

Email to the Campus Community
October 1, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to update you on the ongoing work to create StFX's first academic plan. This process, being led by the Senate Academic Planning and Priorities (APP) Committee, was initiated last academic year. Information about the exercise is available on the [AVP website](#). That site also includes the [academic plan discussion document](#) that was created to inform and frame the consultation phase of this exercise. I encourage everyone to take some time to review the discussion document and the supporting data included in it.

Consultation Sessions:

In-person consultation sessions for faculty and staff are being scheduled for October - November. These sessions will explore the ideas introduced in the discussion document. The sessions will be in-person and last about 1.5 hours. Participants will pre-register and size will be limited to 25 people. We are also partnering with the Student's Union to hold sessions specifically for students. Members of the community will also be able to give their feedback on ideas in the discussion document through an online survey tool.

In addition to the general consultation sessions, we are also teaming up with Student Life to jointly offer sessions on issues that overlap the Academic and Student Life areas. These include:

- First-year experience,
- Mental health,
- Experiential learning,
- Distance learning.

Details about all these sessions will be shared in the coming days.

Simultaneous planning exercises:

There are currently several planning exercises taking place across campus in addition to this academic planning exercise (the University-wide Strategic Plan; a new Student Experience and Opportunity Plan; an Accessibility Plan; the President's Action Committee on Anti-racism). Recognizing that all these processes draw on people's time and attention, we have been working with the groups leading these initiatives to find ways to coordinate efforts and align the recommendations.

Incoming AVP:

This academic plan exercise was well underway prior to the departure of Dr. Wamsley, so we will continue with the exercise, building on that work that had already started. APP is, however, considering ways to adjust the timeline to give the incoming AVP the opportunity to participate in the process. We will keep the community informed as we make any adjustments.

Sincerely,

Timothy W. Hynes
Academic Vice-President & Provost (Acting)