and Admitted & Paid by 16%.



Staffing enhancements, such as creating two Black and Indigenous Enrolment Advisor positions, new positions to coordinate student support, a BIPOC Counsellor position, a residence leadership position and increasing student involvement in the Residence Assistants program, have contributed to these positive trends.

Once the current registration period is complete, we will be able to report on final enrolment in comparison to previous years.

Retention

While progress has been made in retention rates, further work is needed. New data analytics capabilities will enable targeted retention strategies moving forward.

Overall 1 st to 2 nd Year Student Retention Rate	
2021 to 2022	78.8%
2022 to 2023	80.0%

1 st to 2 nd Year Student Retention Rate (by faculty)			
2021 to 2022 Arts	67.9%	2022 to 2023 Arts	63.6%
2021 to 2022 Professional Studies	79.4%	2022 to 2023 Professional Studies	82.7%
2021 to 2022 Pure and Applied Science	82.8%	2022 to 2023 Pure and Applied Science	84.4%

The last report from the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) on Maritime retention rates was published in 2022, reporting on 2019 to 2020 retention rates. For comparison to the Maritime average, we will have to wait for future reports.

Net Promoter Score (NPS)

Another measurement of success Acadia has begun tracking is our Net Promoter Score which is a well-known tool to gauge students' propensity to recommend Acadia based on their experience.

Based on NPS as seen in the table below, Acadia students are more likely to promote Acadia this Fall. Of note, the NPS for first-year students was +45, which is very encouraging, particularly with the creation of a much more involved onboarding process for domestic and international students that included a revamped summer communication plan and an extended and renewed orientation program for Fall 2024.

Acadia University Net Promoter Score

	September 2023	September 2024
# of Responses	535	511
Overall NPS	+13	+27
First-Year NPS	+27	+45
International NPS	0	+22
Domestic NPS	+16	+28

Still Some Unknowns

Over the past year, the postsecondary sector in Canada has been impacted by significant shifts in government policies, which have created uncertainties for university enrollment planning. These shifts include changes to immigration and international student policies, reporting requirements, as well as funding adjustments that affect institutional support. With federal and provincial elections potentially looming, Acadia (and all universities) are facing even more unpredictability. A change in government could lead to new policy directions, affecting everything from student visa regulations to provincial grants.

These unknowns make it challenging for institutions like Acadia to plan effectively for enrolment growth, as universities rely on stable policy environments to attract both domestic and international students. Moreover, shifts in priorities such as affordability, housing, and education funding are expected to show up in campaign platforms, which could further influence student decisions and enrolment plans moving forward. These unknown factors require the institution to continue to be nimble, plan for multiple scenarios, and use the team expertise on campus to weather any changes.

Next Steps

As we enter the last year of the plan, strategic planning is underway to ensure continued contributions to the university's sustainability and enhance the student experience. In the coming months, we will revisit the enrolment targets and update as required. We will also undertake an analysis of the investment that has been made in the enrolment plan to date and provide recommendations for the 2025-26 budget process for requirements beyond the initial plan.

Appendix A: Highlight Student Experience Activities

Student Recruitment Activities

- Our first Saturday Open House was a success with approximately 400 guests and a slate of info sessions, fairs, and tours.
- We welcomed 286 prospective students (plus guests) to campus during this period, not counting Open House.
- The Recruitment team completed training with various departments on campus and sales training in partnership with the Acadia International team.
- Preparing recruitment campaigns for January 2025 applicant pool: email; webinar; social media; virtual and in-person coffee dates; and telephone.
- New “Bring Acadia Home” program – current Acadia students offering a student’s perspective of the Acadia experience through visits to their HS alma maters.
- New International@Acadia chat series – hosted by International Recruitment’s student assistant; biweekly discussions with international students from different countries about their experiences at Acadia.

- New Alumni Mentorship Program – launching in Bahamas and Bermuda; connecting prospective students with alumni to offer guidance and perspective from successful Acadia graduates.
- New international prospect interviews/coffee dates with EAs; opportunity to meet with students and parents to get to know our prospects better, develop a relationship with them, discuss the Acadia experience and ensure that we are a good fit.

Student Support Activities

- Ongoing preparation for international arrivals/orientation; students facing numerous challenges this year in response to IRCC change, particularly new financial requirements which have resulted in last-minute travel plans, delayed arrivals, deferrals and withdrawals.
- Accessible Learning Services has a new software program: Accommodate. This will streamline the accommodation support process for students and faculty.
- The Counselling Centre is running 9 free workshops/groups over the Fall 2024 semester (see details [HERE](#)):
 - Acadia Men’s Wellness Space
 - Coffee, Chai, Chat – Drop In
 - Embodied Creativity
 - Journey to Wellness: Drop-In Eating Disorders Support Circle
 - Joy Circle
 - Kickboxing for Trauma Survivors
 - Restshop
 - Rooted Tuesdays: Wellness Support Group for Black Students
 - University “Umoja” Djembe Drumming Circle
- The Health Centre has a pharmacist working in person 1 day/week.

Residence & Student Life

- Successfully moved in over 1,350 students in August and September.
- Launched new curricular programming approach for events and student development in residence.
- 2025-26 Academic Year residence applications will launch on October 1, 2024.
- Off-Campus Housing Advisor pilot has been renewed and expanded for the 2024-25 year, with a (student) Team Lead and 3 student advisors providing service to students.
- The Fall 2024 term is off to a positive start through 2 weekends with minimal conduct concerns on or off campus (stats to follow in the next board report).
- Conducting classroom visits in large first-year courses.
- Connecting with faculty to develop an academic advising handbook for Acadia.
- Early reports suggest that the earlier and extended New Student Orientation program was well-received and successful. Student surveys and employee/partner debrief meetings are planned throughout the month of September.

- Highlights from the week include: the Orientation Kick-Off fireworks show, Health and Wellness Fair, Acadia's Got Talent, Academic Skills Building Sessions, Drag Show, Cafe Crawl, and Silent Disco.

Marketing & Communications

- Welcomed a new Communications Officer who will support the Communications Manager through the development and deployment of internal and external communications efforts.
- Marketing launched the New to Acadia newsletter content series through Slate, driving students to learn more through the [New to Acadia](#) site supporting a smooth transition and arrival to Campus. The site included content about Welcome Week and Orientation events, technology needs, and student perspective pieces from our student content creator team, such as, highlighting ways news students can get involved with their new community. Getting Involved.
- Our new lead creative agency was selected in partnership with procurement and a selection committee comprised of Marketing, Events Acadia, Alumni Affairs and procurement completed an RFP process to award The Northern Creative Agency as our new agency of record, local to Windsor, NS with a global reach in production capabilities. Northern also supported the team's recent Athletic Brand Refresh project.
- A multi-day production shoot (video and still photography) took place in early August in support of our *Like Nowhere Else* recruitment campaign. Multiple staff and students across campus participated in the production. Assets are in the final editing stage – due to hit market by mid/end of September.
- Brand Unification project (Acadia updated visual identity + Athletics Refresh) was presented and received support at the June Board of Governors meeting.
- The refreshed Acadia University Visual identity has been approved by SLT and will begin to be implemented throughout the year in key recruitment materials and throughout campus.
- Faculty and Staff were engaged through a communications preference survey to gather feedback on current and future content and processes.
- Connecting stories with enrolment initiatives – faculty features now include an overview of the classes' students can take with the professor/instructor (as seen on Dr. Krissy Keech's feature).

News & Stories

- [Meet Erin Richelle, 3M National Student Fellowship Award Winner](#) - Multimediu story development with Marketing and Communications. (Web, newsletter, social).
- [Announcement: Lerato Chondoma named Acadia's Associate VP, IDEA.](#)
- [Summer Research Social Content Series: Student Researchers Take on Exciting Summer Projects](#) – led by Marketing, the team developed a summer research content series, highlighting some of the many initiatives our students and faculty partner on.
- Highlighting success of [Two Kinesiology Students, their study on concussion recovery](#) and opportunity to present at the Canadian Athletic Therapists Association in Ottawa.
- Staying relevant through the feature of Dr. Daniel Lametti and his work in supporting the development of an [AI Journal Bot.](#)
- National Indigenous Peoples Day:

- Supported the launch (website + social) of the [Indigenous Research podcast series](#) created and hosted by Dr. Jenny R. Rand.
- Highlighted a message from [Edler Dr. Joe Michael](#).
- [Dr. Krissy Keech](#) was named Teacher of the Year by the Nova Scotia Registered Music Teacher association.
- [Acadia Archeology Professor and student dig crew featured in the Globe and Mail](#).
- Media and Story Coverage support of [Alex Marland's Political leadership panel](#).

Summary of Staffing Changes

- **Ashley Cyr**, Marketing & Communications - Communications Officer
- **Jenna Decaire**, Residence Life - Residence Life Coordinator
- **Jennifer Lafitte**, Admissions - Secondment from SSR to Domestic Admissions Officer
- **Zackery Pate**, Acadia International - International Enrolment Advisor
- **Jacqueline Redden**, Student Recruitment (Canada) - Campus Tour & Events Coordinator returning from maternity leave.
- **Liz Shepherd**, VP Student Experience Department - Executive Assistant to the Vice President Student Experience
- **Cameron Smith**, Student Recruitment (Canada) - Enrolment Advisor

ACADIA STUDENTS' UNION REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

No report received by November 15, 2024.

ACADIA DIVINITY COLLEGE AND FACULTY OF THEOLOGY REPORT TO SENATE – NOVEMBER 2024

On October 17-18, 2024, **Dr. Glen Berry** led a two-day retreat on for the pastoral leaders of the African United Baptist Association of Nova Scotia.

On October 18, 2024, **Dr. Anna Robbins** met with leaders from four churches in the District of Columbia Baptist Convention as part of her ongoing role as theologian-in-residence with the "Flourishing While Cross-pollinating and Collaborating" Palmer Grant.

On October 19, 2024, **Dr. Jody Linkletter** led a workshop at the NEXT conference on intergenerational ministry in Moncton.

On October 27, 2024, **Dr. Steven Porter** preached at Manning Memorial Chapel.

On October 27-29, 2024, **Dr. Lennett Anderson** was the keynote speaker at the Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church in Toronto. This year's theme was "Preaching in the New Creation."

On November 1, 2024, Dr. Anna Robbins announced that the ADC Board of Trustees approved her recommendation that **Dr. Melody Maxwell** be promoted to Full Professor effective July 1, 2025. The Board also approved the recommendation that Melody be appointed to the Hannah Maria Norris Chair on July 1, 2025.

On November 2, 2024, **Dr. Steven Porter** led a session at the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada Justice Summit in Truro. The workshop was titled *Scarcity or Abundance? How asset-based strategies change our vision of God's future for the neighbourhood.*

On November 2, 2024, **Dr. Jodi Porter** and **Rev. John Campbell** led the keynote workshop for the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) Teaching and Learning Showcase hosted by Acadia University. The title of the workshop was *Ay, Ay, AI!: Innovate or Die?*

On November 4- 6, 2024, **Dr. Anna Robbins, Dr. Danny Zacharias, and Dr. Jodi Porter** attended the annual Canadian Learning Community Gathering at Crieff Hills, Ontario, organized by NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community and funded by the Lilly Endowment Pathways for Tomorrow Phase 3 grant.

On November 7, 2024, **Rev. John Campbell** and **Mr. Joel Murphy** participated in a webinar entitled *F[AI]thfully Co-Creating: Navigating Artificial Intelligence and Theological Education*. This webinar is a collaboration of In Trust Center for Theological Schools, Association of Theological Schools, and ATLA.

**Senate Graduate Studies Committee
Transition Report
October 2024**

Members:

K. Ashley (AVP-RIGS)	T. Starratt (Graduate Studies Officer)
M. Mallory (BIOL)	N. Faraone (CHEM)
G. Donnelly (CODE)	S. Mahfuz (COMP SCI)
J. Tinkham (EDUC)	J. Saklofske (ENGL)
N. O’Driscoll (ENVS)	S. Barr (GEOL)
M. Snyder (GEOM)	M. Vierimaa (KINE)
F. Mendivil (MATH)	I. Viriasova (POLS)
A. Champod (PSYC)	S. Rudrum (SOCl)
J. Carlson (SPT)	Chair of Senate Curriculum

Committee

Graduate students (Arts, FPAS, FPS, Theology) – vacant

The Senate Graduate Studies Committee (SGSC) met on September 11, 2024, to review the tasks assigned to it by the Senate of Acadia University.

Chair: Kate Ashley, AVP-RIGS

Secretary: Theresa Starratt

Meeting dates for upcoming year: The SGSC will meet once/term, and as needed.

Meeting modalities for the upcoming year: MS Teams.

The SGSC’s mandate is:

- a. To develop policy on all matters regarding programs beyond the Bachelor’s degree at Acadia University including but not limited to admission and graduation requirements, and to recommend such policy to Senate.
- b. To consider graduate curriculum submissions from Departments, Schools and Faculties and to make recommendations to Senate. Such submissions include changes in existing programs, courses and degree requirements and proposals for new courses, degree requirements and programs.
- c. To provide assistance to the Academic Program Review Committee in the review of graduate programs and by addressing recommendations resulting from those reviews.
- d. To establish policies to governing the allocation of University funds to graduate students (Faculty of Theology committee members and governance of Faculty of Theology excluded)/
- e. To establish and oversee the internal adjudication process for Acadia’s applicants to external scholarship funds.

- f. To identify needs and provide for educational opportunities for graduate students beyond specific degree programs.
- g. To make recommendations to the Research Committee to enhance research programs and opportunities for graduate students.
- h. To consider and respond to graduate program matters referred to it by graduate students, faculty members, Departments, Schools, Faculties, the VP Academic or by the Senate of Acadia University.
- i. To recommend to Faculty and Senate the granting of graduate degrees, diplomas and certificates to students who have satisfactorily completed program requirements.
- j. To consider any other matter of policy relating to graduate studies, and any other matters referred to it by Faculty, Provost and Vice-President Academic, Senate, or Board of Governors.

The SGSC's goals for the coming year are:

1. To complete the Graduate Studies review.
2. To review and make recommendations on the graduate student fee structure.
3. To review graduate student funding opportunities and make recommendations on connecting funding to recruitment.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Ashley, Chair

Report of the ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee

October 2nd, 2024

Current committee membership (alphabetical):

- Ashlee Cunsolo, Provost and VP Academic
- Cassel Busse, Director of the School of Nursing
- Corinne Haigh, Dean, Professional Studies (Chair)
- Jeff Hooper, Dean, Pure and Applied Science (Interim)
- Matt Lukeman, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science representative
- Maggie Neilson, Vaughan Memorial Library
- Sam Taylor, VP Academic and External for the Acadia Students' Union
- Janna Wentzell, School of Kinesiology, Faculty of Professional Studies representative
- Ian Wilks, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Arts representative
- Brian Wilson, Department of Biology
- **Vacant**, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee (Policy)

Invited guests (alphabetical):

- Mark Bishop, University Registrar
- Steve Iduye, Assistant Professor and Chair, CBU/Acadia Nursing Campus Expansion Department, Cape Breton University
- Shawna Singleton, Academic Program Development, Quality Assurance, and Planning Coordinator
- Sue Venter, Nursing Practice Educator, Cape Breton University

The ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee has met once since it last reported to Senate (September 27th, 2024). We received regrets from: Cassel Busse, Maggie Neilson, Sam Taylor, and Janna Wentzell. The position of Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee (Policy) is currently vacant.

Meeting frequency and modality for this academic year

Ad hoc committee members would like to continue to meet on an as-needed basis, with a goal towards continuing to report regularly to Senate. Meetings will continue to take place in a hybrid format.

Follow-ups from the June 25th, 2024, Senate meeting

The Chair circulated the minutes of the June 25th, 2025, Senate meeting in advance of our September 27th meeting. Ad hoc committee members were made aware that our two proposed motions had passed, one with a minor amendment.

At this meeting we began a discussion on length of term for elected ad hoc committee members, as requested by Senate. All elected ad hoc committee members present at the meeting were willing to continue for another academic year, and the Chair will survey those who were not in attendance to ascertain whether they are also willing to continue. We then began a broader discussion about length of term for elected ad hoc committee members, and the role of the ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee moving forward. The main points of the discussion were as follows:

- Some elected ad hoc committee members expressed the view that as we begin hiring faculty members to teach in the satellite Nursing program, space should be made for them to participate in the committee.
- Some elected ad hoc committee members indicated that they would be willing to step off the committee to accommodate this. However, we also discussed the idea that elected ad hoc committee members are there to represent specific departments or Faculties, and that ultimately Senate would have the final say regarding any changes to the composition of the committee.
- The Chair highlighted the fact that currently all tenure-track faculty and Nursing Practice Educators (NPEs) are employees of Cape Breton University and members of the Cape Breton University Faculty Association (CBUFA). While the tenure-track faculty will transition to become Acadia University employees and members of the Acadia University Faculty Association (AUFA), the NPEs are on 2-year short-term contracts. We discussed the fact that this might impact who would participate in this ad hoc committee as it is an ad hoc committee of the Acadia University Senate.
- We also agreed that we wanted to have a more in-depth discussion about the role that the ad hoc committee has played so far, and the role it might play moving forward both in this period where we are a satellite offering of CBU's program, and then when we eventually have a stand-alone Nursing program at Acadia. We agreed that this would become a standing item on our agenda and that we would bring recommendations forward to Senate following further discussion.

The Chair also noted that this is an elected position on this committee and inquired as to whether committee members wished to have an election for a new chair this academic year. There was consensus that the Dean of Professional Studies continue as the Chair of the committee, but that moving forward it could make sense for the Director of the School of Nursing to take up this role. The Chair thanked the committee for their continued support, and for their service on this committee.

Goals for this year will include:

- Discussion of the role that the ad hoc committee has played so far, and the role it might play moving forward both in this period where we are a satellite offering of CBU's program, and then when we eventually have a stand-alone Nursing program at Acadia.
- Continuing to fulfill its mandate as directed by Senate:
 - “Therefore an ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee shall be struck to consider the establishment of a Nursing Program at Acadia University and to make to the Senate whatever recommendations related to the program it deems fit. This shall include recommendations regarding the suitability of establishing such a program, its curriculum, appropriate structure and faculty home, and any other matters related to educational policy. The committee shall have authority to consult where appropriate with relevant individuals and academic units at Acadia University and other colleges and universities. The committee will receive from the Provost a description of how resources could be allocated to address the corresponding needs of existing and new academic units. The committee shall receive from and provide assistance to the Provost around discussions with Government of Nova Scotia and any other appropriate bodies as the committee may deem necessary.”

Meetings with external partners

On September 5th, Rod Nicholls, Provost and Vice-President Academic at CBU, Kimberley Lamarche, Dean of the School of Nursing at CBU, and Bilynda Whiting, University Registrar and Director of Admissions at CBU visited Acadia to meet with Ashlee Cunsolo, Provost and Vice-President Academic, Corinne Haigh, Dean of Professional Studies, and Mark Bishop, University Registrar to discuss the Operational Agreement between Acadia and CBU. This was a productive meeting, and since then the parties have exchanged minor feedback on what should be a final version of the agreement, to be signed as soon as possible. The visit ended with a tour of the renovated spaces in Emerson Hall, and the group was joined by President Jeff Hennessy. Our partners at CBU expressed thanks for the work done by our team here at Acadia to create these teaching and learning spaces for the Nursing program.

Leigh-Ann Murphy, Manager of Admissions at Acadia, has had a meeting with her counterparts at CBU to debrief the previous admissions cycle and to discuss process around the upcoming admissions cycle.

Ashlee Cunsolo reported on a meeting that she had participated in that morning with senior leadership, members of the provincial government, and Nova Scotia Health. Part of the discussion included potential opportunities for federal funding to support a

collaborative care facility as part of the proposed new Nursing building. A proposal is due on October 16, 2024, and a meeting is scheduled for internal discussions and needs assessment on October 2, 2024.

Hiring

As was shared by the Provost and Vice-President Academic in her September report to Senate we have welcomed Dr. Cassel Busse as the Director of the School of Nursing at Acadia University, effective September 15th, 2024. We have also welcomed Kate Langman as the new administrative assistant to the School of Nursing. Kate began her role on September 3rd, 2024. Over the summer, as per the 4-party MOA signed between AUFA, CBUFA, Acadia administration, and CBU administration, two tenure-stream faculty members (Sarah Maddie Gallant and Dr. Donna Beverley McKee) were hired, and four Nursing Practice Educators were hired on 2-year contracts (Tori Dawson, Laura Lowe, Kerri Mason, and Amy Rockwell. They are all currently employees of CBU. All staff and faculty working on Nursing have offices in Emmerson Hall. The Chair thanked the members of the ad hoc committee for the roles they played in these important hiring processes. The next position to be posted will be for the role of Clinical Placement Coordinator.

The Chair also shared with the ad hoc committee that Steve Iduye, an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at CBU who had been seconded to our campus has stepped down as Chair, CBU/Acadia Nursing Campus Expansion Department, Cape Breton University. Our colleagues at CBU are in the process of electing a new Chair for the CBU/Acadia Nursing Campus Expansion Department, and will visit campus on October 4th, 2024, to hold a department meeting with CBU faculty members. The Chair expressed her thanks and appreciation to Professor Iduye for serving in this role.

Admissions, academic standing, registration

We have filled all our Direct Entry (target 42 – 42 attending), Advanced Standing (target 12 – 13 attending), and LPN (target 12 – 13 attending) seats for 2024-2025. We have 18 direct entry students from the 2023-2024 cohort progressing to term 3, one who has re-entered the program after being in an FTP 1 status, and we gained one student from CBU bringing this total to 20 students. We also have 2 students who may be able to re-enter the program in Fall 2025. No additional students were assigned an FTP status after term 2.

Term 1 and Term 2: As reported in June, all incoming direct entry students were pre-registered in term 1 and term 2 classes and we remain in communication with all partner units (Biology, Chemistry, English, Mathematics and Statistics, Philosophy, Psychology, and Kinesiology) to address any issues related to space in course and lab sections.

Term 3, 4 and 5: Again, as reported in June, 2023-2024 direct entry students and 2024-2025 advanced standing students were registered in term 3 and term 4 courses. 2024-2025 LPN students were registered into their term 3 classes at Acadia along with the 2 online courses that they take via CBU as part of the LPN pathway. The LPN students will then

join the 2023-2024 direct entry students and 2024-2025 advanced standing students in term 4. The timetable slots for the Nursing courses and labs differ from those for the rest of campus to accommodate the need for a more condensed semester prior to students participating in clinical placements. All term 3, 4, and 5 courses are scheduled in the classroom and lab spaces in Emmerson Hall, to minimize any impacts they might have regarding scheduling in other teaching spaces on campus.

Failure to Progress Policy

A change has been made to CBU's Failure to Progress Policy. Students in terms 1 and 2 are now required to achieve a minimum grade of 60% in all term 1 and term 2 courses. This is a change from the previous policy, which required students to achieve a minimum grade of 50% in a subset of term 1 and term 2 courses, and a minimum grade of 65% in the remaining courses. In terms 3-8, students are required to achieve a minimum grade of 65% in all theory, lab, and clinical practice courses.

Infrastructure and equipment

Following the meeting, members of the ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee were invited for a tour of the newly renovated teaching and learning spaces in Emmerson Hall. The Chair expressed her thanks and appreciation to Sue Venter for the work she led in setting up the clinical spaces in the building.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne Haigh

Chair, ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies

RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD TRANSITION CHAIR REPORT, 2023–2024

Committee membership: Nathan Grieve (Pure and Applied Science), Stephanie Jones (Pure and Applied Science, Chair), Michael Jeffrey (Community), Ryan MacNeil (Professional Studies), Anna Wilks (Arts), Melody Maxwell (Theology), Cheri Killam (Community), Shon Whitney (Community), Tristan Murray* (Graduate Student Representative), Kate Ashley* (Interim Associate Vice-President Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies).

* non-voting

Schedule of meetings for 2024-2025 (in person): September 5, October 1, November 7, December 5, January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 5.

Secretary for 2024-2025: The Chair, Stephanie Jones, will serve as secretary.

Goals for 2024-2025: The timely review of research ethics applications and amendments in accordance with the Tri-Council Policy Statement, Second Edition (TCPS2), and the resolution of any other issues that arise with respect to the ethics of human-subjects research at Acadia University.

Committee Chair for upcoming year: Stephanie Jones

Submitted by: Stephanie Jones (Transition Chair)

ACADIA UNIVERSITY

**Report of the SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (SPAC) to
SENATE**

REPORT DATE: September 27, 2024

SPAC COMMITTEE CHAIR

Scott Landry will chair the committee to 2025.

MEETINGS DATES

The committee will meet remotely via Teams.

The committee met via Teams on September 27, 2024

Additional meetings for the 2024-2025 year are expected to be held in:

November 2024

February 2025

March 2025

April 2025

The Appeals Sub-Committee of SPAC will also meet remotely, as needed.

PURPOSE AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

The committee reviewed the purpose and duties below. No changes were made.

1. To decide policy and process by which recipients of scholarships, prizes, bursaries, scholar-bursaries, awards, and convocation medals are to be selected and to gather all information it considers necessary for the selection;
2. To select the recipients of undergraduate entrance scholarships, prizes and awards and some in-course scholarships, prizes, and awards;
3. To periodically review the scholarships, prizes and awards program and to recommend improvements (increased funds, new scholarships, more prizes, etc.) to those involved in the program;
4. To promote interest in the scholarship program;
5. To consider such other matters as the Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Candace Bird
Secretary

Scott Landry
Chair

Senate Archives Committee

Transition Report

Committee members: Catherine Fancy, Scott Kindred-Barnes, Melody Maxwell, Alicia Noreiga-Mundaroy, Eleanor Palmer, Ciaran Purdome, Jennifer Richard, Wendy Robicheau, Julia Rombough, Jon Saklofske, Jamie Sedgwick, Peter Williams

Chair: Jamie Sedgewick

The first meeting of the Senate Archives Committee for the 2024-2025 academic year took place on Microsoft Teams at 10am on October 24, 2024.

Meeting dates and frequency plans: The committee will meet monthly during term. The November meeting will take place in person in the Archives. Additional meetings will take place over Teams.

Goals of the committee for the year are establishing the role of the committee and determining ways in which the committee can fulfill its responsibility of advocating for the Archives. The committee decided to hear updates from the Archives at the start of every meeting, with a full annual report received at the end of the year.

Submitted by: Ciaran Purdome (Transition Chair)

Senate Curriculum Committee (Policy)
Transition Report to Senate – October 25, 2024

Committee Membership:

Registrar – Mark Bishop
Dean of Libraries
Divinity College – Chris Killacky
Arts – Katie Mazer
Prof. Studies – Jeff Tolbert (Chair)
Pure and Applied Science – Eva Curry
Chair of SCC (Admin) – Allison Walker
Student – Vacant

Duties:

- 1) to investigate innovative and alternative methods of provision of undergraduate curriculum, and to make recommendations to Senate concerning such methods.
- 2) to develop policies to ensure that undergraduate curriculum is consistently provided and administered across faculties and to make recommendations to Senate concerning such policies.
- 3) to ensure that the implementation of Senate approved policies for undergraduate curriculum is managed, revised, evaluated and disseminated in a coherent and coordinated fashion.
- 4) to collaborate with the Curriculum Committee (Administrative) to ensure the maintenance of an appropriate structure for the consideration of curricular changes.
- 5) to consider such matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

The Committee met on October 25, 2024 on TEAMS.

The Committee elected Jeff Torbert as Chair, and Eva Curry as Recording Secretary.

The Committee confirmed that TEAMS was the mode for meetings and that it would be the repository for materials.

The Committee reviewed the terms of reference and workload for this Committee.

In addition to the above duties, the Committee will consider MPHEC compliance associate with the upcoming review, the nomenclature project for Acadia programs and credentials and any concerns raised by the SCC Admin.

Submitted,
Jeff Torbert, Chair

**Faculty Support Committee
Transition Report
25 September 2024**

Membership

1 Vice Provost Teaching and Learning (Chair)	Lauren Wilson Finnis ex-officio
1 Association of Atlantic Universities FDC rep	Lauren Wilson Finnis
1 Coordinator of Academic Technologies	Michael Shaw ex-officio
1 Arts	Jamie Sedgwick 3 yr 2025
1 Prof. St.	Paul Lauzon 3 yr 2027
1 P & A Sc.	Darcy Benoit 3 yr 2026
1 Theology	Steven Porter 3 yr 2027
1 Librarian/Archivist <i>2024)Repl. Heather</i>	Agnieszka Hayes 3 yr 2026 <i>(Repl. In Jan Saunders Aug 2023 Feb 2024</i>
1 Student	Sam Taylor 1 yr 2025

Mission Statement:

To contribute to the success and development of Acadia University Faculty in teaching, use of academic technologies, and overall professional development

The duties of the committee are:

- (1) to advocate for teaching and learning resources for faculty
 - (2) to collect input from all stakeholders to develop and submit policy recommendations to Senate regarding academic technologies
 - (3) to collect faculty ideas and develop suggestions to meet faculty development needs
 - (4) to promote teaching excellence on campus and aid in the selection processes for the submission of Acadia faculty for internal and external teaching awards
 - (5) to consider matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee
-

The Faculty Support Committee met on 25 September 2024 and 21 October 2024. The committee agreed to meet monthly. Meetings will be hosted in a hybrid format.

Last June 2024, responding to a motion passed at the November 13, 2023 Senate meeting, the Faculty Support Committee (FSC) prepared recommendations on next steps towards the development of an institutional framework for online and technology-supported learning as required by the MPHEC.

The recommendations presented to Senate last June were as follows with a March 2025 deadline:

1. To collect and report on faculty input into a) if and how academic units should develop and deliver online courses and programs, and b) the use of learning technologies in existing courses;
2. To continue the work of the Online and Technology-Supported Learning Working Group in the development of a recommended framework based on best practices “if” the institution were to begin to accept proposals for course and program delivery mode modifications.

The Committee agreed to prioritizing the commitment made to Senate the previous year and further clarified the activities to take place this year:

1. In accordance with duties #1 and 3, we will create an inventory of institution-wide support for teaching, including support for educational technologies
2. In accordance with duties #1, 2 and 3, we will collect faculty input and ideas on use, support, and resourcing of educational technologies and online learning
3. In accordance with duty #5, we will propose a draft Online and Technology-Supported Learning Framework as required by the MPHEC to Senate for review by March 2025. This work will be supported by three Working Groups in the priority areas of Technology-Supported Learning, Academic Oversight, and Student Support. The working groups will be organized and chaired by the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning, reporting into the Faculty Support Committee monthly.

**Honours Committee
Fall 2024 Report to Senate**

Committee Members for 2024/2025:

Dean of Research & Graduate Studies: Kate Ashley ex-officio
Registrar: Hayley van Kroonenburg as designate for Mark Bishop ex-officio
Arts: Jennifer MacDonald
Arts: vacant
Prof. Studies: Michelle Boyd
Prof. Studies: vacant
P&A Science: Matthew McSweeney (Transition Chair and new Chair)
P&A Science: Mo Snyder
Honours Student (Arts): vacant
Honours Student (Prof. Studies): vacant
Honours Student (P&A Science): vacant

Chair: Matthew McSweeney was nominated and accepted the chair role.

The first meeting of the Senate Honours Committee for 2024/2025 was held on 11 October. Matt McSweeney, as Transition Chair, welcomed the members and discussed what the committee wants to accomplish this year.

Meeting frequency and mode (primarily via MS Teams): twice per semester, plus subcommittee meetings for specific activities, as needed.

Goals and priority activities for the coming year:

- Oversee the adjudication process for research funding awards to Honours students (e.g. USRA, HSRA, etc). Criteria for awards and evaluation of applications will be reviewed and revised, if needed.
- Strengthen Honours research student opportunities.
- Set up events for potential Honours students and current Honours students
- Audit of Honours program and Honours program requirements across campus

Respectfully submitted,
Matt McSweeney, Transition Chair and new Chair

**Motion from the Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee
November 18, 2024**

Motion:

Motion to add a third annual academic appeal deadline to the Academic Calendar Dates for the previous academic year's academic standing changes, starting in the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar. The deadline shall normally be the first Friday in October each academic year.

Details and Rationale: Proposal for Academic Appeal Deadline #3:

Annual Deadline: First Friday in October. (For next year that would be October 3, 2025)

Calendar entry starting in 2025-2026 (if approved by Senate): Last day to submit an appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee due to significant extenuating circumstances. Students will be notified of decision 2 weeks + 3 working days from submission date.

Rationale:

The Registrar's Office and Student Services personnel receive inquiries from students who missed the round 1 and round 2 June and July academic appeals deadlines of their probation and dismissal academic standing. In consultation with the Chair of the Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee, decisions around whether to consider late appeals has been handled in a discretionary manner up until now. At an August meeting of the Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee, when a late round 2 appeal was considered, our committee agreed that we would not consider later appeals. However, this does not take into account students who took the summer to consider their motivations, interests, and purpose in desiring to return to study; or for whom circumstances did not permit them to apply prior to the two Summer deadline dates. Having a formalized round 3 deadline would give a student an opportunity to potentially return to their studies within 4 months (in January) rather than having to wait a full year to be readmitted (if their appeal is granted). A third set of Moodle pages for round 3 would be created when the round 1 and round 2 pages are created, and students would be added to the pages for the appeal round(s) they are eligible to engage with. Students would not be permitted to appeal any later than round 3. This would be the absolute latest opportunity for appeal of academic standing for the previous academic year. The Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee is in favour of this addition and proposes it to Senate.

For reference, if approved, the relevant deadlines and wording would be as follows:

**Note that the first four dates are already in the academic calendar dates.*

Third Friday of May: Students placed on academic dismissal or probation will be notified.

Second Friday of June: Last day to submit an appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee. Students will be notified of decision 2 weeks + 3 working days from submission date.

Final Friday of June: Students placed on academic dismissal or probation due to grade changes will be notified.”

Final Friday of July: Last day to submit an appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee due to grade changes. Students will be notified of decision 2 weeks + 3 working days from submission date.

First Friday of October: Last day to submit an appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee due to significant extenuating circumstances. Students will be notified of decision 2 weeks + 3 working days from submission date.

Notice of Motion from the By-Laws Committee

Notice of Motion #1: Motion to add three non-continuing faculty members to Senate as voting members. These Senators shall serve for one-year terms and shall be drawn from amongst the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies. They shall be nominated by the Senate Nominating Committee and confirmed by Senate. To be eligible, a faculty member must hold a part-time, Contractually Limited Term, Lecteur/Lectrice, or Pädagogischen Austauschdienste position at the time of their appointment to Senate.

Notice of Motion #2: Motion that Senate recommends to the Board of Governors that these three Senators (three non-continuing faculty members) receive a stipend for their service from the Board of Governors.

Rationale (from Provost and VPA): "With this new role of Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization, this position now has an expanded scope directly related to educational policies and procedures, including Indigenization and decolonization of curriculum and programs, policies related to the academic and educational portfolios, and advising on key issues in the academic sector. This expanded scope now reflects the needs to have an official vote on Senate, and to have an important voice on Senate around Indigenization and decolonization, and to bring L'nu voice to Senate. This is an exciting opportunity for Senate and for the position.

Notice of Motion #3: Motion that the non-voting Senate member currently listed as the Coordinator of Indigenous Affairs become a voting member of Senate and be listed as the Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization.

Notice of Motion #4: Motion to add "or delegate" to the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning Excellence position and "or delegate" to the Coordinator of Academic Technologies on the Faculty Support Committee.

Rationale (from VP TLE and the Faculty Support Committee): "The Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning Excellence is currently also the Association of Atlantic Universities FDC rep and has been for the last 2 years, filling two seats on the committee. Adding or delegate to the seat would allow for the Vice-Provost to appoint an appropriate person to the committee to fill the additional seat. A posting is going up in the next few weeks for the Director, Digital and Extended Learning (previously Director Open Acadia) and it is recommended to have that position fill the role as a delegate when they begin in early 2025.

The Coordinator of Academic Technologies seat has been filled by Shelly Vaughan, Manager, LTID, without a formal change in membership taking place for a few years. We would like to add "or delegate" to the current seat to make an administrative correction that should have been completed a few years ago, and to allow for flexibility to add the appropriate staff role within learning and teaching to support the duties of the committee. Coordinator of Academic Technologies is Duane Currie and he supports the appointment of Michael Shaw for the current academic year."