



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 Wednesday, October 9th, 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) Time Sensitive Items

- a) Graduands
 - i. Motion to approve the October 2024 list of graduands ([attached, pages 3 - 5](#))
 - ii. Enabling motion (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, page 6](#))
 - iii. Report of ad hoc Committee of Senate: List of graduands approved in August 2024 ([attached, pages 7-9](#))
- b) Motion: That Senate adopt the *Strategic Research Plan, 2024-2030* ([attached, pages 10-11](#))

3) Consent Calendar Items

- a) Announcements and Communications
 - i. Chair (A. Kieft)
 - ii. President and Vice-Chancellor (J. Hennessy) ([attached, pages 12-13](#))
 - iii. Vice-President Academic (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, pages 13-18](#))
 - iv. Associate Vice-President Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies, Interim (K. Ashley) ([attached, pages 18-20](#))
 - v. Vice-President Student Experience (S. Duguay) ([attached, pages 20-23](#))
 - vi. Acadia Students' Union (S. Taylor)
 - vii. Acadia Divinity College and Faculty of Theology (A. Robbins) ([attached, pages 24](#))
 - viii. Other announcements
- b) Reports from Senate Sub-Committees
 - i. Academic Integrity Committee Transition Report (D. Benoit) ([attached, page 25](#))

- ii. Academic Planning Committee Transition & Rankings Report (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, pages 26-30](#))
- iii. Academic Program Review Committee Transition Report (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, pages 31-39](#))
- iv. Admissions & Academic Standing (Policy) Committee Transition Report (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, pages 40-41](#))
- v. Awards Committee 2023-2024 Annual Report (J. Hennessy) ([attached, pages 42-43](#))
- vi. Awards Committee Transition Report (J. Hennessy) ([attached, page 44](#))
- vii. Board of Open Acadia Transition Report (A. Cunsolo) ([attached, pages 44-46](#))
- viii. By-Laws Committee Transition Report (J. Carlson) ([attached, page 47](#))
- ix. Curriculum Committee (Administrative) Transition Report (A. Walker) ([attached, pages 48-49](#))
- x. Disability Policy Committee Transition Report (A. Wilks) ([attached, pages 50-53](#))
- xi. Graduate Studies Committee Transition Report (K. Ashley) ([attached, Pages 54-55](#))
- xii. Ad hoc Nursing Program Steering Committee Report (C. Haigh) ([attached, pages 56-60](#))
- xiii. Research Ethics Board Transition Report (S. Jones) ([attached, page 61](#))
- xiv. Scholarships, Prizes, and Awards Committee Transition Report (S. Landry, C. Bird) ([attached, page 62](#))
- xv. Timetable, Instruction Hours and Examinations Committee Transition Report (I. Beaton) ([attached, page 63-64](#))

4) New Business

5) Question Period – President and Vice-President Academic

6) Other Business

7) Adjournment

Sincerely,

S. Pineo,
Recording Secretary of Senate and University Secretary



Fall 2024 list of graduands

Walker	Dylan	Bachelor of Arts (Environmental and Sustainability Studies)
Regan	Samantha	Bachelor of Arts (Sociology)
Morris	Keegan	Bachelor of Applied Science
Belliveau	Jack	Bachelor of Business Administration
Jaradat	Adnan	Bachelor of Business Administration
Smith	Danielle	Bachelor of Business Administration
MacNeil	Morna	Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting)
Fernando	Christson	Bachelor of Business Administration with Cooperative Education
Abraham	Nikhil	Bachelor of Business Administration (Finance)
Wildy	Alex	Bachelor of Business Administration (Finance)
Smith	D'Andre	Bachelor of Business Administration (Marketing) with Cooperative Education
Dickson	Zachary	Bachelor of Community Development (Environmental and Sustainability Studies)
Al Nsour	Abdulrahman	Bachelor of Computer Science
Gupta	Pulkit	Bachelor of Computer Science
Zeid	Zeid	Bachelor of Computer Science
Shehab	Rahat Al	Bachelor of Computer Science with Honours
Moreau	Christine	Bachelor of Education (Secondary Education)
Gallagher	Destiny	Bachelor of Kinesiology
McLellan	Ian	Bachelor of Kinesiology
Cox	De'ja	Bachelor of Science (Biology)
Bruce	Emma	Bachelor of Science (Psychology)
Legge	Jon	Bachelor of Science (Psychology)
de Hoog	Jara	Bachelor of Science with Honours (Environmental Science) with Cooperative Education
Ryan	Clara	Bachelor of Science with Honours (Environmental Science) with Cooperative Education
Dollimont	Holly	Bachelor of Science in Nutrition

Jha	Mithil Avdhes	Certificate In Applied Science
Morris	Keegan	Certificate In Applied Science
Blackwood	Julia	Honours Conversion Certificat (Nutrition)
Dinh	Bao	Honours Conversion Certificat (Nutrition)
Kitchen	Marika	Honours Conversion Certificat (Nutrition)
Giesen	Theo	Master of Arts (English)
Pinsent	Abigail	Master of Arts (English)
Delaney	Alexandria	Master of Arts (Sociology)
Gerber	Lindsay	Master of Arts (Sociology)
Abbass	Robin	Master of Education (Counselling)
Cain	Maria	Master of Education (Counselling)
Carr	John	Master of Education (Counselling)
Ford Hughes	Stephanie	Master of Education (Counselling)
Forgeron	Christina	Master of Education (Counselling)
Frenette	Danielle	Master of Education (Counselling)
Goonan	Michael	Master of Education (Counselling)
Howe	Alys	Master of Education (Counselling)
Hutchins	Sarah	Master of Education (Counselling)
Kerr	Danielle	Master of Education (Counselling)
Mabson	Jocelyn	Master of Education (Counselling)
McGuigan	Emily	Master of Education (Counselling)
Murphy	Christina	Master of Education (Counselling)
OBrien	Lori	Master of Education (Counselling)
Shadbolt	Jennifer	Master of Education (Counselling)
Silcox	Neil	Master of Education (Counselling)
Wild	Cole	Master of Education (Counselling)
Ayornu	Mary	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Cowan	Ian	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Dehmel	Tracey	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Genge	Jennifer	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Kaur	Harleen	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)

MacDonald	Catherine	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Martell	Cassie	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Ogbesetore	Oluwadamilola	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Robertson	Tim	Master of Education (Curriculum Studies)
Barteaux	Lisa	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Boudreau	Brittany	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Brewer	Chris	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Clarke	Crystal	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Donegani	Colin	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Eikle	Melissa	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Messom	Jennifer	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Boisvert	Lyse	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Breton	Jayne	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Hiscock	Heather	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Holmberg	Alex	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Miller	Vanessa	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Peddle	Lisa	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Reid	Robin	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Sherman	Laura	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Turner	Chelsea	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Wheadon	Rebekah	Master of Education (Inclusive Education)
Marshall	Graham	Master of Education (Leadership)
Veinotte Frowd	Tanya	Master of Education (Leadership)
Boyachek	Sydney	Master of Science (Biology)
Mader	Rebecca	Master of Science (Biology)
Turner	Marco	Master of Science (Biology)
Vardhan	Aditya	Master of Science (Chemistry)
O'Neill	Joseph	Master of Science (Computer Science)
Cromwell	Leo	Master of Science (Mathematics)
MacDonald	Allyson	Doctor of Philosophy (Educational Studies)

Enabling Motion:

Any candidate for an Acadia degree, diploma or certificate who should receive a grade or otherwise qualify or be disqualified between this Senate meeting and the Senate meeting in April, may, if circumstances require, be considered by the Chair of the Admissions and Academic Standing (Policy) Committee, the appropriate Dean, the appropriate Head/Director, and the Registrar, acting as an ad hoc committee of Senate, they having the power to make consequential amendments to the graduation list. Any such amendments to the list shall be reported to Senate at the next Senate meeting.

**Report of ad hoc Committee of Senate: List of graduands approved in August
2024**

Abbott	Cole	Bach. of Education Secondary
Ainslie	Holly	Bach. of Education Secondary
Alford- Archibald	Alexandra	Bach. of Education Secondary
Atkinson	Sophie	Bach. of Education Secondary
Baker	Mary	Bach. of Education Secondary
Baldwin	Cameron	Bach. of Education Secondary
Bell	Daniel	Bach. of Education Secondary
Benjamin	Shelby	Bach. of Education Elementary
Bethune	Macey	Bach. of Education Elementary
Caddle	Mary	Bach. of Education Elementary
Cohen	Alejandro	Bach. of Education Secondary
Comeau	Stefanie	Bach. of Education Elementary
Covey	Sarah	Bach. of Education Elementary
Cox	Mackenzie	Bach. of Education Elementary
Cyr	Sheridan	Bach. of Education Elementary
Densmore	Tara	Bach. of Education Secondary
Dondi	Katya	Bach. of Education Elementary
Durling	Nicholas	Bach. of Education Secondary
Eye	Carlena	Bach. of Education Elementary
Flynn	Kimberly	Bach. of Education Elementary
Fortune	Jamie	Bach. of Education Secondary
Gauthier	Laura	Bach. of Education Elementary
Goulden	Chloe	Bach. of Education Elementary
Grabka	Rachel	Bach. of Education Secondary
Grant	Tamika	Bach. of Education Secondary
Harding Marlin	Ryan	Bach. of Education Secondary

Harvey	Kyle	Bach. of Education Secondary
Healy	Kathleen	Bach. of Education Elementary
Huskins	Karleigh	Bach. of Education Elementary
Jessome	Matthew	Bach. of Education Secondary
Johnson	Christopher	Bach. of Education Secondary
Kearley	Olivia	Bach. of Education Secondary
Keizer	Meghan	Bach. of Education Elementary
Kelly	Alyson	Bach. of Education Secondary
Kennie	Olivia	Bach. of Education Elementary
MacEachern	Abigail	Bach. of Education Elementary
Marchand	Mckenzie	Bach. of Education Secondary
McGean	Sara	Bach. of Education Elementary
McInnis	Madeleine	Bach. of Education Secondary
Merriam	Carly	Bach. of Education Elementary
Milner	Caroline	Bach. of Education Secondary
Morrissey	Hannah	Bach. of Education Elementary
Mosley	Rileigh	Bach. of Education Elementary
Nauss	Morgan	Bach. of Education Secondary
Pate	Benjamin	Bach. of Education Secondary
Purdy	Amy	Bach. of Education Elementary
Reyno	Lauren	Bach. of Education Secondary
Rombaut	Christiaan	Bach. of Education Secondary
Rondeau	Laura	Bach. of Education Elementary
Saunders	Sandy	Bach. of Education Secondary
Scott	Karin	Bach. of Education Elementary
Simpson	Hannah	Bach. of Education Secondary
Stjepanovic	Igor	Bach. of Education Secondary
Stoddart	Hannah	Bach. of Education Elementary
Stover	Brett	Bach. of Education Secondary
Swan	Rebecca	Bach. of Education Elementary
Thibodeau	Lianne	Bach. of Education Elementary

Thomas	Eric	Bach. of Education Secondary
Trenholm	Kailey	Bach. of Education Elementary
Urdang	Sara	Bach. of Education Secondary
Vandertoorn	Kyle	Bach. of Education Secondary
Vigliarolo	Sierra	Bach. of Education Elementary
Walker	Alexis	Bach. of Education Elementary
Wentzell	Katie	Bach. of Education Elementary
Winters	Matthew	Bach. of Education Secondary
Withers	Clare	Bach. of Education Elementary
Zinn	Cameron	Bach. of Education Secondary

Motion: That Senate adopt the *Strategic Research Plan, 2024-2030*.

Background

At its meeting on 16 September 2024, the Senate Research Committee moved to recommend that the Senate of Acadia University approve the *Strategic Research Plan, 2024-2030*.

Work on this document began in December 2023; it is the result of cross-campus consultation and collaboration. Under the direction of then-AVP-RIGS, Dr. Suzie Currie, the office of Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies established a Strategic Research Plan ('SRP') Working Group to get a broad range of perspectives on the direction of the Plan. Members of the Senate Research Committee were given the opportunity to serve on the Working Group, and the rest of the membership was filled out by faculty and staff researchers from across campus to ensure that disciplinary diversity was accounted for in the final document. The final composition of the Working Group was:

Deborah Hemming (Library)
Sarah Hines (KCIC and Harriett Irving Botanical Gardens)
Dr. Matt Lukeman (Chemistry; Assistant Dean of Science)
Dr. René Murphy (Kinesiology)
Dr. Can Mutlu (Politics)
Jodie Noiles (Sustainability Office)
Dr. Kait Pinder (English and Theatre)
Molly Sutherland (Graduate student)
Dr. Kristin Williams (Business)
Dr. Allison Walker (Biology; E.C. Smith Herbarium)

The members of the Senate Research Committee who are not already listed above are: Dr. Iain Beaton (Mathematics and Statistics), Dr. Spencer Boersma (Theology), Dr. Lesley Franks (Sociology CRC; 2023-2024), Dr. Mojtaba Kaviani (Nutrition; 2023-2024), Samantha Munroe (undergraduate student; 2023-2024), Ann Smith (Library), Dr. Michael Stokesbury (Biology; 2023-2024).

Leigh Huestis (Director, Industry and Community Engagement), Dr. Peter Ludlow (Manager, Research Grants and Programs), and Katrin Sommerfeld (Manager, Industry and Community Partnerships) were also extensively involved with the Working Group and in the elaboration of the Plan.

There were two campus engagement sessions: 26 June 2024 (in-person) and 27 June 2024 (Teams). These were attended by about a dozen people each. Prior to the engagement

sessions, a draft Strategic Research Plan was put together through collaboration between the Working Group, RIGS and an external consulting agency.

There was also an opportunity for input on the SRP via an online survey in June. The survey contained three questions:

1. Do the a) areas of research strength and b) strategic framework principles and pillars resonate with you? Why or why not?
2. What's missing from this proposed strategic direction?
3. Do you have any other comment/feedback for the SRP Working Group?

The feedback was used to make extensive revisions to the document between June and September.

A priority while developing the SRP was to ensure that it was broad enough so that faculty, staff and student researchers from all Faculties and disciplinary backgrounds could situate their work within it, while focused enough to highlight those areas where Acadia has particular research strengths. The Plan also recognizes the importance of both funded and unfunded research and creative work.

The Plan identifies 5 areas of institutional strength:

1. Climate Change and Sustainable Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems
2. Agriculture, Agri-Food, and Biotechnology
3. Health and Wellness
4. Bridging History, Culture and Society
5. AI and Data Analytics

It also contains 5 pillars – these are the ‘action’ areas for the next 6 years:

1. Communicate and celebrate research impacts
2. Foster a culture of research excellence
3. Increase student involvement in research and discovery
4. Strengthen opportunities for partnerships and collaborations
5. Intensify opportunities for social innovation and commercialization

The role of the external consultants: The consultants conducted research into other Strategic Research Plans in Canada (and other comparable institutions in the United States). They collected data, looked at research trends and best practices and helped with stakeholder outreach and engagement (for example, they met with RIGS, the Working Group, the Canada Research Chairs, etc.). They created a draft of the Plan following the consultations. In the end, the RIGS office rewrote much of the document to ensure that feedback from the Working Group, the consultations and RIGS was accurately reflected. The consultants were most useful in keeping the project on schedule and in creating a final ‘professional’ product.

Approval of the *Strategic Research Plan, 2024-2030* by Senate is time-sensitive insofar as having the Plan in place is a requirement of an upcoming Canada Research Chair renewal, the deadline for which is 22 October. However, its purpose extends beyond this: the document positions research, creativity and innovation at the heart of our institutional mission and the pillars provide direction to the office of Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies.

Announcements

PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR REPORT TO SENATE – OCTOBER 2024

GOVERNANCE REVIEW

We are in the early planning stages for a review of Acadia's governance structures and practices, which will assess the size, composition, roles, committee structures, and practices of both the Board of Governors and the University Senate. We will contract one or two external consultants to lead internal teams, engage in campus discussions, review best practices, and make recommendations to the Board and Senate with the purpose of creating more effective collegial governance for the university. Terms of reference for a Senate review will be forthcoming to the Senate at a future meeting.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The [*Acadia 2025 Transforming Lives for a Transforming World*](#) Strategic Plan will expire this academic year. Rather than engage the community in a new comprehensive strategic planning process, the Board of Governors will instead approve a strategic direction for Acadia with the vision of being recognized as the *premier institution in Canada for delivering an exceptional applied liberal education, which emphasizes the knowledge, skills, and leadership to tackle key global issues through academic and experiential learning*. Through this we will focus on four key pillars: Strategic Academic Programming; Supporting EDI-AR for Growth and Achievement; Campus Culture and Wellness; and Financial Health and Sustainability. Each of these areas will require planning and will necessitate widespread discussions with the campus community including the Senate and Faculty Council.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Discussions continue between the Department of Early Education and Childhood Development and the Nova Scotia Teachers Union regarding changes to the Education Act and teacher certification requirements, but no agreement has been reached. We have communicated back to government that our School of Education continues to work on our BEd curriculum to provide accessible pathways to teacher certification in response to the request by government that we achieve compliance with current legislation. The Afro-centric BEd pathway was highlighted as an example of an impactful program delivery option as well as our 5-year integrated math education program.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS APPOINTMENTS and RE-APPOINTMENTS

The Board of Governors welcomes the following new governors:

Edward Barrett – Appointed by the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada

Gale Ann Colpitts - Appointed by the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada

Tim Formuziewich – appointed by the Associated Alumni Board

Natasya Kennedy - appointed by the Associated Alumni Board

Ross Langley - appointed by Government Order in Council
Rob MacGregor - appointed by Government Order in Council
Cameron MacKeen – appointed by Government Order in Council
Cathy Simpson - appointed by the Associated Alumni Board

The following were re-appointed to the Board:

Henry Demone (Chair) - appointed by the Associated Alumni Board for two years
Shelley Fleckenstein - Appointed by the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada
Bert Frizzell – Appointed by the Board of Governors
Daniel Green – Appointed by the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada
Nancy McCain – Ex Officio (Chancellor)

As of this report, there is one faculty governor vacancy (Arts), and up to two vacant student positions.

Respectfully Submitted,



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

**PROVOST & VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC REPORT TO SENATE –
OCTOBER 2024**

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation & Mi'kmaq History Month

On September 30th, Acadia University and the Town of Wolfville came together for a Mawio'mi to provide the community with a day of listening and learning at the Festival Theatre. With Elders, Knowledge Holders, students, and community, the day was powerful gathering and learning opportunity.

October marks the start of Mi'kmaq History Month, starting off with Treaty Day on October 1st to celebrate the Treaties of Peace and Friendship, and remind us that we are all Treaty people and these Treaties are important for us all. There are a variety of events happening on and off campus during Mi'kmaq History Month. Explore the information, resources, and events on Acadia's [Truth and Reconciliation](#) web page.

You can also learn more about Mi'kmaq and Indigenous history at the Vaughn Memorial Library through three beautiful displays in the Library for Truth and Reconciliation Day, Mi'kmaq History Month, and Treaty Day, and find resources for further learning through

the Truth and Reconciliation [2024 LibGuide](#). Thanks to the folks at the library who have compiled all these resources and displays for our learning!

Special thanks to Zabrina Whitman, Darlene Copeland, Dr. Cynthia Alexander and her students, the partners at Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey (MK), and all the staff at Acadia who have worked tirelessly on creating learning and gathering opportunities for National TRC Day and Mi'kmaq History Month.

PVPA Updates

My first six weeks at Acadia have been a journey of discovery, learning, connection, and listening. I've engaged in classes both on the land and in the classroom, attended exceptional talks and musical events, visited inspiring research centers, cheered on our sports teams, and participated in various student and community events. It's an honour to be part of such a vibrant and dynamic university and community!

Through this listening, learning, and experiencing, I have been establishing some key priorities for the PVPA Portfolio:

- Develop an academic plan, which will align with the forthcoming university vision, and provide collaboratively-developed goals and priorities
- Examine and analyze academic policies and procedures to remove barriers, enhance accessibility, support Indigenization and EDI-AR, and streamline processes
- Examine, re-focus, and reinvigorate committees to focus on key strategic goals and opportunities and to increase and enhance opportunities for participation and collaboration
- Work with the AVP Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism and the Executive Advisor on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization to enhance, strengthen, and develop relationships with Indigenous and African Nova Scotian leaders, communities, and organizations
- Work with the Vice-President Finance and Administration to enhance collaboration across the academic and finance portfolios, and streamline budgeting and resourcing processes

PVPA Portfolio Position Updates

Lerato Chondoma started on September 16, 2024 as Associate Vice-President Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (EDI-AR), and has been meeting with a wide variety of individuals, getting to know the campus, and diving into policies and processes and provided key feedback and guidance.

Zabrina Whitman also returned to Acadia on September 16, 2024 in a new role, Executive Advisory on L'nu Affairs and Indigenization. Through this expanded role, Zabrina provides critical guidance and advice to the senior leadership team and the campus. No stranger to Acadia, Zabrina brings extensive experience, expertise, and

relationships to this role, and has hit the ground running. Zabrina reports jointly to the Provost and Vice-President Academic, and the Vice-President, Student Experiences.

Shawna Singleton, Academic Program Development, Quality Assurance, and Planning Coordinator has decided not to retire, and will continue with Acadia.

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

September has been a wonderful time of year to start at Acadia University! This month has provided incredible opportunities to come together with Indigenous leaders and community members; to recognize and acknowledge Mi'kmaq sovereignty as well as come together as a community to reflect on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month. All the community events and activities have also served to bring into sharp focus, the deep collaboration and the relationality between my work in the EDI-AR portfolio and the work of Office of L'nu Affairs and Indigenization.

One key update is the renaming of my title and the AVP portfolio from Inclusion, Equity, Diversity and Accessibility (IDEA) to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism (EDI-AR). The renaming of the title and the portfolio moves to better reflect key focus areas and recommendations specifically named in reports and recommendations to the President on decolonization, Indigenization, EDI and anti-racism. It is important to note that although the new title no longer explicitly names accessibility, my work and the work of the portfolio remains fully committed to accessibility and unlearning ableism. I have spent time in my first two weeks meeting with key leaders who work most closely with accessibility initiatives at the university, to communicate clearly and strongly that accessibility remains a key priority for me and the work of the portfolio. I have joined the newly formed Accessibility Advisory Committee as Chair and look forward to our second meeting in October.

I have felt most welcomed by the campus community and am excited to continue to meet with many folx across campus and to get a better understanding of some the wonderful EDI-AR work already happening at Acadia. This has also been a time of hearing truths and experiences directly from students, staff and faculty from equity deserving groups within the campus community- I remain committed to continuing these conversations over upcoming months.

Over the coming weeks I intend to focus on the following key activities:

- 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.

Over the next 6 months I intend to focus on the following:

- Develop a 1-3 strategic workplan that forms the basis of a community-engaged, data-informed and action-oriented planning tool for EDI-AR at Acadia that includes:
 - strategic visioning for the AVP EDI-AR portfolio
 - goals, objectives, actions and activities
 - budget

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.

In 2018, Acadia made a formal response to the Truth and Reconciliation Committee's Action Strategy. There is so much within that report that we have yet to achieve. In our roadmap for OLAI, we will focus on four key themes:

- campus community capacity development
- curricula and learning
- relationship-building *and*
- Indigenization.

Over the next year, focus will be on conducting an environmental scan of strengths and gaps, a costing and resource exercise, best practice review, and engagement with the campus community, local Mi'kmaq communities, alum and others. This will be done why trying to respond to reactive needs as they pop up. We ask for patience and support as we

work on these pieces, and we hope to share a greater roadmap forward and engagement strategy later this Fall and early Winter. In the meantime, we are also preparing for an exciting Agriculture Conference on campus in January 2025 which is sponsored by Agriculture Canada and is lead by a partnership between Glooscap First Nation and Benjamin Bridge Winery. Acadia has offered this unique conference to host panel conversations and dialogue around food security, Mi'kmaq knowledge and partnership between Mi'kmaq community members, Elders, knowledge-holders, academics and the agriculture industry. If you're interested in participating, hold the date for January 14-15th, 2024.

Academic Faculties & Units Updates

Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

The Department of Physics held a successful September event, **Acadia in the Stars**, from September 13th-19th, hosting award-winning Particle Physicist and popular science author Dr Jeff Forshaw of the University of Manchester. The week included a public lecture, **What is Particle Physics?** by Dr Forshaw, and a second talk, **What Makes a Star a Star and What Happens When it Dies?** featuring Acadia's Dr Peter Williams & Dr Ruben Sandapen. The keynote event was an evening presentation, **Black Holes: The Key to Understanding Our Universe**, a talk by Jeff Forshaw explaining what we know and what we do not yet understand about these, accompanied by the Black Hole Trio (Mark Adam, Nic D'Amato, and Nicola Miller).

Science Heads/Directors/Assistant Deans have begun work on some projects for the upcoming year. This includes curriculum changes from within the units, as well as an emphasis on developing a more robust suite of minors in science, with a particular focus on multidisciplinary minors. We are also planning an extensive equipment audit this year, to better ensure that we have a clear idea of the significant equipment we use, the lifecycle of these pieces, and eventual replacement timelines. We are hoping this will enable better long-term strategic planning around equipment.

The Library: Jennifer Richard

Throughout the fall term, the Vaughan Memorial Library will be hosting monthly Food Sharing Pop-Up Community Lunches in the lobby, a collaboration with the Acadia Student Union Food Cupboard. The first Community Lunch occurred on September 18 with over 100 students served.

Teaching & Learning Portfolio: Lauren Finnis

Saturday November 2nd, Acadia has the great opportunity to host the [AAU Teaching Showcase](#). This event will bring faculty from across Atlantic Canada together on Acadia's campus to talk about teaching. This is an exceptional opportunity to highlight our campus, our exceptional teaching, and to learn from our colleagues. Registration is now open and the schedule will be released in the coming weeks. Register through the box

office: <https://acadiau.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=2400>

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

There are two program reviews with in-person site visits happening this fall:

- **Economics**, which just wrapped up, and ran from September 25-27, 2024
- **Mathematics and Statistics**, upcoming October 21-23, 2024

Preparations are underway for the 2025 MPHEC assessment, as well as supporting the remaining units preparing for their reviews this year (see the Academic Planning and Review Committee Senate Report).

Respectfully submitted,



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

ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND GRADUATE STUDIES – OCTOBER 2024

EXTERNAL GRANTS TO FACULTY

Parkinson Canada – CARE Fund

- **Dr. Karen Kendall** (Kinesiology) in partnership with the Annapolis Valley Support Group, received **\$11,111** in funding for the project entitled: *Power Over Parkinson's*.

RESEARCH & SERVICE AGREEMENTS

McMaster University - Transfer of Funds Agreement

- **Mark Adam** (Music/Education) received **\$12,750** in funding as co-investigator on the SSHRC project entitled: *The Canadian Percussion Network: A Partnership to Enhance Percussion Research, Knowledge Mobilization and Performance Across Canada*.

Discovery Consultants Ltd. – Service Agreement

- **Drs. Richard Karsten & Angus Creech** (Mathematics & Statistics) received **\$12,000** in funding for the project entitled: *Modelling Tidal Range Near Tasiujaq, Quebec*.

Dalhousie University – Dr. David Hoskin Studentship Program – Transfer of Funds Agreement

- **Dr. Melanie Coombs** (Biology) received **\$5,000** in funding to support a summer student (Maria McCully) to work on the project entitled: *Examining Novel Mastoparan Derivatives Ability to Kill Drug Resistant Breast Cancer Cells*.

OTHER AWARDS/RESEARCH FUNDING

National Research Council – Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) Projects

- **Dr. Matthew McSweeney** (Nutrition & Dietetics) is collaborating with Freshr Sustainable Technologies Inc. on the project entitled: *Identification of Sensory Properties of Fish Packaging in Novel Packaging*. Total project cost is **\$9,375**. Dr. McSweeney was awarded **\$5,000** from the NRC-IRAP program and Freshr Sustainable Technologies is contributing the matching **\$4,375**.

Acadia Laboratory for Agri-food & Beverage (ALAB) - Update

In August 2024, ALAB conducted analytical testing for 12 beverage clients in the Atlantic region (**\$2,749**). These tests are in addition to testing conducted under an annual \$200,000/yr Service Agreement with the Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation (NSLC).

OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH FUNDING PROGRAMS – UPCOMING APPLICATION INTERNAL SUBMISSION DATES

Internal Funding

- University Research Fund (Article 25.55) – October 15, 2024 & February 15, 2025
- Harrison McCain Foundation Grants – Spring 2025
- SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIG) – Summer 2025
- Summer undergraduate student research awards (HSRA, USRA, Donor) – February 2025

External Funding

- [SSHRC Insight Grants](#) – September 24
- [SSHRC Connection Grants](#) – October 30, January 29, April 29, July 30
- [SSHRC Partnership Development Grants](#) - November 8
- [SSHRC Partnership Engage Grants](#) - June 13, September 13, December 13, March 13
- [NSERC Research Tools and Instruments](#) - October 18
- [NSERC Discovery Grant](#) - October 25
- [NSERC Alliance \(partnership\) Grants](#) – Open Call
- [Canadian Foundation for Innovation \(CFI-JELF\)](#) - October 8, February 8, June 8
- [NS Habitat Conservation Fund](#) - October 13
- [MITACS](#) (student and post-doc internships; various programs) – Open
- [CLARI \(Change Lab Action Research Initiative\)](#) – Open Call

- [Research NS](#) – “Intentional” Research Funding - Open Call (contact RIGS for additional information)

GRADUATE STUDIES

- The Graduate Studies self-study is underway.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Kate Ashley, Associate VP Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies (Interim)

VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT TO SENATE – OCTOBER 2024

Enrolment Update- October 7, 2024

Summary

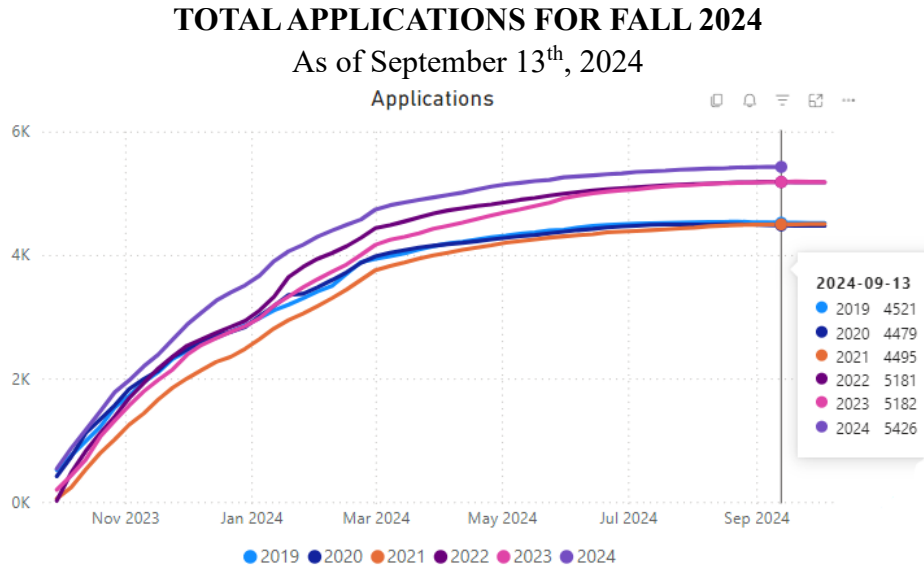
This past recruitment campaign generated the most applications in Acadia’s history. At over 5,400 applications by summer 2024, Acadia generated almost a thousand more applications than pre-pandemic levels.

However, international recruitment challenges have derailed this strong recruitment campaign. With the Federal announcement in January aiming to reduce international student enrolment to Canada, a two-month permit assessment freeze, more recent efforts to reduce immigration opportunities for international graduates, and an imposed 9% increase in international tuition, international numbers are down significantly. The smaller international class this year will have a negative impact for the next four years, and it remains to be seen how government policy has changed the international recruitment landscape moving forward.

It's not all bad news: an increase in domestic student registrations, through both recruitment and retention, has mitigated this very unfortunate international situation to some degree. Full-time undergraduate registrations on October 4 reached 3,604, an increase of 85 students over this time last year.

Applications

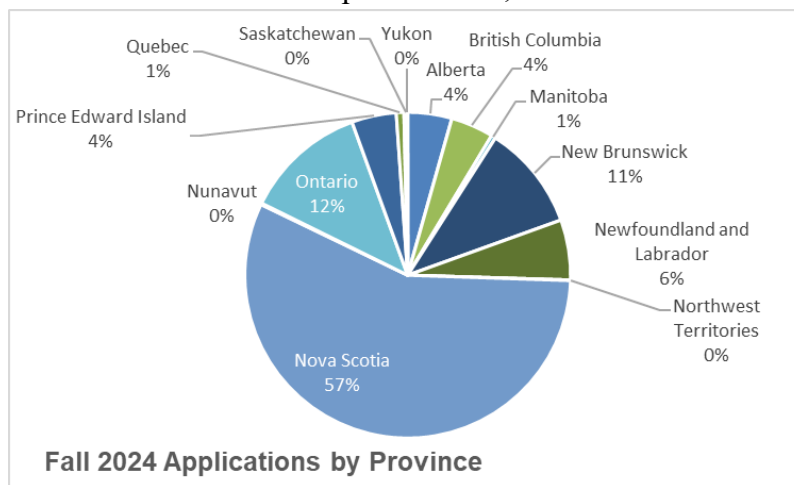
Total undergraduate applications for Fall 2024 have reached 5,426, exceeding the previous application high marks and well above pre-pandemic levels.



After Nova Scotia, Ontario and New Brunswick combine to generate almost a quarter of total applications.

FALL 2024 APPLICATIONS BY PROVINCE

As of September 13th, 2024



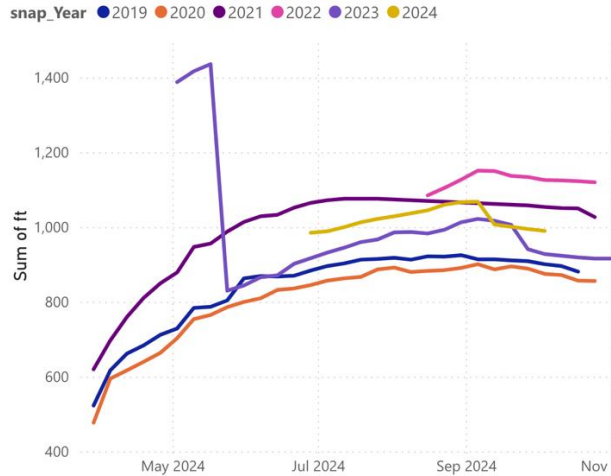
Registrations

As of October 4, Acadia has 3,604 full-time undergraduate students registered, including BEd students, which represents a 2.4% increase over this time last year.

LEVEL-1 FULL-TIME DOMESTIC STUDENT REGISTRATIONS

As of October 4, 2024

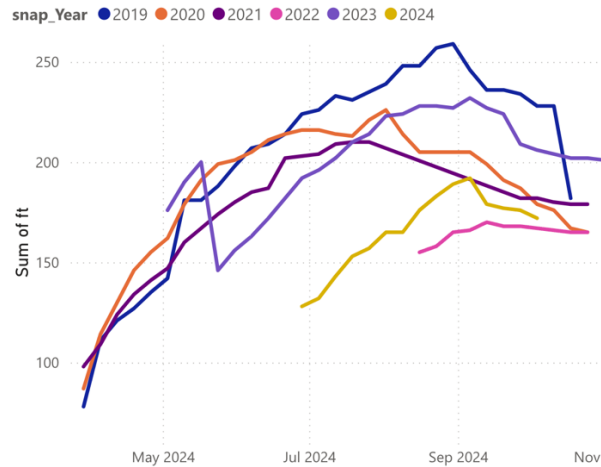
Level-1 full-time domestic registrations reached 990, an increase of 64 over this time last year and only lower than the pandemic years where many domestic students chose to study in NS.



LEVEL-1 FULL-TIME INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REGISTRATIONS

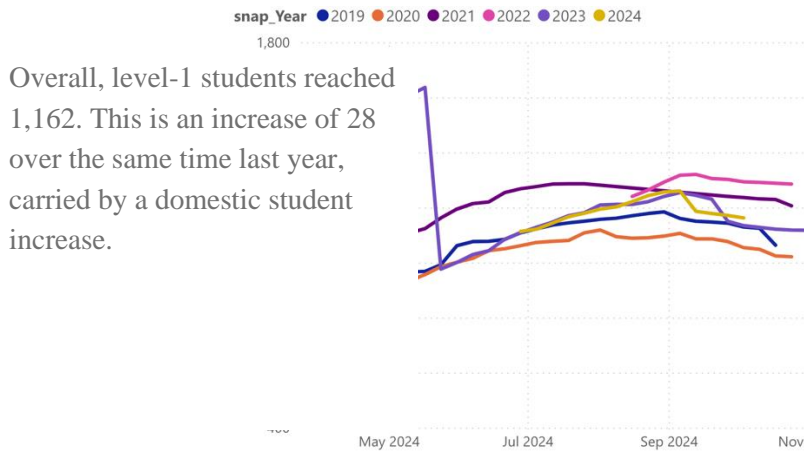
As of October 4, 2024

Level-1 full-time international students are down 34. The current level-1 international student class is the second lowest in recent years at 172.



TOTAL LEVEL-1 FULL-TIME STUDENT REGISTRATIONS

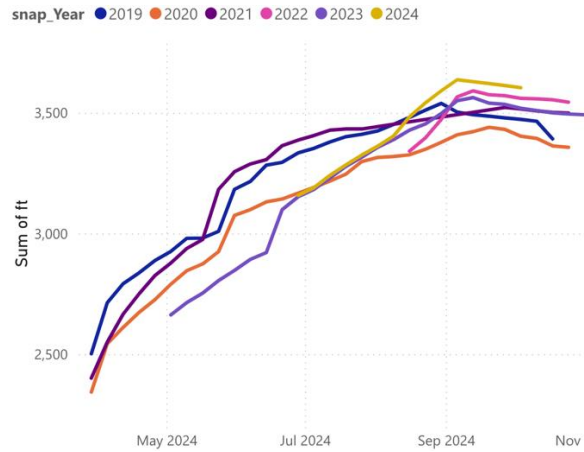
As of October 4, 2024



TOTAL FULL-TIME STUDENT REGISTRATIONS

As of October 4, 2024

All years combined, full-time registrations reached 3,604, another high mark for Acadia.



ACADIA STUDENTS' UNION REPORT TO SENATE – OCTOBER 2024

No announcements received as of October 8, 2024.

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

Dr. Spencer Boersma published his first book, *The Father and the Feminine: Exploring the Grammar of God and Gender*, Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2024.

On September 7, **Dr. Lennett Anderson** was invited to give the closing benediction at the ceremony where the RCMP formally apologized to the African Nova Scotian community for the lasting harm caused by street checks.

On September 12-14, **Dr. Melody Maxwell** participated in Baptist Classics Seminar in Atlanta. She was also appointed as the new leader of the International Conference on Baptist Studies, a triennial conference dedicated to the study of Baptist history and thought. She succeeds Dr. David Bebbington in the role.

On September 16, Acadia Centre for Baptist and Anabaptist Studies (directed by **Dr. Melody Maxwell**) hosted the George Rawlyk Memorial Lecture in Baptist Studies by Dr. Cindy Aalders, Director of the John Richard Allison Library and Associate Professor of the History of Christianity, Regent College.
Topic: *Becoming a Baptist Woman: The Social, Intellectual, and Religious Worlds of Mary Steele Tomkins (1793-1861)*.

On September 23-28, **Dr. Danny Zacharias** spoke and taught about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and his work in Indigenous Biblical Interpretation with Dr. Chris Hoklotubbe at Providence University College, Winnipeg.

On September 24, **Dr. Anna Robbins** presented to the In Trust Center for Theological Schools' Board of Directors in Wilmington, Delaware on ADC's innovations with Artificial Intelligence in theological education.

On October 4, **Dr. Anna Robbins** spoke at the Saint Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary & School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana on ADC's innovations with artificial intelligence in theological education.

From October 7-9, 2024, Acadia Divinity College will host the **Hayward Lectures** with Dr. Amos Yong, Professor of Theology and Mission at Fuller Theological Seminary. The topic is, "Christological Mapping: Emerging Contemporary Lenses." Details: https://acadiadiv.ca/event/hayward-2024/?mc_cid=4071ffc2d8

Academic Integrity Committee (AIC)
Senate Transition Report
23 Sept 2024

Membership:

Registrar: Mark Bishop

1 Arts: **vacant**

1 Professional Studies: Mark Adam

1 Pure and Applied Science: Darcy Benoit (interim chair)

1 Dean of Libraries and Archives or delegate: Mike Beazley

1 Student: **vacant**

The AIC met on September 18th via MS Teams and reviewed the tasks assigned by the Senate for the transition meeting.

The committee agreed that Darcy Benoit will stay on as **interim chair** until the remainder of the positions are filled on the committee. An election will be held at that time.

Mark Bishop agreed to serve as **secretary** for the committee.

Darcy Benoit agreed to reach out to Sam Taylor to see about a student representative for the committee.

The AIC's mandate:

- (1) to advocate for any additional resources that are necessary and appropriate to support effective proctoring of tests and examinations, plagiarism detection software, campus awareness programs, etc.;
- (2) to recommend practical and technical measures to deter and detect cheating and plagiarism;
- (3) to monitor University policy on cheating and plagiarism and to recommend any changes deemed necessary;
- (4) to promote uniform procedures across campus for reporting cheating and plagiarism;
- (5) to oversee a Registry in the Registrar's Office of reported incidences of penalties applied for cheating and plagiarism in order to deter repeated offences; and
- (6) to review as necessary policy and procedures in other Canadian universities and to act as a liaison with outside organizations as appropriate.

The committee also briefly reviewed the requests from the June Senate meeting concerning the implementation of survey.

The AIC agreed to **meet via MS Teams once per month** until the survey is complete and results assessed.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy Benoit (Interim Chair)

Academic Planning Committee
Transition & Rankings Report 2024
Meeting of the Senate
October 8, 2024

Academic Planning Committee Mandate & Duties

1. To make recommendations to Senate on matters relating to academic principles and planning. In carrying out its work, the APC shall consult widely with all stakeholders and relevant bodies on campus.
2. To report regularly to Senate, no less than two times per year.

2024-2025 Membership

Provost and Vice-President Academic (Chair): Ashlee Cunsolo

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

Dean, Libraries and Archives: Jennifer Richard

Faculty, Faculty of Arts: Paul Abela

Faculty, Faculty of Professional Studies: Janna Wentzell

Faculty, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Banks

Faculty, IDST Program: Donna Seamone

Student: Sam Taylor

Meeting Dates/Frequency for 2024-2025

The APC will meet monthly

Meeting Modalities for 2024-2025

Virtual, via Teams

APC Goals for 2024-2025

1. Establish academic priorities for 2024-2025, with a goal of re-invigorating the scope and practice of APC
2. Review and rank faculty position requests for 2024-2025
3. Participate in strategic discussions, including around academic matters (e.g. reporting, alignment with academic budgeting, curricular changes, and programming, etc.)

4. Review tenure-track position ranking processes and make recommendations for next year
5. Discuss opportunities for alignment with budgetary processes to support the Academic portfolio

APC September Meetings & Position Rankings

The Academic Planning Committee met on September 12, 2024 (10:00-11:30am), September 18, 2024 (3:30-5:00pm), and September 23, 2024 (12:00-1:00pm). Prior to these meetings, all committee members received and reviewed the academic reports and unit plans from the three faculties and the Library and Archives.

- **September 12, 2024:** The committee met for the first time for Fall 2024 to determine the goals, priorities, and actions for the Academic Planning Committee, and discussed ways to re-invigorate the APC to become a key committee for discussing strategic academic planning and visioning, and becoming a key voice on academic matters. There was discussion that the APC is under-utilized, and the committee can be used to better define its scope and practice beyond being a resource advisory committee. The committee is eager to make meaningful change and participate in strategic academic discussions.

During this meeting, the committee also discussed how to proceed with the rankings of the 35 positions that were requested (28 tenure-track and 7 instructors). During this meeting, the committee determined that a new way of ranking positions was desirable, and moved forward on a ranking approach from 1-5 (1 being lowest, 5 being highest). Through a shared spreadsheet, committee members were asked to provide a numeric rank from 1-5 for each of the 35 positions requested, transparently sharing ranking numbers before the September 18th meeting (see below). An average was taken of all committee rankings. Anything that was 4-5 was then colour-coded Green, 3-3.9 was colour-coded Yellow, and below 3 was Red. This initial ranking system was completed for the September 18 meeting.

- **September 18, 2024:** During this meeting, the committee went through all 35 position requests in the shared spreadsheet, to discuss the combined rankings of Green, Yellow, and Red. All position requests were discussed, and members had the opportunity to collectively move positions from one category to another (i.e. from Yellow to Green). By the end of the meeting, 14 positions were agreed upon and ranked Green for consideration and final ranking.

- **September 23, 2024:** The committee met to rank the top 14 positions (Green) that had been previously selected and rigorously discussed on September 18. Each committee member ranked them from 1-14 live during the meeting (with discussion as needed) while screen sharing in the shared spreadsheet, and the average was taken of all committee rankings. A final list was produced based on the meetings and rankings, and circulated via email for final committee approval.

Final Rank-Ordered List By Committee (2024-2025)

1. Nutrition & Dietetics (clinical nutri. & dietetic practice)	Tenure-track
2. Teacher Education (Healthy Learning Enviros)	Tenure-track
3. Law and Society	Tenure-track
4. Biology (physiology, neurosci., biopharma)	Tenure-track
5. Philosophy	Tenure-track
6. Earth & Enviro Sci (Geology Core)	Instructor
7. Sociology	Tenure-track
8. Business (Foundation Years)	Tenure-track
9. Kinesiology (Motor Learning)	12 month continuing
10. Nutrition & Dietetics (Food management)	Instructor
11. History (Indigenous Canadian)	Tenure-track
12. Psychology (open)	Tenure-track
13. Counsellor Education	Tenure-track
14. Psychology (psychology statistics help centre)	Instructor

I want to highly commend the important, thoughtful, and rigorous work of this committee over the meetings and the extensive time that everyone spent carefully reviewing and considering position requests and alignment with institutional priorities and academic unit plans. These rankings represent hours of work, strong deliberation, and much effort by a very dedicated and active committee. My sincere thanks to each member for their important service and guidance!

Respectfully submitted,



Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD

Provost & Vice-President, Academic & Academic Planning Committee Chair

APC September Senate Report Appendix I

Complete list of Position Requests Received 2024-2025 Ranked By Faculty

Faculty of Arts

Sociology (Tenure Track)
Philosophy (Tenure-Track)
Law and Society (Tenure-Track)
History (Indigenous Canadian) (Tenure-Track)
ESST (Tenure Track)
History (Atlantic World/Afro Canadian) (Tenure Track)
Law and Society & Cross-Appointment (tba) (Tenure Track)

Faculty of Professional Studies

Teacher Education (Healthy Learning Enviros) (Tenure Track)
Business (Foundation Years) (Tenure Track)
Kinesiology (Motor Learning) (12 month continuing)
Counsellor Education (Tenure Track)
Accounting (Tenure Track)
Kinesiology (Coaching and Leadership) (Tenure Track)
Teacher Education (Principles, Practices, Methods) (Tenure Track)
Teacher Education (English Secondary) (Tenure Track)
Kinesiology (extend from 9.5 to 12 months) (12 month extension)
Kinesiology (exercise science) (Tenure Track)
Counsellor Education (2nd position) (Tenure Track)
Music (Music Therapy) (Tenure Track)
Teacher Education (secondary sci & tech) (Tenure Track)
Teacher Education (Foundations/Inclusive Ed) (Tenure Track)

Faculty of Pure and Applied Science

Tenure-Track Requests

Biology (physiology, neurosci, biopharma) (Tenure Track)
Nutrition & Dietetics (clinical nutri & dietetic practice) (Tenure Track)
Psychology (open) (Tenure Track)
Earth & Enviro Sci (Enviro Geoscientist) (Tenure Track)
Biology (Terrestrial ecology) (Tenure Track)
Math & Stats (Actuarial Science) (Tenure Track)
Comp Sci/Math & Stats (Data Science) (Tenure Track)
Nutrition & Dietetics (health equity) (Tenure Track)
Biotechnology/Chemistry (applied biosci/biochem) (Tenure Track)

Instructor Requests

Earth & Enviro Sci (Geology Core) (Instructor)

Nutrition & Dietetics (Food management) (Instructor)

Psychology (psychology statistics help centre) (Instructor)

Biology (cell & molecular) (Instructor)

Math & Stats (Instructor)

**Academic Program Review Committee
Transition Report 2024
Meeting of the Senate
October 8, 2024**

Academic Program Review Committee Mandate & Duties

- i. to determine policy and procedures for conducting program reviews;
- ii. to determine annually which academic units are to be reviewed;
- iii. to select the members of each unit review committee;
- iv. to oversee the process of review in each case;
- v. to make recommendations to Senate on the basis of the findings of each unit review committee;
- vi. to deal with such matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

2024-2025 Membership

Provost and Vice-President Academic (Chair): Ashlee Cunsolo

Governor: Tracey McGillivray

Register: Mark Bishop

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

Dean, Library and Archives: Jennifer Richard

Faculty, Faculty of Arts: Kevin Whetter

Faculty, Faculty of Professional Studies: Krissy Keech

Faculty, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Glenys Gibson

Acadia Divinity College: Danny Zacharias

Student: Sam Taylor

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

Meeting Dates/Frequency for 2024-2025

The APRC will meet monthly, on the 3rd Monday of each month from 2:30-4:00pm

Meeting Modalities for 2024-2025

Virtual, via Teams

APRC Goals for 2024-2025

1. Support the following programs undergoing 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.

2. Submit a request to the Senate By-Laws Committee to have the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning added to the membership of the APRC
3. Finalize the updated program review guidelines document
4. Prepare for the 2nd Cycle MPHEC Quality Assurance Assessment
 - a. Progress Report (Self-Study) Deadline – May 15, 2025.
 - b. Virtual Site Visit – October 2025.
5. Establish follow-up schedule.

5. Discuss how to make better use of unit plans – crossover and collaboration with the Academic Planning Committee.
6. Discuss process for reviewing minors and small units.
7. Review and make changes to the academic review templates for units and reviewers, with a specific focus on increasing considerations around equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism.
8. Review how to better support units going through reviews and how to make better use of unit plans.
9. Discuss next steps after program reviews, and how to support units to respond to feedback.

APRC Updates from 2023-2024

Since submitting its report to Senate in May, the APRC has met 4 times: May 24, July 24, August 13, and September 13.

History and Classics Review Response and Mid-Point Follow-Up

The APRC met with Dr. Stephen Henderson, Head of the History and Classics Department, on May 24, 2024, to discuss the department’s response to the April 2021 review. Various factors contributed to the delayed response to the review report, including COVID and the faculty strike. Given the delayed response and the fact that many of the recommendations are complete, the committee did not prioritize the recommendations. The committee agreed that this response also fulfills the requirement of the mid-point follow-up. The report follows:

FORM 4B: Program Review

APRC Response and Report to Senate

School/Department/Unit Name	History and Classics
Program(s)	BA in History BA in Classical Studies
Director/Department Head/Program Coordinator(s)	At time of response: Stephen Henderson
Date of meeting to receive and discuss response to Program Review with Director/Department Head/Program Coordinator(s)	May 24, 2024
Date(s) of APRC meetings to discuss APRC response	May 24, 2024

After consideration of the Review Report, the Unit Response, and a discussion with the Director/Department Head/Program Coordinator(s), the APRC offers the following comments and prioritized responses to the Academic Program Review recommendations.

General Comments

The APRC met with Dr. Stephen Henderson, Head of the History and Classics Department, on May 24, 2024, to discuss the department's response to the April 2021 review. Various factors contributed to the delayed response, including COVID and the faculty strike. Dr. Henderson said the department was on track to complete all the recommendations. The committee feels that the review worked as it should, as it also addressed the challenges of people in the department being pulled in different directions and the lack of cohesiveness, which the department has been addressing. Dr. Henderson said the review focused on History in its descriptions and that Comparative Religion was not mentioned at all. The committee feels that attention should also be paid to all the unit's sub-programs in future, wondering if Canadian Studies and Comparative Religion should have their own reviews. Given the delayed response and the fact that many of the recommendations are complete, the committee has not prioritized the recommendations. This response will also fulfill the requirement of the mid-point follow-up.

Recommendations and Responses

Recommendation 1: That the Department engage in a strategic planning exercise to identify/re-affirm its core values and mission.

Unit Response: *Agreed. Following delays caused by COVID, a prolonged collective bargaining process (culminating in month-long labour action in February 2022), the emergency move of Dr. Duke from the Headship to the Dean of Arts (followed the next year by his permanent appointment as Dean), and the transfer of our administrative assistant, Janice Worthylake, the Department held a two-day retreat on 10 and 11 February 2023.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee is pleased that the department held a retreat in February 2023.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 2: That the Department be supported with two new positions in History and a replacement position in Classics. The faculty complement at present cannot meet the needs of both existing and anticipated future student enrollments.

Unit Response: *Agreed.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee is pleased that the department has filled the three positions.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 3: That the priority for the next hires be: an Historian of the early modern era, a Classicist, and a specialist in Indigenous or African-Canadian studies.

Unit Response: *Agreed. The Department has been very fortunate to receive all three positions. Dr. Julia Rombough, an Early Modern Historian, was hired in July 2022; Mercedes Peters, a doctoral candidate in Indigenous History, will be joining the department in September 2024, a cross-appointment shared with Women's and Gender Studies. And the department is engaged in the final steps of the hiring process for a scholar of Classical Literature to replace the recently-retired Dr. Vernon Provençal.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee is pleased that the department has filled the three positions recommended - Julia Rombough (early modernist), Mercedes Peters (indigenous), and Natalie Swain (Classics).

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 4: That the Department institute a colloquium, brown-bag lunch series, etc. to highlight faculty research and other innovative initiatives.

Unit Response: *Agreed. The department has established a brown-bag lecture series for intra-departmental research presentations, and several members of the department have taken advantage of the more visible BAC Talk series of monthly research presentations. BAC Talks has been organized for the last two years by Dr. Rombough, along with Dr. Kait Pinder of English and Theatre.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee is pleased that the lunch-time lectures had resumed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 5: That the Department's website be overhauled to render it more accessible and attractive to students and the general public.

Unit Response: *Agreed. It was pointed out by Janice Worthylake that the template for websites is set by the Administration, so there are parameters within which we must work.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 6: That the skills learned and potential value of being a History Major be highlighted on the departmental website, through social media, and by the students.

Unit Response: *Agreed.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 7: That the Department review their list of current courses, with a view to removing courses that have not been taught for several years.

Unit Response: *Agreed. This recommendation is being implemented gradually. At least 24h of courses have been removed in the last three years, but it was agreed at a department meeting that we would prioritize pruning moribund courses from the calendar for the Fall of 2024.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee encourages the department to continue to implement this recommendation.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 8: That the Department, the faculty, and the Office of Research & Graduate Studies celebrate notably the achievements of faculty members in the Department.

Unit Response: *Agreed. The Department appreciates the constraints placed on the Office of Research & Graduate Studies (RGS) by staffing levels, but hopes for more consistency in celebrating the research, publications, and innovative classroom teaching of Department members. The Department will continue to look at ways to celebrate our members' achievements.*

APRC Comment and Priority: The committee supports this recommendation and encourages the department to continue to look at ways to celebrate its members' achievements.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 9: That there be more outreach and mentoring in grantsmanship from the office of the Dean of Research & Graduate Studies.

Unit Response: *Agreed.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 10: That the Department encourage an active student society and student activities.

Unit Response: *Agreed. This recommendation was discussed at our retreat. At the moment, the History and Classics Society (now a joint organization) has been quite active. With the relaxation and removal of COVID restrictions, students have organized a number of events and have taken advantage of things like "Classic Movie Night," organized in the Winter 2024 term by Dr. Natalie Swain.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 11: That adjunct privileges for part-time faculty continue after they finish teaching and before they take up new courses (e.g., library and email).

Unit Response: *Agreed. The Department believes that this is an issue addressed in the Collective Agreement, but there was general agreement that supports for part-timers and adjuncts could be improved.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 12: That the Department think more about how to integrate additional public history, digital humanities, and experiential learning into its offerings where relevant.

Unit Response: *Agreed. This recommendation was discussed more thoroughly at our retreat and in several follow-up meetings of a committee on curriculum. Dr. Jennifer MacDonald, Dr. Laurie Dalton, and Dr. Henderson are trying to coordinate ways to develop our majors' familiarity with public history, digital humanities and experiential learning. We plan to move ahead with a "Special Topics" course by Dr. Dalton in 2024-25 on public history; the idea of developing a capstone course for our senior majors is still be discussed and may appear in 2025-26.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

Recommendation 13: That the Department consider how to mentor its junior faculty, especially with a view to tenure and promotion.

Unit Response: *Agreed. This recommendation was discussed at our retreat. The Department intends to formalize the mentoring of junior- and mid-career members in the areas of teaching, service, and applying for renewal, tenure and promotion.*

APRC Comment and Priority: Agreed.

Immediate Priority Medium-Term Priority Long-Term Priority

MEd Counselling Review

The APRC determined that the MEd Counselling Program did not have to be reviewed in 2023-2024 as it had met the requirements for both the accreditation and academic review through a combination of the MEd program review in 2019, and the MEd Counselling program accreditation process in 2021. The date of the next review will align with the accreditation review in 2026-2027.

2025 MPHEC Quality Assurance Assessment

Forms/Templates

In preparation for the MPHEC Quality Assurance Assessment and to standardize the review process, the following forms were developed and approved in 2023-2024:

Forms/Templates	Status	Notes
Form 1A Program Review Academic Unit Self-Study	Approved. February 5, 2024.	Self-Study template for academic units.
Form 1B Program Review Support Unit Self-Study	Approved. August 13, 2024.	Self-Study template for support units.
Form 1C Program Review Information Requirements for Programs Subject to Accreditation	Approved. August 13, 2024.	Information requirements for programs subject to accreditation. Includes procedures.
Form 2A Program Review Reviewer Nomination Form	Approved. April 16, 2024.	Reviewer nomination form.
Form 2B Program Review Reviewer Conflict of Interest Declaration	Approved, April 16, 2024.	Conflict of interest declaration form for reviewers.
Form 3A Program Review Terms of Reference and Review Committee Report for Academic Units	Approved. July 24, 2024.	Terms of reference for reviewers and reviewer report template – academic units
Form 3B Program Review Terms of Reference and Review Committee Report for Support Units	Approved. August 13, 2024.	Terms of reference for reviewers and reviewer report template – support units
Form 4A Program Review Unit Response to Review	Approved. August 13, 2024.	Form for units to use when responding to program review reports and recommendations.
Form 4B Program Review APRC Response and Report to Senate	Approved, December 11, 2023.	Form used by the APRC to report to Senate.
Form 5A Program Review Unit Progress Report	Approved. December 11, 2023.	Form to be used by units for mid-point progress reports.
Form 5B Program Review APRC Progress Report to Senate	Approved. July 24, 2024.	Form to be used by the APRC to report to Senate after the mid-point

		follow up with unit. It is similar to form 4B.
Form 6 Program Review Deferral Request Form	Approved. July 24, 2024.	Form to be used by units when requesting a deferral.

Surveys

Units have the option to conduct surveys as part of the review process. The APRC developed and approved the following in 2023-2024:

Current Student Survey	Approved August 13, 2024
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The surveys will be conducted using LimeWire and will be facilitated by Terry Aulenbach, Academic Technology Specialist with LTID.

Respectfully submitted,



Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD

Provost & Vice-President, Academic & Academic Program Review Committee Chair

Admissions & Academic Standing (Policy) Committee
Transition Report 2024
Meeting of the Senate
October 8, 2024

Admissions & Academic Standing (Policy) Committee Mandate & Duties

To interpret and to apply the conditions of admissions and academic standing as outlined in the university calendar and to make recommendations to Senate with respect to policy as it relates to admissions, failures, and academic regulations.

2024-2025 Membership

Provost and Vice-President Academic (Chair): Ashlee Cunsolo

Register: Mark Bishop

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

Arts (Head or Director): vacant

Arts: vacant

Prof. St. (Head or Director): Darren Kruisselbrink

Prof. St.: Ayman Aljarrah

P&A Sc. (Head or Director): Richard Karsten

P&A Sc.: Bobby Ellis

Director, Open Acadia (Acting): *Listed as Ashlee Cunsolo; looking to add Lauren Finnis*

Theology (voting on Theology matters only): Matthew Walsh

Student: Sam Taylor

The committee met on September 26th from 2:00-3:00pm to discuss the meeting frequencies and modalities, and to set goals for the 2024-2025 year.

The committee also reviewed a proposal to create a prior learning assessment process for Acadia University, being led by Mark Bishop. We are an outlier for universities across the country in not having a prior learning assessment process. The committee reviewed the proposal (which has also been reviewed by Deans, the AVP EDI-AR, and the Executive Advisor on L'Nu Affairs and Indigenization, and is currently circulating with Chairs/Heads/Directors), and supported the proposal. The goal is to bring this prior learning assessment proposal to Senate for the November meeting.

Meeting Dates/Frequency for 2024-2025

The AAS(P) will meet monthly

Meeting Modalities for 2024-2025

Virtual, via Teams

AAS(P) Goals for 2024-2025

- To examine academic and admissions policies for the university, and find ways to streamline policies and processes, enhance accessibility, and consider equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism.
- To discuss restricted admission goals and processes and to coordinate with other relevant committees on this.
- To work with academic units to discuss any unit-specific revisions of academic and admissions policies.
- To consider broader academic strategic planning, and how this committee can support those efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD

Provost & Vice-President, Academic & Admission and Academic Standing (Policy)
Committee Chair

Awards Committee for Honourary Degrees and *Emeriti* Distinction
(Awards Committee) | Annual Report for 2023-2024
September 11, 2024

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Committee Members 2023-2024:

Dr. Jeff Hennessy, President and Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
Dr. Xiaoting Wang, Faculty of Arts Representative
Dr. Heather Hemming, Faculty of Professional Studies Representative
Dr. Lisa Price, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science Representative
Rev. Dr. Anna Robbins, Acadia Divinity College / Faculty of Theology Representative
Erin Patterson, Librarian/Archivist Representative
Henry Demone, Board of Governors Representative
Sadie McAlear, Student Representative
Natalie Weekes, Recording Secretary

The purpose of the Committee is to:

1. Invite nominations for Honourary Doctorate degrees and Professors, Librarian, Archivists and Instructor *Emeriti* awards.
2. Adjudicate the nominations.
3. Recommend nominees thereon to Senate.

Meetings held 2023-2024:

Two meetings were held virtually via Microsoft Teams. The first meeting was held on January 26, 2024, to consider nominations for honourary degrees, and the second on February 15, 2024, to consider the nominations for *Emeriti* status.

Summary of Committee Activities:

A call for Honourary Degree nominations was sent to the campus community *via* email on September 14, 2023, and a call for *Emeriti* distinction nominations was sent out on October 17, 2023. Following thorough review and discussion, the Committee recommended to Senate a total of five (5) Honourary Degree nominees. Three (3) candidates for Honourary Degrees were approved by secret ballot at an *in camera* meeting of Senate on February 15, 2024. Five (5) nominations were received for *Emeritus/a* status and after thorough review and discussion, four (4) were recommended to Senate for approval. Four (4) *Emeritus/a* nominees, were approved by secret ballot at

an *in camera* session at a meeting of Senate on April 10, 2023 to be awarded at the 2024 Convocation ceremonies.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey J. Hennessy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey J. Hennessy, PhD
President and Vice-Chancellor
Chair, Senate Awards Committee

TO: Anna Kiefte, Chair of Senate
FROM: Dr. Jeff Hennessy, President and Vice-Chancellor
SUBJECT: Awards Committee – Transition Report
DATE: October 9, 2024

Dear Senators,

The Awards Committee operates on a regular cycle of soliciting nominations for honorary degrees and Emeriti distinction, followed by evaluation of the nominees and finally, providing recommendations to Senate.

The 2024-2025 Awards Committee membership is as follows:

- Jeff Hennessy (President)
- Vacant (Faculty of Arts)
- Ayman Aljarrah (Faculty of Professional Studies)
- Lisa Price (Faculty of Pure and Applied Science)
- Anna Robbins (Faculty of Theology)
- Ann Smith (Librarian/Archivist)
- Henry Demone (Governor or Senator)
- Sam Taylor (Student)

A public call for honorary degree nominations was sent to the Acadia community on September 17, 2024. The deadline for submissions is November 15, 2024.

A public call for Emeriti distinction nominations will be sent to the Acadia community on October 21, 2024. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2025.

The Committee will meet early in the new year to review the submissions, with the goal of Senate receiving recommendations for honorary degree recipients at the February 2024 meeting and Emeriti nominations at the following March 2024 meeting.

Respectfully,



Jeffrey J. Hennessy, Ph.D.
President and Vice Chancellor
Acadia University

**Board of Open Acadia
Transition Report 2024
Meeting of the Senate
October 9, 2024**

Board of Open Acadia Committee Mandate & Duties

The duties of the Board of Open Acadia are to formulate, review and modify policy pertaining to the operation and enhancement of the program in Continuing Education at Acadia University.

2024-2025 Membership

Provost and Vice-President Academic (Chair): Ashlee Cunsolo

Associate VP Finance & Treasure: Mary MacVicar

Director of Open Acadia: Lauren Wilson Finnis

Registrar: Mark Bishop

Dean, Faculty of Arts: David Duke

Dean, Faculty of Professional Studies: Corinne Haigh

Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science: Jeff Hooper

Student Representative: vacant

The committee met on October 3, 2024 from 1:00-2:00pm to discuss the meeting frequencies and modalities, and to set goals for the 2024-2025 year.

Meeting Dates/Frequency for 2024-2025

The Board of Open Acadia will meet monthly.

Meeting Modalities for 2024-2025

Virtual, via Teams

Board of Open Acadia Goals for 2024-2025

The Board of Open Acadia will be supporting the transition, restructuring, and re-visioning of Open Acadia to better support access to learning. The following are the goals and priorities for Open Acadia, which this committee will support and on which it will advise:

- Support the hiring of a Director, Digital and Extended Learning for January 2025

- Complete a budget and revenue review to propose new templates to financial services
- Support the work of an Operational Efficiencies Task Force (led by Dr. Wilson Finiss) with the objective of streamlining Open Acadia systems and processes and integrating with existing main campus systems
- Support the implementation of new technical systems and processes to support non-credit and event registration and payment
- Support the review of Open Acadia staff roles and responsibilities and reporting structure
- Support the exploration and development of frameworks and a proposal process for certificates and microcredentials
- Analyze and examine opportunities to maintain and potentially expand current revenue

Respectfully submitted,



Ashlee Cunsolo, PhD

Provost & Vice-President, Academic & Admission and Academic Standing (Policy)
Committee Chair

**Senate By-Laws Committee
Transition Report to Senate of Acadia University
October 9, 2024**

Membership:

Faculty of Arts: Jesse Carlson

Faculty of Professional Studies: Kelly Brenton

Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences: Holger Teismann

Faculty of Theology: Danny Zacharias

Jesse Carlson is acting in the Transitional Chair role. The Committee has been communicating through email. We will meet in late October to confirm the Chair and Recording Secretary roles and to address our main order of business, which is to bring forward a specific proposal for how to incorporate three new non-continuing faculty members to Senate. We plan to meet regularly the fall term in order to bring the motion to Senate as soon as possible.

For context, the By-Laws Committee presented the following Notice of Motion during the June 19, 2024 Senate meeting:

“Notice of Motion to add up to three non-continuing faculty members to Senate as voting members. These Senators, who shall serve for one-year terms and shall receive a stipend for their service from the Board of Governors, shall be drawn from amongst the Faculties of Arts, Pure and Applied Science, and Professional Studies, and 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.”

Respectfully submitted,
Jesse Carlson

Senate Curriculum Committee (Administrative)

Transition Report to Senate of Acadia University 1 October 2024

Membership:

Chair of Curr. Comm. (Policy) Vacant ex-officio
Registrar or Delegate (Non-vote) Mark Bishop ex-officio --
Dean of Libraries and Archives (Acting) Jennifer Richard ex-officio --
Faculty of Arts - Vacant
Faculty of Arts - Inna Viriasova
FPS - Jennifer Tinkham
FPS - Ashley Doyle
FPAS - Melanie Coombs
FPAS - Allison Walker (Transition Chair)
Theology - Christopher Killacky
Student Rep - Sam Taylor

The Committee met on Sept. 19th, 2024 via Teams at 11 a.m. (Present: Allison, Mark, Jennifer Richard, Inna, Jennifer Tinkham, Ashley, Melanie, Hayley van Kroonenburg [Registrar's Office, non-voting])

Allison Walker acted as Transition Chair. As she will be on sabbatical in the Winter, and is unable to be Chair, she requested members that they consider the role.

Melanie Coombs has agreed to be recording secretary.

Teams was agreed to as modality for meetings this year.

Committee reviewed mandate and duties. There was agreement that current duties are clear, understood and appropriate.

The duties of the Curriculum Committee (Administrative) shall be:

- 1) to oversee and co-ordinate all proposed changes in undergraduate degree, certificate or diploma requirements, including interaction with the originators, and to make recommendations to Senate concerning such changes.
- 2) to identify issues arising as a result of recommended changes in undergraduate degree, certificate or diploma requirements, and to forward issues to relevant bodies for consideration and action.

3) to consider all changes in undergraduate courses from all departments or schools, or from any individual concerning changes in the curriculum, including interaction with the originators, and to make recommendations to Senate concerning such changes.

4) to collaborate with the Registrar's office to produce the programs of study and course listings sections of the annual Calendar. 5) to consider such matters as Senate may from time to time entrust to the Committee.

The Committee began its work towards achieving requisite duties.

December 5th and 6th were suggested as meeting days to review submitted forms with a November 22nd submission deadline.

H. van Kroonenburg presented to the Committee on a new process for curriculum form submission via Moodle. Benefits to this include being able to make version updating and editing without making multiple forms, being able to consolidate questions and information in one place. Also able to export information into Excel. Committee was unanimously supportive of this process development.

Communication will be sent out jointly by the Chair of the Committee and RO to inform the University community of this submission functionality.

All members of the Committee were reminded that each member of the Committee reviews all forms equally and that they are available for review prior to the meeting. Submitted forms be available for review at least a week in advance was suggested for those units that send them in on time by the 22nd.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Walker

REPORT OF THE SENATE DISABILITY POLICY COMMITTEE TO SENATE OCTOBER 2024

Committee Members:

Mark Bishop	Registrar (ex-officio)
Gillian Hastey	Accessibility Resource Facilitator (ex-officio)
Marissa McIsaac	Manager, Accessible Learning Services (ex-officio)
Richard Karsten	Pure and Applied Science
Shawna Peverill	Theology
Anna Wilks	Arts
vacant	Professional Studies
vacant	Student

Committee Duties:

- Monitor the implementation of Acadia University's Disability Policy
- Conduct an annual review of the Disability Policy and, if necessary, recommend amendments of the policy to Senate
- Receive reports from Accessible Learning Services on the number of students registered with Accessibility, emerging trends, feedback pertaining to policy changes, development of future and ongoing plans
- Deal with any issues that Senate might refer to the Committee
- Monitor progress on the implementation of the *Acadia University Accessibility 2030 Plan*

Committee's Transitional Meeting - September 23, 2024 (via Teams)

Meeting attendees: Gillian Hastey, Richard Karsten, Marissa McIsaac, Shawna Peverill, Anna Wilks.

Anna Wilks served as Transition Chair and Secretary.

Agenda Items addressed at meeting:

- The committee elected Anna Wilks as Chair and Secretary for 2024-25.
- Anna Wilks reviewed the committee's mandate and current membership.
- Anna Wilks noted that there are two vacant positions on the committee, the representative of Professional Studies and the student representative. Anna Wilks indicated that she had notified Anna Kieft, Chair of Senate, of that. Marissa McIsaac offered to assist with the recruitment of the student representative.
- Marissa McIsaac provided an update on the number of students registered with Accessible Learning. The current total number of students registered is 1111.

There are 732 pending test requests, 60 confirmed tests booked for Sept 23-27, and 65 tests already written.

- Marissa McIsaac and Gillian Hastey explained some general features of the current disability policy and how it would be integrated with the new university-wide Accessibility Learning accommodation platform, *Accommodate*.
- As a follow-up to the committee's concerns raised last year about the challenges created by the limited resources at Accessible Learning, Marissa McIsaac and Gillian Hastey apprised the committee of some progress. They reported the hiring of additional proctors to facilitate the scheduling of tests and examinations written at Accessible Learning. This has helped alleviate some of the burdens placed on the staff at Accessible Learning, which in turn was posing significant limitations on the students.
- It was noted, however, that much progress still needs to be made to address the on-going challenges posed by limited space and other inadequate resources at Accessible Learning.
- The committee established its goals for 2024-25 and set tentative meeting dates.

Committee meeting dates and modality for 2024-25

It was unanimously acknowledged that the committee would be more effective in achieving its goals if it met more frequently than it had in the past. Consequently, this year the committee plans to meet twice in the fall term and twice in the winter term, via Teams.

Tentative dates of the 2024-25 SDPC meetings:

- September 2024
- November 2024
- February 2025
- April 2025 (if necessary)

9. Committee goals for 2024-25

After extensive discussion, the committee established two central goals for 2024-25:

a) Monitor both the challenges and effectiveness of the Accommodate System recently adopted by Accessible Learning.

- Committee members raised a number of issues pertaining to the use of Accommodate by students, staff and faculty.
- Marissa McIsaac reported that, generally, the feedback from staff at Accessible Learning, students and faculty has been positive. The system is proving to be much more convenient to use than the former system. It is simpler to have all the information in one place at one time, rather than scattered in different places and delivered via numerous emails.
- Many new faculty were already familiar with Accommodate at other institutions, and were pleased to learn that Acadia now uses the same system.

- Some faculty had difficulty logging on to Accommodate, but that was quickly resolved.
- Faculty with extremely large classes reported that the new practice of reviewing and signing individual student request letters is unduly cumbersome. Marissa McIsaac suggested that this problem might be addressed by organizing the request letters by course, and requiring faculty to review and sign only one letter per course. The suggestion received unanimous support. Marissa McIsaac offered to seek direction for implementing that change.
- There is a general concern among faculty about the rights of students possibly conflicting with the rights of faculty over the new regulations adopted by Accessible Learning.
- A central issue for faculty is the accommodation available to students registered with Accessible Learning to record lectures. There is much confusion about what the regulations permit students to do when recording lectures, and what restrictions they have. Marissa McIsaac suggested that Accessible Learning send an email to faculty clarifying the regulations pertaining to the recording of lectures by students.
- Marissa McIsaac advised that possible disputes arising between students and faculty be directed to Accessible Learning (step 1). Disputes that are not able to be resolved at that level will be directed to Polly Leonard, *Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer* (step 2).
- Richard Karsten suggested that the committee solicit a comprehensive set of faculty views on the new Accommodate system via a survey. The suggestion received unanimous support. It was agreed that committee members would work together to produce a survey, ideally, before our next meeting in late November. Richard Karsten offered to consult Terry Aulenbach to request technology assistance in producing and distributing the survey to faculty.

b) Seek clarification on the deliverables specified in the *Acadia University Accessibility 2030 Plan* for which our committee is jointly accountable, and develop a plan of action for achieving those deliverables.

Deliverables and Accountable Committees (This material is taken from the *Acadia University Accessibility 2030 Plan*, which was circulated to the committee in advance of the meeting.)

Awareness and Capacity Building

- “Encourage and support departments and employees to review and integrate areas of accessibility and disability issues into course curriculum of all relevant academic programs.” (AUAAC, SDPC, Provost’s Council, Deans)

Teaching, Learning and Research

- “Build capacity and implement supports for faculty and other employees to remove barriers to learning through inclusive practices and equitable assessment, such as principles outlined in universal design for learning and culturally

- responsive teaching and learning.” (AUAAC, Teaching and Learning [Open Acadia], Accessible Learning, SDPC)
- “Identify and adopt a common standard for ensuring students have access to resources, including accommodations, to support academic success, wellness, and transitions from high school and to employment, the community, or further study.” (AUAAC, Teaching and Learning [Open Acadia], Accessible Learning, Provost’s Council, SDPC)
 - “Support the growth of research and scholarship on accessibility and disability studies, including collaborate accessibility research initiatives at Acadia University, led by first voice researchers.” (AUAAC, Teaching and Learning [Open Acadia], Accessible Learning, Provost’s Council, SDPC, Research and Graduate Studies)
 - “Expand and improve access to inclusive post-secondary education options for students with intellectual disabilities.” (AUAAC, Teaching and Learning [Open Acadia], Accessible Learning, Provost’s Council, SDPC, Access Acadia Faculty Director)

Marissa McIsaac offered to reach out to Meghan Swanburg and Emily Duffett who serve on the Accessibility Advisory Committee for direction and clarification on the deliverables noted above, and the extent to which our committee is accountable for these deliverables.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Wilks (she/her/hers)
Chair, Senate Disability Policy Committee

**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 (POLLS)
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

**Timetable, Instruction Hours and Examinations Committee
Transition Report to Senate – October, 2024**

Committee Membership:

Registrar – Mark Bishop
Senior Director Student Affairs – James Sanford
Arts – Bernard Delpeche
Prof. Studies – Christianne Rushton
Pure and Applied Science – Iain Beaton (Chair)
Student – Sam Taylor
Guest - Hayley van Kroonenburg

Duties:

- (1) to communicate the approved rules on instruction hours to all members of Faculty before the end of August of each academic year;
- (2) to recommend to Senate the approval of special requests as it deems valid, with supporting reasons;
- (3) to recommend to Senate new or modified policies and regulations pertaining to instruction hours;
- (4) to publish in the spring of each academic year, a time, a place and schedule of classes for the following year;
- (5) to make such amendments and corrections as may be deemed necessary in the timetable throughout the year;
- (6) to make recommendations concerning any changes in the scheduling of courses which, in its judgment, will more efficiently utilize the physical plant of the university without compromising academic needs;
- (7) to publish a timetable for December and April examinations;
- (8) to ensure that proper examination procedures are carried out;
- (9) to consider and to rule on all individual cases that may arise in the course of examination procedures and may deserve special consideration;
- (10) to recommend to Senate by the January meeting in each year the dates for the following academic year.

The Committee met on September 25, 2024 on TEAMS.

The Committee elected Iain Beaton as Chair, and Christianne Rushton 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 food insecurities due to lack of time in student schedules.

The Committee will also review the Scheduling of Tests/Major Assignments policy passed last year in Senate and continue discussion around tests/major assignments in the last days of term.

Submitted,
Iain Beaton, Chair