



Minutes of the Senate Meeting of Monday September 9th, 2019.

A meeting of the Senate of Acadia University occurred on Monday 9th September, 2019 beginning at 4:00 p.m. with Chair A. Kiefte presiding and 43 present. The meeting took place in BAC 132.

1) Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order, noting that there was quorum at present.

Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by A. Quema and seconded by D. Benoit.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA CARRIED.

2) Minutes of the Meeting of 12th June, 2019

Motion to approve the Minutes of Wednesday 12th June, 2019 as distributed. Moved by M. Robertson, seconded by R. Seale.

The Chair asked for any errors, omissions or changes to the Minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED. EIGHT ABSTENTIONS.

3) Announcements:

a) From the Chair of Senate

The Chair thanked Senators for attending and agreeing to serve on Senate and welcomed new Senators particularly. She asked Senators to sign the blue attendance sheet that was circulating.

Senators were asked to refer to the Senate committee membership list on the Senate website to ensure that there were no errors and to check membership of the sub-committees and contact the Chair or Recording Secretary if there were changes to be made. She noted that a list of current Ad-hoc committees was also posted on the website.

The Chair drew attention to the Constitution and By-laws of Senate which were also posted on the website.

The Chair announced that the Senate Orientation meeting would take place on Monday September 30th, starting at 5:00 p.m. in BAC 138. She expected that this would take approximately 45 minutes.

Senators introduced themselves around the room.

The Chair announced regrets from R. Raeside, J. Hooper, N. Kirkpatrick and D. Seamone.

b) From the President

President Ricketts welcomed the Senators back and noted that the campus had managed to open following Hurricane Dorian on Saturday. He noted that there was damage to tree limbs and two trees were down. There was also water damage in some buildings. President Ricketts highlighted the tremendous damage done to the Bahamas and parts of the Eastern Seaboard of the USA. He stated that 21 Acadia students were from Grand Bahama and Abaco and stated that Acadia was reaching out to them, offering support and helping them to cope with their particular challenges.

President Ricketts thanked everyone on the campus that worked to keep the University going through the weekend, carrying out the physical work, security services and the food services for providing catering for the students.

President Ricketts welcomed all new members of Senate and also a particular welcome to D. Keefe (Provost and Vice-President Academic), S. Duguay (Vice-Provost for Student Recruitment and Enrolment Management), L. Robinson (Dean of Arts) and A. Robbins (Dean of Theology and President of Divinity College). President Ricketts congratulated A. Robbins on her installation as the 7th President of the Acadia Divinity College and the first female President.

President Ricketts pointed out that also for the first time at Acadia, all five of the Deans were women, and all were Acadia Alumni.

President Ricketts also welcomed all new faculty and staff that had joined Acadia over the course of the summer.

President Ricketts reported that the Maple League Town Hall meeting had taken place that morning which was a successful event with about 60 attendees. J. Raddell and faculty from Acadia provided a presentation to discuss the new initiatives that were a result of the Strategic Visioning Process and also announced funding that would be available for collaborative initiatives in teaching and research. He thanked those who attended and participated.

President Ricketts stated that Bishop's University's 'Up For Debate' Event would now be held in October instead of February. Other events including the TEDx lectures and Business Case Study competition would also be occurring through the academic year.

A. Quema echoed the President's statement that there were now five women in the Dean's positions and on behalf of the Faculty of Arts and the Senators from Arts, she extended a welcome to L. Robinson, the new Dean of Arts and noted that there had not been a female Dean in Arts since the 1990s.

P. Abela asked about the recent radio report that the MOU was going to be signed by CONSUP and asked what had prompted a change from what President Ricketts reported in June to Senate.

President Ricketts agreed that there had been changes since that time and that CONSUP had themselves discussed pros and cons of not signing the MOU. He stated that there had also been a meeting with the Minister and that a discussion had then taken place to determine what would be necessary for CONSUP to sign the MOU. A majority decision was taken that it was better to be signed on with an MOU in order to preserve some of the commitments that the Government was offering under the MOU. CONSUP agreed about what the minimum requirements would be from their point of view and those proposals have been submitted to the Minister. They were waiting to hear back but would be meeting with the Minister on Thursday.

President Ricketts mentioned a number of other funding initiatives that were tied to the MOU, around infrastructure, accessibility, student mental health and sexual assault. He recognised that the MOU was not at the 3% level that the universities had hoped for.

President Ricketts pointed out that one of the pros for signing the MOU was that it did at least set a minimum amount of funding over a five-year period. He noted that in other Provinces funding was being cut.

c) From the Provost & Vice-President Academic

D. Keefe thanked Senators for the welcome and noted that he had met many faculty members over the previous couple of months and had heard a sense of optimism and excitement in those conversations. He looked forward to meeting the challenges and opportunities together.

D. Keefe also thanked all of the staff on campus that were away from their own families over the weekend, working to keep the campus safe and operational during the storm.

D. Keefe stated that Acadia had been reaching out to the Bahamian students to provide support. This could be counselling, providing financial support and any other needs. He stated that in the next couple of days an Emergency Fund would be established which faculty and staff could contribute to.

D. Keefe encouraged Senators to read the reports from the Faculties that had been provided in the Senate agenda written announcements.

d) From the ASU President

K. Vandertoorn reported on the written announcements that had been provided for Senate. She also noted that the ASU was dealing with internal changes because the General Manager, I. Morrison, who had completed 26.5 years with the ASU, had left Acadia. K. Vandertoorn stated that the VP Finance and Operations had also resigned due to visa complications. A by-election was planned.

A. Wilks asked for an update on the revision of the Sexual Harassment Policy which had been on-going for the past two years. She noted that she had

contacted the Equity Officer who had stated that there was now a Sexual Harassment Policy in place. A. Wilks asked how the students regarded the policy.

K. Vandertoorn responded that the policy was in fact still under revision and that two separate committees were working on this. It was expected that the fully revised document should be in place in the next few months.

A. Wilks thanked all those that were involved in the revision of the policy and hoped that the final policy would come back to Senate once complete.

A. Quema stated that one of the students was organising the meetings and had been actively engaged on the committee.

K. Vandertoorn noted that one or two of the students had now graduated but that working groups had been held with student leaders from all over campus contributing.

The Chair added some further announcements. As determined at Senate in June, Senate would be proceeding with written formats for the coming year. She reported that Senate Executive had discussed the written announcements format later in June and once the minutes of that meeting had been approved she would present the recommended guidelines to Senate.

The Chair referred to the land acknowledgement that was now appearing at the start of Senate agendas "*The Senate of Acadia University acknowledges that we are located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq People*". The Chair noted that Senate Executive would also have this wording on their agendas and that Senate Executive would like to encourage other Senate sub-committees to include this wording on their own agendas.

The Chair announced regrets from R. Raeside, J. Hooper, N. Kirkpatrick and D. Seamone.

G. Whitehall asked why the words "and unceded" were not included in the statement since that was the practice in other contexts.

The Chair offered to bring this to Senate Executive at its next meeting.

4) Old Business

a) Senate Committee Reports

i) Library Committee Report

The Chair noted that there had been no report received from the Library for 2018-2019. No one was present to provide a verbal report. The Chair noted that it would remain on the agenda.

ii) Faculty Support Committee Report

The Chair noted that the committee had reported back to say that they had not met during 2018-2019.

The report was received.

iii) **Awards Committee Report** The Chair noted that Senate had not received an Awards Committee report. This committee is chaired by the President and he offered to provide a report for the October meeting of Senate.

iv) **Admissions and Academic Standing (Appeals) Committee Report (attached)** B. Anderson took the Chair to allow A. Kiefte to report from the A&AS (Appeals) Committee.
A. Kiefte reported that in June a brief report had been provided to Senate and that this was part 2 of the report since the committee carried out its work during the spring and summer. She drew Senate's attention to appeals statistics and the documentation that had been used this year for the appeals process.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

A. Kiefte resumed the Chair.

5) **New Business:**

a) **Election of Senate Executive members for 2019-2020** The Chair noted that no one was present from the Senate Nominating Committee. She reported that the call for nominations had been carried out electronically during the summer.

The Chair stated that there were three nominees for the three positions on Senate Executive: M. Robertson, C. Rushton, and D. Seamone.

The Chair noted that all three were Senators and were acclaimed to serve on Senate Executive for a one-year period.

b) **Election of Faculty Elections Officer for 2019-2020** The Chair announced that H. Aly was the one nomination for Faculty Elections Officer and that he would be acclaimed for a one-year period.

c) **Academic Planning Committee Ranking Report (attached)** D. Keefe presented the Academic Planning Committee ranking report noting that this was the first time that the committee had followed the modifications to the ranking process. The committee met on two occasions. At the first meeting a discussion took place to decide on the process and how the submissions would be reviewed. At the second meeting (August 22nd) the committee met and ranked the position requests, both for tenure track and Librarians., and the requests for Instructors.

D. Keefe pointed out that the rankings were included in the attached report.

G. Whitehall reminded Senate of the healthy discussions held earlier in the year and the resolve for a new process of reporting that would welcome an era of open and reflective discussion by the APC. Background material would be

provided to the committee and Senate had been promised that the new process would allow for a depth of discussion not seen before.

G. Whitehall pointed out that there appeared to have been a straight numerical vote by the APC and that this was similar to the process previously abandoned by the TTTCAC, instead of the much more enlightened and transformative process that Senators were hoping for. He noted that five minutes for each Dean to present their Faculty information followed by a five-minute allocation for potential questions, resulted in a report very similar to that given previously. G. Whitehall felt that the report was being presented in a similar way to the A&AS (Appeals) Committee report, i.e. merely as a numerical list of actions.

G. Whitehall felt that the APC's work was extremely important to the central mandate of Senate and felt the report to be underwhelming because of the scant amount of detailed information that had been provided. He pointed out that he would have expected to hear more about the deliberations at the meeting, the rationales of how the rankings were arrived at and to have received background information regarding how many applications had been submitted to the Academic Planning Committee; also where those applications might be now.

G. Whitehall commented that this was something that he had warned Senate about during previous Senate meetings.

The Chair offered to answer any questions that G. Whitehall had about the work of the A&AS (Appeals) Committee if he had any.

G. Whitehall clarified that the level of detail provided was suitable for the A&AS (Appeals) but not for the Academic Planning Committee.

D. Keefe responded that although each Dean had five minutes to summarize, all of the documentation had previously been circulated to the committee well in advance. More than five minutes was also allocated for each Dean and the committee then continued with a more general discussion of all of the positions. He stated that the committee members decided to rank the positions through a voting mechanism. He explained that the committee decided to submit their initial rankings first so that all could see where there were areas of agreement or disagreement. Once those were submitted and had been tallied up there proved to be significant agreement over how the positions had been ranked. D. Keefe pointed out that because there had been plenty of discussion around the position requests and members of the committee had the opportunity to ask the Deans for information about conversations at the Faculty Council level, a consensus was arrived at.

D. Keefe noted the fact that these rankings were being done at a reactive level and stated that the committee still needed to work out how to become involved in the long-range planning for the Institution. He offered to provide a different sort of report if that was the wish of Senate.

L. Aylward agreed that there had been a lot of discussion at Senate about the new process and stated that her hope had been that this would be connected

to academic planning, rather than just to data gathering, ranking and voting. It was important to look at three-year and five-year periods while looking at the whole Institution and not pitting one academic unit against another. L. Aylward asked whether the committee was going in this direction.

L. Aylward also noted that this particular year there had been a rush to get information by July 1st and to start the process on position hiring, and that the intention was to expand the process to include planning in the next year.

D. Keefe agreed that this was the case and that the process this year did not include academic planning. This would include more integrated planning in terms of the academic priorities that were driving the overall budget priorities, but also needed to have a multi-year academic component to the academic planning. He noted that the committee members were supportive of moving in that direction.

L. Aylward asked what sort of information was received by the Academic Planning Committee.

A. Vibert responded that the process was as normal. Units submitted their requests to the Deans and embedded those requests in the context of shorter and longer-term needs. In Professional Studies all discussions were centered on both the immediate and the longer-term needs and planning. She noted that the Directors and Head created a ranking or binning which then went on to the APC.

S. Currie added that from her perspective the process remained imperfect but that it seemed to be moving in the right direction. The Faculty of Pure and Applied Science several meetings were held to discuss all of the proposals before putting forward a ranked list that was ensconced in a plan. S. Currie felt that the mood around the table during the two meetings of the APC was positive and also that the five to seven minutes each Dean spent summing up was sufficient.

A. Quema echoed support for the previous comments and noted that she was a member on the APC for the first time. A. Quema addressed the issue of the time spent by the committee and noted that substantial time was spent both discussing the process and the various submissions. The committee had met on two occasions.

A. Quema found the process to be extremely fair and democratic with no manoeuvring by any committee member (pointing out that the majority of members on the committee were women). A. Quema also noted that the committee took into account both quantitative and qualitative information so that the approach was very balanced.

A. Quema pointed out that all of the committee members were open to the notion of planning and wanted to contribute within Senate and the Faculties to this planning. However, in ranking the position requests attention was also given to situations whereby a program was dependent on one additional hiring just in order to be able to continue to offer their program. Years of lack of

hiring resulted in the need to plug holes in the short term but it was expected that in the future more long-term planning would take place.

A. Quema asked Senators to study the list and noted that it was very well balanced with all three Faculties represented in the first three positions. This was repeated further down the list also.

A. Wilks suggested that to improve in the future more information could be put into the report from the Academic Planning Committee. She noted that during a year when there might prove to be an imbalance between the Faculties Senate would like to have the rationale provided.

G. Whitehall agreed that this information should be included in the report and that some of the content that happened in the deliberations needed to be provided. This would enable Senators to know about some of the planning priorities, directions, trends and concerns that had been articulated. He pointed out that the APC was a Standing Committee of Senate and that Senate deserved to know the details in order to properly fulfil Senate obligations.

G. Whitehall asked whether the APC, given its current mandate, would be bringing forward a recommendation to Senate to accept the ranking.

D. Keefe agreed that a recommendation in the form of a motion could certainly be made but he noted that he was new to the procedure.

The Chair stated that lengthy discussions had been held earlier in the year and that in January it had been agreed by Senate that for 2019 this would be a report provided for information. It had also been agreed in January 2019 that the process would be re-visited in January 2020 for an examination of the process.

A. Vibert noted that the APC was a sub-committee of Senate and that in no other cases were the full deliberations of the committee provided to Senate in their reports. She felt that the APC had been quite clear that members were happy to entertain any questions that a Senator might have of the committee.

A. Vibert pointed out that information regarding the process to be followed by the committee was all laid out in the description of the mandate of the committee. A. Vibert agreed that the APC could provide more information to Senators if it was requested.

M. Adam expected that there would always be questions for the APC when their report came to Senate and he thanked both the committee for a succinct and clear report, and for the good answers that had been provided to Senators. He felt that the process was working well.

S. Currie stated that the committee took pains to take an Acadia wide view when decisions were being made on these positions.

A. Quema agreed that although each member of the committee was from a particular academic unit and Faculty efforts were taken to step back and

consider the whole picture while remaining fair and balanced in their approach. She felt that this approach was the beginning of planning.

G. Whitehall explained that he was not requesting that full deliberations of the committee be provided but that key discussions could certainly be included in the report. He felt it was important not just to report on events that were happening and that a holistic approach needed to be taken. G. Whitehall reminded Senate that the Provost and VPA was empowered to disregard the rankings.

D. Keefe responded that the intent of the process was not to allow the Provost & VPA to ignore the recommendations of the committee. He felt that the intent of the new process was to make allowance for deviations that could be necessary throughout the year as circumstances evolved. He expected that Senate would hold the individual in the office of the Provost accountable as to why they might deviate from the list.

The Chair looked forward to other reports from the Provost & VPA that included aspects of academic planning.

L. Aylward stated that the School of Education had not engaged in detailed planning because they were dealing with crisis management. She felt that there could be other academic units on campus that had not had experience in academic planning and asked whether there might be some guidance provided by the APC to the units.

S. Currie responded that a short list had been provided this year to the academic units and she felt that this had helped with levelling the playing field. For the future Senate could discuss what sort of information should be submitted to the APC.

R. Murphy asked about the next steps. Their unit had received a late authorization in the spring for a July start date. He felt that when the former TTTCAC was operating the units received authorizations early in the fall term.

D. Keefe agreed that this was a concern. He noted that there were a number of budgetary uncertainties but expected that in the next two months advertising for some of the positions that were higher up the list should commence.

A. Quema understood that the APC would be meeting again to continue discussions around the planning process. She also noted that it had been a pleasure to work with D. Keefe and pointed out that he had not tried to control the process or the deliberations.

6) Other Business

There was no other business.

7) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. Moved by D. Benoit

ORIGINAL SIGNED

R. Hare, Recording Secretary

Announcements

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SENATE – SEPTEMBER, 2019:

Welcome to a New Academic Year

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

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

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

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

Hurricane Dorian

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

New Appointments

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

Acadia 2025 Strategic Plan

The summer has been a busy period for the strategic planning process. Following the last report of the Strategic Planning Task Force in May, in which the strategic directions were defined (see https://acadia2025.acadiau.ca/tl_files/sites/Acadia%202025/Acadia%202025%20-%20Strategic%20Directions%20May-16-2019.pdf), we have engaged the Task Force members with the university's leadership team to generate a draft of the plan itself. Since the end of the 2018-19 academic year, the Strategic Plan Task Force members have been consulting across campus and beyond, and senior academic and administrative leaders have been working alongside them to refine strategic themes, goals, and actions that are reflective of how we as a community envision capitalizing on opportunities and meeting challenges that are ahead of us. We engaged the Task Force in a strategic planning review with the Board of Governors at the annual Board Retreat in June, and then we established working groups to address each strategic direction and their associated goals, objectives and key performance indicators. We have adopted *Transforming Lives for a Transforming World* as a working title for the plan, as this reflects what Acadia does so well in providing a transformative educational experience that prepares students for success in their lives and their careers. The next draft of the plan will be distributed to the entire Acadia community very soon for comment and feedback. I am hopeful that everyone will take the time to read it and provide any comments that will strengthen its content so that we can present the final version to the Board of Governors in October. I will be asking for Senate to have the opportunity to discuss the draft plan either at a special meeting or at the October meeting.

Progress on Provincial MOU

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

Maple League Town Hall

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

Federal/Provincial Visits

The summer season saw a number of visits from federal and provincial ministers. On August 6, the new federal Minister for Rural Economic Development and MP for South Shore-St. Margarete's, Bernadette Jordan, paid a visit to campus and on Aug 26, Federal Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains, and the Nova Scotia Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Leo Glavine, made joint announcements of ACOA funding for the Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre and provincial funding for the Innovation Sandbox program. On August 27, Acadia hosted a visit by NS Minister of Labour and Advanced Education, Labi Kousoulis. After a meeting with the senior leadership team, Minister Kousoulis toured the newly refurbished science complex and the heating plant, both projects which received significant provincial infrastructure funding within the last few years. The Minister also toured the new SUB (to highlight the significant accessibility issues that we face with that building) and had a meeting with ASU President, Kyle Vandertoorn. Then on Aug 29, we had a visit from Chris Forbes, the Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to discuss opportunities for Acadia to expand our research and innovation initiatives in agriculture, food and technology, and to advance our Indigenous strategy. All of these visits were very successful, and they help to raise Acadia's profile provincially and federally.

EduNova

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

Amazing Race

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

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Peter Ricketts
President and Vice-Chancellor

PROVOST AND VPA REPORT TO SENATE - SEPTEMBER 2019:

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

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

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

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

Acadia Colleague Enhancement (ACE) Project

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

Enrolment Update

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

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

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

Dean FPS

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

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

FACULTY OF ARTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FACULTY OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

School of Business

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

School of Kinesiology

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

School of Music

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

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

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

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

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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

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

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

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

RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES

Research Awards

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

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

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

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

Industry & Community Engagement Office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Continued Mitacs Success for Acadia Graduate Students

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

Respectfully Submitted

Dale Keefe

ACADIA STUDENTS’ UNION:

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

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

COLLEGE OF DIVINITY/FACULTY OF THEOLOGY:

No report submitted.

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

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

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

There were two appeal deadlines:

June 14, 2019- for students who received notification of dismissal or probation by May 17

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

Considered during the June meetings (received by the June 14th deadline):

105 students with Dismissal academic standing

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

90 students with Probation academic standing

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

Considered in August:

11 additional students with Dismissal academic standing

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

4 additional students with Probation academic standing

- 1 student appealed
- 0 appeals granted

The committee for 2018-2019 was:

Chair (Chair of Senate): A. Kiefte — ex-officio

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

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

1 Arts faculty member: Michael Dennis

1 Arts faculty member: Stephen Maitzen (until June 2019), *vacant* (as of July 2019)

1 Prof. St. faculty member: Harish Kapoor

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
A. Kiefte
Chair

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

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

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

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

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

There are three steps to complete:

Step 1- Required Self-Reflection Questionnaire:

A series of questions about your academic experiences at Acadia.

Step 2- Required Personal Letter:

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

Step 3- Additional Documents:

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

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

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

- Any other paperwork documenting your circumstances.

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

Additional information considered by the committee:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AASA Report APPENDIX 2

Step 1- Required Academic Appeal Self-Reflection Questionnaire:

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

Are you completing this appeal for yourself?

- Yes
- No

What degree program are you registered in?

How long have you been studying at Acadia University?

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

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

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

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

Why did you choose to study at Acadia University?

Why did you choose your current academic program?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Did any of the following have an impact on you?

- Emotional difficulties
- Extra-curricular activities

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

- Yes
- No

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

Committee Membership:

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

Mandate:

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

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

Meetings:

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

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

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

RankScore

1. Education 2.44
2. Sociology 2.78

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Keefe