



Senate Meeting

Algoma University

Hybrid Meeting: CC201 (SSM), B-301 SCIE Centre (Brampton) & Zoom

2025-09-12 13:00 - 15:00 EDT

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Land Acknowledgement

Professor P. Matthews will provide a personalized land acknowledgement.

1.2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

1.3. Any addition to the agenda or materials to be pulled out of the consent agenda for discussion

2. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved [/]: That the consent agenda for the September 12, 2025 meeting of the Senate be approved.

2.1. Items for Approval

2.1.1. Agenda: September 12, 2025

2.1.2. Senate Minutes: June 6, 2025.....6

2025-09-12- Senate Minutes June 6, 2025 Draft.pdf.....6

2.1.3. Senate Minutes: June 11, 2025.....20

2025-09-12 - Senate Meeting Minutes: June 11, 2025 Draft.pdf.....20

2.1.4. E-Vote: 2025-2026 Speaker of Algoma University Senate.....28

2025-09-12 E-Vote - 2025-2026 Speaker of Algoma University Senate.pdf.....28

2.2. Committee Reports for Information NR = No Report

2.2.1. Academic Planning and Priorities Committee - NR

2.2.2. Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee - NR

2.2.3. Appeals and Academic Standards Committee - NR

2.2.4. Board-Senate Liaison Committee - NR

2.2.5. Curriculum Committee - NR

2.2.6. I-EDI Committee - NR

2.2.7. Quality Assurance Committee - NR

2.2.8. Research Advisory Committee - NR	
2.2.9. Senate Governance Committee - NR	
2.2.10. Teaching and Learning and Technical Support Services - NR	
2.3. Standing Reports for Information	
2.3.1. Decanal Reports	
2.3.1.1. Faculty of Business & Economics - NR	
2.3.1.2. Faculty of Computer Science and Technology.....	29
2025-09-12 - Dean's Report - FCST.pdf.....	29
2.3.1.3. Faculty of Science.....	34
2025-09-12 - Dean Report - FS .pdf.....	34
Appendix A.pdf.....	36
2.3.1.4. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences - NR	
2.3.1.5. Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies - NR	
2.3.2. NORDIK Institute.....	38
2025-09-12 - NORDIK Report.pdf.....	38
2.3.3. COU Academic Colleague.....	39
2025-09-12 COU Colleague Report .pdf.....	39
2.3.4. Vice-President Academic and Research.....	45
2025-09-12 - VPAR Report.pdf.....	45
2.3.5. Interim President and Vice-Chancellor.....	52
2025-09-12 - Interim President and Vice-Chancellor Report.pdf.....	52
3. BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information)	
3.1. Senate Membership.....	59
<i>Moved [/]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the revised Senate membership slate as presented, effective retroactively from July 1, 2025.</i>	
2025-09-12 - Senate Membership 2025-2026.pdf.....	59
3.2. Senate Committee Membership.....	61
<i>Moved [/]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the revised Senate Committee membership slate as presented, effective retroactively from July 1, 2025.</i>	
2025-09-12 - Senate Committee Membership 2025-2026.pdf.....	61
3.3. Appointment of Dr. Dwayne Keough as Director of the School of Psychology (as opposed to the Chair)	
3.4. Fall 2025 Joint Board-Senate Strategy Session Dates	
Friday, October 24, 2025, tentatively scheduled from 5:30 pm to 9 pm	
Saturday, October 25, 2025, tentatively scheduled from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm	

3.5. Faculty of Science Recommendations for Adjunct Status Effective August 1, 2025

Note: These were approved by the Senate Executive Committee to allow for the Adjuncts to be hired for the Fall Semester. They need ratification by the Senate.

3.5.1. Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone.....69

Moved [/]: That Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years starting August 1, 2025

2025-09-12 - Adjunct Professor - Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone.pdf.....69

3.5.2. Dr. Carlos Baretto.....70

Moved [/]: That Dr. Carlos Baretto be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years beginning August 1 2025.

2025-09-12 - Adjunct Professor - Dr. Carlos Baretto.pdf.....70

3.5.3. Dr. Riley Jones.....71

Moved [/]: That Dr. Riley Jones be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years beginning August 1, 2025

2025-09-12 - Adjunct Professor - Dr. Riley Jones.pdf.....71

4. DECISION ITEMS (for action)

4.1. Quality Assurance Committee Recommendation

4.1.1. New Program - MA Psychotherapy.....72

Moved:[/] That the Algoma University Senate approve the new program proposal as prepared by the Department of Psychology and recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee

2025-09-12 - QUALCOM Recommendation - New Program, MA in

Psychotherapy.pdf.....72

4.2. Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendation

4.2.1. MA Psychotherapy Hiring Recommendation

Moved [/]: That the Algoma University Senate recommend that the President approve the hires for the MA in Psychotherapy, as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

[2025-09-12 - MAP FT Hiring Package \(MA Psychotherapy\)](#)

5. PRESENTATIONS - N/A

6. DISCUSSION & QUESTION PERIOD

6.1. Scheduled Dates for 2025-2026 Convocations

Moved [/]: That the Senate approve the proposed spring 2026 convocation dates as follows:

- Saturday, June 13, 2026 - Sault Ste. Marie Spring Convocation
- Wednesday, June 17, 2026 - Brampton Spring Convocation
- Thursday, June 18, 2026 - Brampton Spring Convocation

SEN - 12 SEP 2025 - Convocation Dates Spring 2025.....74

7. MATTERS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

This is for any item(s) that may be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

8. OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Senior's free tuition program closed (Communication with Senate Executive)

8.2. For information from the Faculty of Business and Economics

The Faculty of Business and Economics held a vote to determine its recommendation to the President for an internal Interim Dean for the Faculty of Business and Economics. The results of the vote were that Dr. Nusrate Aziz won.

8.3. Motion to Affirm the Prohibition on On-Campus Students Registering in Online

Sections

Moved [/]:

WHEREAS Senate has received evidence from the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology that students taking online sections do not perform well when transitioning into subsequent on-campus courses;

WHEREAS Senate voted in favor of prohibiting first- and second-year core COSC courses from being taken online by on-campus students well over a year ago; WHEREAS The Department of Computer Science and Mathematics further reaffirmed this principle by extending this prohibition to include all core COSC courses from being taken online by on-campus students approximately a year ago;

WHEREAS Prior to the start of the 2025 Spring term at the meeting of Senate in May 2025, Senate unanimously voted in favor of extending this principle further by having this prohibition include all COSC and ITEC courses from being taken online by on-campus students;

WHEREAS administrative scheduling challenges have resulted in insufficient numbers of on-campus sections being opened in the current term;

WHEREAS proposals have already been informally raised to place on-campus students into online sections to alleviate overflow, contrary to Senate's prior decisions and to the detriment of student success;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Senate reaffirms its prior decisions and directs that under no circumstances shall on-campus students be placed into online sections of ITEC or COSC courses as overflow when on-campus sections are full;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the responsibility for ensuring adequate on-campus offerings lies with administration, and Senate directs that course planning must provide sufficient in-person sections to meet the needs of all on-campus students.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. IN CAMERA SESSION

When the Senate declares a meeting or part of a meeting in camera, reasons for so declaring will be clearly stated by the Speaker of the Senate prior to moving in camera. Where the Senate has resolved to move in camera, the room shall be cleared except for all members of the Senate and individuals requested by the Speaker to stay for purposes of assisting the Senate with its deliberations.

Only members entitled to be present in camera meetings may be informed of the proceedings that transpire. Accordingly, items of business dealt with by the Senate in camera shall appear as appendices to the record and shall be recorded in a spate of minutes, available only to members of the Senate.

If any motions are passed in camera, upon returning to the open meeting, the Speaker will ask Senators for a motion to record the approval of those in camera motions in a manner that does not release confidential information

Moved [/]: *That the Senate move in camera.*

Moved [/]: *To record the approval of any motions made in camera in a manner that does not release confidential information.*

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved [/]: *To adjourn the Senate meeting.*

MINUTES

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science: Dr. L. Burnett, Prof. J.P. Chalykoff, Dr. N. Murray, Dr. D. Nyaga, Dr. A. Ridout, Dr. T. Tchir, Dr. E. Turgeon, Dr. D. Woodman
[absent/regrets: Dr. K. DeLuca, Prof. S. Lepage [PTF]]

Faculty of the School of Business and Economics: Prof. C. Denomme, Dr. A. Gordon, Dr. H. Luitel, Prof. P. Matthews, Prof. B. Schuler-Chin
[absent/regrets: None]

Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies: Dr. N. Cameron, Dr. V. Jiménez-Estrada, Dr. S. Meades (Deputy Speaker), Dr. L. Wyper
[absent/regrets: None]

Faculty of Science: Dr. T. Bruni, Dr. P. Dupuis, Dr. D. Keough, Dr. N. Shaw (Speaker), Dr. C. Zhang, Dr. M. Yavuz-Muren
[absent/regrets: Dr. B. Schamp]

Faculty of Computer Science and Technology: Prof. S. Bhadra [PTF], Dr. Y. Feng, Dr. M. Nasir, Dr. Z. Rahman, Dr. G. Townsend
[absent/regrets: N/A]

Other Members: Dr. L. Bloomfield, L. Brechin, Dr. S. Kosuta, E. Nahwegezhic, L. Neebar, M. Paul, Dr. D. Rogers, T. Spurway, Dr. S. Xu
[absent/regrets: T. Kakapshe, R. Mwaura, Vidhi, M. Wabano-McKay, Dr. W. Wei]

Guests: O. A. Kasm, M. Turco

Secretariat: S. Kelly, N. Ladouceur

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Dr. Laura Wyper delivered a land acknowledgement.

1.2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

- None.

2. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved [M. Paul / Dr. L. Bloomfield]: that the consent agenda for the June 6, 2025 meeting of the Senate be approved, as amended.

Carried.

The Speaker reminded Senators that the Senate meeting is scheduled to run until 4 pm, noting that a Special Senate meeting will be convened if all agenda items are not addressed before adjournment at that time.

Discussion:

- Dr. D. Woodman requested moving item 4.5 *Senate Governance Committee Recommendation* to the *in camera* agenda.
- Dr. S. Kosuta offered to provide an update on the interim presidential search and requested that it be added under *New Business*.
- Prof. H. Luitel requested the addition of an update on the decanal vacancy in the Faculty of Business and Administration under *New Business*.
- Dr. A. Ridout introduced motions under items 4.12 *Governance Concern with Temporary Pause to Admissions* and 4.13 *RCM Year One Funding Decision and its Impact on Faculty*. The noted motions were sent to Senators via email at 1:05 p.m.

2.1. Items for Approval

- 2.1.1. Agenda: June 6, 2025
- 2.1.2. Senate Minutes: May 2, 2025

2.2. Committee Reports for Information

- 2.2.1. Academic Planning and Priorities Committee - Submitted Late
- 2.2.2. Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee - NR
- 2.2.3. Appeals and Academic Standards Committee - NR
- 2.2.4. Board-Senate Liaison Committee - NR
- 2.2.5. Curriculum Committee - NR
- 2.2.6. I-EDI Committee - NR
- 2.2.7. Quality Assurance Committee - NR
- 2.2.8. Research Advisory Committee - NR
- 2.2.9. Senate Governance Committee - Submitted
- 2.2.10. Teaching and Learning and Technical Support Services - NR

2.3. Standing Reports for Information

- 2.3.1. Decanal Reports
 - 2.3.1.1. Faculty of Business & Economics - Submitted
 - 2.3.1.2. Faculty of Computer Science and Technology - Submitted
 - 2.3.1.3. Faculty of Science - Submitted
 - 2.3.1.4. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences - No Report
 - 2.3.1.5. Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies - No Report
 - 2.3.1.6. NORDIK Institute - Submitted
- 2.3.2. Vice-President Academic and Research Report - Submitted
- 2.3.3. Interim President and Vice-Chancellor Report - Submitted

3. BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information) - N/A

Discussion: None.

4. DECISION ITEMS (for action)

4.1. Designation of the Bachelor of Computer Science (Online Degree)

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend /Dr. M. Nasir]: *In light of the prior input and direction provided by the previous Registrar and the Faculty of Computer and Computational Sciences (FCCS) agreement, FCCS moves to approve the creation and use of the following designated degree name to appear on the parchments of graduates from all online programs: “Bachelor of Computer Science (Online Degree)”.*

Carried with seven (7) objections and ten (10) abstentions.

Discussion:

- Dr. G. Townsend outlined the rationale for the proposed motion, noting work done with the former Registrar to differentiate the wording on the parchment for online and in person Computer Science degrees, noting that the Faculty felt there was a significant difference in the degrees. It was outlined that this motion had gone to the Quality Assurance Committee however it did not fall within the Committee’s areas of oversight. Differences in attendance requirements for each delivery mode was outlined as well as the ability to enrol in online courses.
- The Registrar stated that she did not support the motion as delivery method or cadence is typically not included in the title of a program, noting that if this was not an equivalent degree, it should instead have a different name altogether. The VPAR further remarked that, based on data pulled from other universities, he was not aware of any institutions that followed such a practice. Dr. G. Townsend indicated that they have three different degrees, emphasizing that the Bachelor of Computer Science degree is the most rigorous one in terms of content covered and depth of student learning.
- Members of the Quality Assurance Committee noted that their role is to assess whether degree programs meet University Undergraduate Degree-Level Expectations (UUDLES) requirements. It was expressed that if both degrees meet these standards, no distinction should be made based solely on the mode of delivery, however, if the two programs are different, a name change would be more appropriate.
- A Senator inquired if the online degree was considered to be of lesser value than the traditional degree. It was noted that the referenced programs have differing course requirements.
- Senators noted their experience with employers inquiring about the mode of delivery, some of which included a perceived preference for in-class learning. It was further remarked that there is a rapid growth of online degree programs and that the Department of Business Administration Department are working to address this distinction by adopting different names instead.

4.2. Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations

4.2.1. BCOSC Computer Science Program Revision

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. Z. Rahman]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the Bachelor of Computer Science (3-year) online program as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Carried.

Discussion: None.

4.2.2. BCOSC Online General Accelerated in Computer Science, Major Modification

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. M. Nasir]: *To amend the main motion by adding the following at the end of the motion: “and to approve the creation and use of the following designated degree name to appear on the parchments of graduates from all accelerated programs: “Bachelor of Computer Science (General - Accelerated)”.*

Carried.

- A point of privilege was raised regarding sharing the agenda with the media. The Speaker responded that she was not able to share the agenda at that time.
- A point of order was raised to note that, following the vote to amend the main motion, a vote on the amended main motion was still required.

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. M. Nasir]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed program revision, substantial major modification to the Bachelor of Computer Science (General - Accelerated) program, as presented by the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics and to approve the creation and use of the following designated degree name to appear on the parchments of graduates from all accelerated programs: “Bachelor of Computer Science (General - Accelerated)”.*

Carried.

4.2.3. Librarian CLTA Hiring Request

Moved [T. Spurway / M. Paul]: *That the Senate recommend to the President one (1) CLTA Academic Librarian hire for a one year period as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Carried with one abstention.

Discussion:

- In response to a question, it was explained that the position has not been assigned to a specific campus in order to increase the candidate pool.

4.2.4. Approval of New Academic Examination Policy

Moved [L. Neebar / M. Paul]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the New Academic Examination Policy as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Carried with one objection.

Discussion:

- The Registrar introduced the motion, noting that the changes were made to strengthen the information and that feedback gathered through consultation with departments and Senate Committees had been incorporated.
- In response to a question the Registrar clarified that the five-day timeline for submitting grades was a recommended guideline, not a requirement.

- A Senator inquired about the removal of language regarding the possibility of requiring in-person final examinations, to which the Registrar clarified that the pilot project surrounding such was inconclusive due to a lack of an effective delivery method. She added that this could be reconsidered once a suitable solution is identified.

4.2.5. Revision to the Bachelor of Social Work Program - Substantial Major Modification

Moved [Dr. D. Woodman / Dr. L. Burnett]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed revision to the Bachelor of Social Work program as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- Dr. D. Woodman introduced the motion noting that it was put forward following significant program growth to allow asynchronous and synchronous delivery (RSA), as well as in-person instruction at the Sault Ste. Marie Brampton campuses to support the needs of students.

4.2.6. Admission requirements change: MSc Computer Science

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. Z. Rahman]: *that the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the Master of Science in Computer Science as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- It was noted that the purpose of this motion is to formalize the application process.

4.2.7. New Program Proposal: Graduate Certificate in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science

Moved [Dr. M. Nasir / Dr. S. Xu]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed new program: Graduate Certificate in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*
Carried with two abstentions.

Discussion:

- The VPAR expressed gratitude to the faculty and program development committee for their efforts in developing this graduate certificate as well as those included further on in the agenda to align with student interest and demand.

4.2.8. New Program Proposal: Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. S. Xu]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed new program: Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*
Carried with two abstentions.

Discussion:

- It was noted that the marketing team had advised the faculty to pursue this initiative due to its current popularity.

4.2.9. BCOSC4- XRTEC Specialization Proposal - Program Revision, Substantial Major Modification

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. S. Xu]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the Program Revision, Substantial Major Modification to the Bachelor of Computer Science (4 year) program as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Carried with one abstention.

Discussion:

- It was noted that this specialization is an excellent fit for the University, given the extensive expertise within the faculty in this field.

4.2.10. FBE Graduate Programming Hiring Request

The Interim President raised a point of order to clarify that the motion should be amended, as the Senate does not have the authority to approve hiring, but may instead recommend it to the President.

Moved [Prof. P. Matthews / Dr. A. Gordon]: *To amend the main motion to remove the word 'approve' and add the words 'recommend to the President' after the word 'Senate'.*

Carried with one abstention.

Moved [Dr. A. Gordon / Dr. H. Luitel]: *That the Senate recommend to the President, for the smooth operation of the graduate programs, three new hiring requests (One CLTA mainly for MSBA in Sault Ste. Marie, one CLTA mainly for MGBE in Sault Ste. Marie, and one CLTA mainly for MGBE in Brampton) to support the graduate programs as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Carried.

4.2.11. APPCOM Request for Academic Update Deadline Extension

Note: *A letter was sent to the Senate to request "that Senate grant an extension to the September Senate meeting for the submission for the updates of the academic programmes of the University".*

Moved [Prof. P. Matthews / Dr. G. Townsend]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the extension of the report to Senate until the September Senate meeting.*

Carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator raised a question regarding the implications of the extension, noting the committee's membership will change. The Chair of APPCOM explained the need for timely data for the 2024-25 academic year which was still being finalized.

- A Senator noted that the data previously provided to the Senate did not reflect the impact of program changes implemented over the last two years.
- A Senator noted that the temporary pause to admissions would likely result in reduced enrollment and asked how the extension might affect the metrics of the affected programs, further inquiring whether those programs would be given a chance to recover.
- The Chair of APPCOM noted that the committee plans to develop a dashboard over the summer that will incorporate qualitative elements - such as the University's mission, its access mandate, and its role in serving Indigenous communities - with the intent of identifying criteria for lifting the suspension.
- A point of order was raised to clarify that no programs have been suspended; rather it is the student intake that has been paused.
- A Senator asked whether the Chair of APPCOM was seeking Senate's approval for the extension through a formal motion. Subsequently, a motion was brought forward from the floor.

4.3. Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations

4.3.1. Revisions to Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP)

Moved [Dr. P. Dupuis / Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada]: *That the Senate approve the revised Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) as prepared, presented and recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.*

Carried with one abstention.

Discussion:

- The Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee introduced the motion noting that the main change was to reduce duplication of process between the Senate Academic Planning and Priorities Committee and the Senate Quality Assurance Committee.
- The President expressed gratitude for the efforts of both Senate Committees and commended the thoroughness of the revisions made to the IQAP.

4.4. Curriculum Committee Recommendations

4.4.1. Minor Modification: CESD1206

Moved [Dr. A. Ridout / Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modification to the Community Economic and Social Development (CESD) program that includes the addition of a prerequisite for CESD1206 Social Service Administration in First Nations Communities as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.*

Carried.

Discussion: None

4.4.2. Minor Modification: English Program

Moved [Dr. A. Ridout / Dr. A. Gordon]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modification to the English degree program as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.*

Carried.

Discussion: None.

4.5. Senate Governance Committee Recommendation

NOTE: This item was moved, upon request, to the in camera portion of the agenda

4.6. Faculty of Science Recommendation

4.6.1. Development of a School of Psychology

Moved [Dr. D. Keough / Dr. L. Bloomfield]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the Algoma University Department of Psychology to become the Algoma University School of Psychology within the Faculty of Science as recommended by the Department of Psychology and the Faculty of Science.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- The Acting Dean of Science introduced the motion, outlining the department of Psychology's significant offerings and recent growth warranting the transition from a Department to a School and the development of a multi-department structure aligned with the various degrees offered.

4.7. Senate Membership 2025-2026

Moved [Dr. D. Woodman / T. Spurway]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the slate as presented for Senate membership effective July 1, 2025, including amendments introduced from the floor.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- The Dean of Science explained that a call for Senate Member-at-Large in her faculty was delayed because she had not yet received the necessary information regarding the number of at-large seats allocated to the Faculty of Science. She noted that the proportional representation had not yet been determined by the Senate.
- Dr. L. Burnett requested an amendment to the Senate Membership slate to include Dr. Trevor Tchir, Chair of Law & Politics and Dr. Warren Johnston, FHSS Member-at-Large.
- The VPAR requested an amendment to the Senate Membership slate to remove Dr. W. Wei.
- Dr. D. Keough nominated Dr. Teryn Bruni and Dr. Paul Dupuis, as Members-at-Large for the Faculty of Science.
- A Senator expressed concern that there is no consistent, transparent and equitable process in place across faculties for electing part-time faculty members to the Senate. Another Senator noted that, in the past, faculty chairs positions were involved in this. It was clarified that a process exists for the Part-Time Union to run the elections; however this had not occurred this year. A request was made to contact the Union and ask that they conduct the elections in accordance with Senate By-laws.

- A Senator brought to the attention of the Senate that the Department of Applied Business and Executive Education (ABSEE), which currently has a Chair who holds a seat on Senate, is expected to run out of students by the end of the calendar year due to programs being phased out. The current Chair of ABSEE inquired about Senate expectations regarding the department's future. It was recommended that the department convene a meeting and hold a vote to determine whether it should continue to exist. The President clarified that all Faculty of Business and Economics are part of this department and emphasized that the outcome of this decision would not have a negative impact on faculty, as no one would be left without a departmental affiliation.
- The Deputy Speaker reminded Senators that vacancies can be filled throughout the Senate cycle, noting that it is not unusual to have vacancies at this time of the year.

4.8. Amendment to Senate Committee Membership

Moved [Dr. N. Cameron / Dr. A. Gordon]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the modifications to the Algoma University Senate Committee Terms of Reference and Composition for the the following four committees: Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee, Appeals and Academic Standards Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Quality Assurance Committee as recommended by the Speaker of Senate.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- The Registrar introduced the motion explaining that the evolving nature of the University Registrar role over the past two years, combined with the limited capacity of one individual to serve on Senate and seven of its committees, as well as the need for subject matter expertise, led to the proposal for Associate Registrars to serve on specific Senate Committees in place of the Registrar.
- A Senator requested revisions to the Senate Committee terms of reference to include gender neutral language.
- In response to a question, the Speaker noted that the Senate has allowed for designates to be determined.

4.9. Senate Committee Membership 2025-2026

Moved [Dr. L. Burnett / M. Paul]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the slate as presented following Senate committee composition effective July 1, 2025, including amendments introduced from the floor.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- The following amendments to the Senate Committee Membership slate were introduced from the floor:
 - Include Dr. Walter Chan to the IEDI Committee as the FHHS Member
 - Remove Dr. Warren Johnston from the Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee as the FHSS Faculty Member.
 - Add Dr. Michael DiSanto to the Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee as the FHSS Faculty Member.
 - Add Dr. Nairne Cameron to the Governance Committee as the Senator from FCCS.

- Remove Lorretta Neebar from the Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee
- Add Shelley Mitchell as the designated Associate Registrar to the Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee
- Add Angela Catahan as the Associate Registrar, Admissions to the Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee
- Add Hanna Lin as the designated Associate Registrar to the Curriculum Committee
- Add Hanna Lin as the designated Associate Registrar to the Quality Assurance Committee
- In response to a question from a Senator from the Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies, the Speaker confirmed that the faculties may send membership updates for approval.

4.10. Approval of 2025–2026 Academic Year Significant Dates

Moved [M. Paul / E. Nahwegezhić]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the amended Significant Dates of the 2025-2026 Academic Year (2025 September - 2026 August).*

Carried with one objection.

Discussion:

- E. Nahwegezhić proposed designating September 30, 2025 as a non-instructional day in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, suggesting that keeping the university open would provide opportunity for all to participate in related activities.
- Management noted that in the first year the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was observed, the classes were cancelled. However, feedback received, particularly from Anishinaabe Initiatives and the Office of the Nyaagaaniid, indicated that this placed undue pressure on them to lead all related activities. On their recommendation, classes were not canceled in subsequent years, with the hope that related initiatives would be included in classroom learning. In response, it was noted that despite this change, the responsibility for such has not been meaningfully shared.
- Senators discussed the lack of participation and the need for collective responsibility. It was also noted that designating the day as non-instructional would allow Indigenous students to participate in ceremonies either on campus or within their own communities. A Senator called on faculty to come together to organize a learning opportunity focused on the Special Mission and the Calls for Action. Another Senator inquired whether classes could resume after the commemoration program concluded, in order to minimize instructional disruption.

Moved [Dr. D. Woodman / E. Nahwegezhić]: *That the Senate remove September 30, 2025 as an instructional day from the 2025-2026 Academic Year Significant Dates.*

Carried with two abstentions.

Discussion on amendment

- A Senator inquired whether the optional instructional make-up day on December 3, 2025 could be used to replace September 30, 2025. The Registrar responded that it would be possible, but courses may have to be delivered online. She added that her office could assist with room booking upon request from individual faculty members.
- A question was raised regarding why the current spring semester consisted of only ten weeks of classes. It was clarified that this decision had been approved by the Senate. The Registrar noted her intention to plan academic calendars three years in advance, even if the significant dates for each academic year continue to be approved annually.

Discussion on main motion

- A Senator requested giving priority for room booking during the optional instructional make-up to instructors whose classes are cancelled on September 30, 2025. The Registrar noted that December 3, 2025 falls on a Wednesday, which may not work for everyone.

4.11. Appointment of Adjunct Professor: Dr. Violet Butterwort

Moved [Dr. L. Bloomfield / Dr. D. Keough]: *That Dr. Violet Butterwort be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2025.*

Carried.

Discussion:

- The Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science spoke in support of the candidacy of Dr. V. Butterwort

4.12. Governance Concern with Temporary Pause to Admissions

The motion, emailed to Senators by Dr. A. Ridout at 1:05 pm on June 6, 2025, was read aloud to the Senate.

Moved [Dr. A. Ridout / Dr. G. Townsend]: *To bring onto the floor the motion on the Temporary Pause to Admission for discussion.*

Carried with three objections.

Moved [Dr. A. Ridout / Dr. G. Townsend]: *Whereas the Algoma University Act of 2008 assigns to Algoma University the Special Mission to: “(a) be a teaching-oriented university that provides programs in liberal arts and sciences and professional programs, primarily at the undergraduate level, with a particular focus on the needs of northern Ontario; and (b) cultivate cross-cultural learning between aboriginal communities and other communities, in keeping with the history of Algoma University College and its geographic site. 2008, c. 13, s. 4.”*

And whereas Article 24 of the Algoma University Act gives the Senate responsibility “(a) to make recommendations to the Board with respect to the establishment, change or termination of programs and courses of study, schools, faculties, divisions and departments;” and “d) to determine the curricula of all programs and courses of study, the standards of admission to the University and continued registration therein, and the qualifications for degrees, diplomas and certificates of the University”;

And whereas the recent Algoma University Board decision to pause intake into five programs did not come through Senate;

And whereas the recent Board decision to pause intake into five programs relied primarily on program-based Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) metrics and student application data that predated recruitment's campaign to convert student applications into registrations, which do not fully capture the academic contribution of departments that provide essential electives for students in all programs to complete their degrees and make it possible for Algoma University to fulfill its Special Mission;

And whereas a course-based FTE model more accurately reflects academic units' total teaching load, cross-program course provisions, and contributions towards the fulfillment of the Special Mission;

Be it resolved that the Senate objects to the Board's failure to respect the Senate's role in our shared bicameral governance of Algoma University together in reaching their decision to pause intake into five academic programs: Geography, History, Music, Sociology, and Visual Arts;

Be it further resolved that the Senate directs the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee to base all academic planning exercises, including program review, resource allocation recommendations, and departmental evaluations that impact academic offerings on course-based FTE data not just program-based FTE;

Be it further resolved that the Senate recommends the Board respect its academic expertise and jurisdiction over academic matters and similarly adopts course-based FTE data for Algoma University's internal program evaluations;

Be it further resolved that all suspended programs should be immediately continued and given a year to recover while the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee reevaluates those programs.

Carried with five objections and one abstention.

Discussion:

- The Interim President noted concern surrounding the motion being sent out during the Senate meeting providing little opportunity to review such. She then addressed the content of the motion, clarifying that the Board's decision was based primarily on application data, not FTE metrics, as the motion incorrectly indicated. She asked the drafter to clarify whether course-based FTEs or headcounts were being referenced. She further noted that the motion inaccurately stated that programs had been suspended.
- The Interim President noted factual errors included in the rationale provided with the motion which included that, the Ontario Ministry of Education does not oversee post-secondary education it is instead the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES); MCURES uses headcount rather than course-based FTE and that course-based FTEs were not used in the recently concluded Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA4); the report incorrectly states the Governor General when it should instead reference the

Auditor General. She further noted that in the financial reports for the 2022-2023 fiscal year obtained by faculty, headcount was used, not course-based FTEs.

- The VPAR echoed the Interim President's comments, adding that program-based FTEs reflect the full-time equivalent of program majors and emphasized that the University does not maintain programs solely to provide service courses. He explained that course-based headcounts include students not enrolled in the program, noting that this was not the primary mission of the programs. He stressed the importance of correctly interpreting each metric.
- A Senator asked whether the data used reflected projections for the 2024-2025 or a ten-year average, and whether improvements in a program's financial position over the year were considered in the decision. The Interim President responded that the data provided by her office included applicant numbers from OUAC to the five programs.
- Senators expressed concerns surrounding current applicant data noting that students not accepted into other institutions may accept their offer to Algoma University later in the spring/summer.
- Dr. L. Bloomfield raised a point of order, noting that no motion had been made to extend the meeting until 4:00 pm.

Moved [Dr. N. Shaw / Dr. L. Bloomfield]: to extend the meeting until 4:00 pm.

Carried with one objection.

- The Interim President raised a point of information, noting that there is a time sensitive issue included in the *in camera* agenda that needs to be addressed. The Speaker indicated that the meeting would move *in camera* at 3:30 pm.
- A Senator expressed the role of first and second year courses in attracting minors and that the large enrolment of these courses should support upper year courses. They expressed that not all programs will break even and that the university should focus on the special mission of the University rather than turning profit.
- A series of Senators voiced support for the motion noting the impact of the temporary pause to admissions places on their program and potential delivering of offerings. Concerns included the impact on transfer students, course requirements that overlapped with the programs with temporary pauses to admissions, program orientations that had already been scheduled, impacts on students switching their majors and concerns, about lack of advertising for specific questions as well as the ability to implement enhancements from program reviews.
- The need to advocate to the government for equitable funding was emphasized.
- A Senator expressed that the central point of the motion was to assert that the Board should have consulted the Senate before making its decision and that the decision should be immediately reversed. Senator voiced concern surrounding how the decision was made by the Board emphasizing a lack of consultation.
- A Senator acknowledged the mistakes included in the motion, noting that when the motion states that programs were suspended it meant program admissions had been suspended. They further supported using course-based metrics.
- As the proposing Senator, Dr. A. Ridout welcomed the Interim President's amendment and raised concerns about inconsistencies in the metrics being used.

She voiced a dissenting view to service courses as being outside the university's core mission and reaffirmed the university's responsibility to decolonize and emphasized that its mission is a collective one.

- The Interim President raised a point of order, noting that a parallel discussion was taking place in the Zoom chat and requested that the Speaker encourage Senators to voice their comments verbally rather than posting them in the chat.
- The Interim President confirmed that the Board leadership would be meeting with the full-time faculty union, and expressed that the union had indicated it would file a judicial review of the Board's decision. A Senator noted that the faculty union is awaiting the outcome of York University's judicial review, which was anticipated to be brought forward in November to set precedent for the body who has authority over such decisions.
- The Speaker of Senate requested a motion to amend the main motion to change headcount and to replace Governor General with Auditor General in the rationale to ensure it is factually correct.

Moved [Dr. G. Townsend / Dr. A. Ridout]: *To amend the motion to remove the word headcount, update the "Ministry of Education" to the "Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security", and to replace "Governor General" with "Auditor General".*

Carried with two objections and one abstention

- In response to a question about how the University should address non-compliance with the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario's recommendation, a Senator suggested informing the OAGO of the Board's decision and requesting a one-year reprieve for affected programs.

5. IN CAMERA SESSION

Moved [Dr. D. Woodman / Dr. S. Xu]: *that the Senate move in camera.*
Carried.

Discussion: None.

MINUTES

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science: Prof. J.P. Chalykoff, Dr. N. Murray, Dr. A. Ridout, Dr. T. Tchir, Dr. E. Turgeon, Dr. D. Woodman
[absent/regrets: Dr. L. Burnett, Dr. K. DeLuca, Prof. S. Lepage [PTF], Dr. D. Nyaga]

Faculty of the School of Business and Economics: Prof. C. Denomme, Dr. A. Gordon, Dr. H. Luitel, Prof. P. Matthews, Prof. B. Schuler-Chin
[absent/regrets: none]

Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies: Dr. N. Cameron, Dr. V. Jiménez-Estrada, Dr. S. Meades (Deputy Speaker), Dr. L. Wyper
[absent/regrets: none]

Faculty of Science: Dr. T. Bruni, Dr. P. Dupuis, Dr. B. Schamp, Dr. D. Keough, Dr. N. Shaw (Speaker), Dr. C. Zhang,
[absent/regrets: Dr. M. Yavuz-Muren]

Faculty of Computer Science and Technology: Prof. S. Bhadra [PTF], Dr. M. Nasir, Dr. Z. Rahman, Dr. G. Townsend
[absent/regrets: Dr. Y. Feng]

Other Members: Dr. L. Bloomfield, L. Brechin, I. Imre, L. Neebar, M. Paul, Dr. D. Rogers, T. Spurway, Dr. S. Xu
[absent/regrets: T. Kakapshe, Dr. S. Kosuta, R. Mwaura, E. Nahwegezhic, Vidhi, M. Wabano-McKay]

Secretariat: S. Kelly, N. Ladouceur

1. CALL TO ORDER

Note: the Special Meeting was called to continue with the outstanding items from the June 6, 2025 Senate Agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved [Dr. T. Tchir / Dr. D. Rogers]: that the agenda for the June 11, 2025 meeting of the Senate be approved as amended.

Carried.

Discussion:

- Dr. T. Tchir requested that an item be added to the agenda to approve a Program Revision, minor modification for within the Department of Law & Politics under other business which had been recommended by the Curriculum Committee.
- N. Shaw requested to add an item to vote on additions to the Committee slate for the 2025-26 governance cycle.

3. BUSINESS ARISING - N/A

4. **DECISION ITEMS** (for action)

4.1. Senate Membership

Moved [Dr. D. Keough / Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the slate as presented for Senate membership effective July 1, 2025, including amendments introduced from the floor.*

Carried.

Discussion:

- Dr. D. Keough nominated Dr. R. Cameron as Member-at-Large from the Faculty of Science.

4.2. Senate Committee Membership

Moved [Prof. P. Matthews / Dr. L. Wyper]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve the Senate Committee Composition slate as amended, effective July 1, 2025.*

Carried.

Discussions:

- The Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies submitted the following nominations:
 - Senate Executive Committee: Dr. Laura Wyper
 - Academic Planning and Priorities Committee: Dr. Laura Wyper
 - Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee: Dr. Laura Wyper
 - Appeals and Academic Standards Committee: Dr. Ushnish Sengupta & Isaac Darko (alternate)
 - Curriculum Committee: Dr. Sean Meades
 - Quality Assurance Committee: Dr. Laura Wyper
 - Research Advisory Committee: Dr. Michael Graydon
 - Senate Governance Committee: Dr. Nairne Cameron
 - Senate I-EDI Committee: Dr. Ushnish Sengupta
 - Teaching & Learning and Technical Support Services Committee

4.3. RCM Year One Funding Decision and its Impact on Faculty

NOTES: *This item was requested by a Senator who noted that "Faculty would like to make Senate aware of the decision making process surrounding these initiatives." The motion below was emailed to the Senate by Dr. A. Ridout on June 6, 2025 at 1:05 pm.*

Moved [Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada / Dr. G. Townsend]:

Whereas the reclamation of monies awarded under the RCM budget model indicates the failure of that budget model at Algoma University this year;

And whereas the RCM budget has created significant inequities between programs at Algoma University;

And whereas the RCM budget model has had negative impacts on academic programming and cross-program collaboration;

And whereas the problems and failures of RCM budget models at universities have been widely reported (including but not limited to the 2021 RCM at Rutgers: A Five-Year Review);

Be it resolved that the Senate recommends that Algoma University abandons the RCM budget model in favour of a model that will better support our Special Mission, equity across academic units, and academic collaboration and growth.

Carried with two objections and five abstentions.

Discussion:

- A Senator read a statement from faculties noting significant concerns with the RCM funding model.
- The Deputy Speaker noted that a two-thirds majority vote was required to bring the motion to the floor.

Moved [Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada / Dr. G. Townsend]: *To bring onto the floor the motion on the RCM Year One Funding Decision and its Impact on Faculty.*

Carried with two objections and three abstentions.

- The Interim President noted that the motion lacked clarity, as it did not identify a specific model to replace the RCM model and encouraged Senators to engage in a discussion to determine an appropriate alternative.
- In response, a Senator explained that they had deliberately chosen not to propose a specific replacement model, recognizing that it falls outside the Senate's purview and noting that the intent was to prompt a collaborative discussion between the Senate and administration.
- A Senator noted that the new model should address the concerns and limitations of the RCM model, noting that there are many formal budgeting models to choose from.
- A Senator proposed amending the motion to specify that the RCM model would be abandoned once a new model is identified. In response, it was reiterated that the Senate does not have direct authority over financial matters.
- A Senator noted that external factors such as government policy and funding had significant implications on the financial matters noted and emphasized the importance of advocacy to the federal and provincial government.

4.4. Algoma University Senate By-law Revision re. role of Secretary on AU Senate

NOTE: The revisions to the Senate By-laws were postponed at the May 2, 2025 Senate meeting. During the meeting a Senator circulated two separate copies with suggested revisions of the proposed By-laws based on their interpretation of the discussion.

Moved [Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada/ Dr. L. Wyper]: *That the Algoma University Senate approve changes to the by-laws to introduce the Secretariat and their duties and to provide for an elected Secretary.*

Carried with five objections and two abstentions

Discussion:

- The Interim President expressed concerns about the proposed changes, noting that she had raised these issues at several Senate Committee meetings. She highlighted the absence of a defined role for the Secretary of Senate under section 4.2 and questioned the change in terminology from "Secretary" to "Secretariat" under 4.4. She emphasized that the Senate does not have the

authority to specify the duties of the employees of the University, as that responsibility falls under the President's purview as determined by the Algoma University Act.

- The Associate University Secretary expressed concerns regarding the proposed changes, stating that they create unpredictable and in some areas unattainable working conditions for the Secretariat Office. She emphasized the role of the Secretariat Office in supporting effective governance by providing governance expertise to support the Senate's decision making processes. She noted that, prior to the Senate's motion surrounding its ability to play a parliamentary role, the Secretariat Office was tracking follow-up/cyclical items and ensuring compliance with legislation, the by-laws and governing documents. She expressed that the proposed changes could lead to concerns in compliance and consistency, potentially undermining the integrity of the Senate's decisions and posing risk to the University as a whole.
- A Senator expressed concerns about the Secretariat providing support to both the Board of Governors and Senate, highlighting what they perceived as a potential conflict of interest, suggesting that the Secretariat may take positions on contentious issues, such as the decision to temporarily pause program intake. The Associate University Secretary clarified that the support provided by the Secretariat to both the Board of Governors and the Senate is intended to facilitate their decision-making roles in a neutral manner by ensuring they have the necessary information to make informed decisions. She clarified that the decision to temporarily pause admission was not proposed by the Secretariat Office and as a neutral body did not take any position on such.
- Dr. A. Ridout noted that the proposed Secretary of Senate role should serve in a parliamentary role, specifically to support the Speaker of Senate in facilitating Senate proceedings.
- The VPAR requested a correction to the record, clarifying that no programs had been suspended.
- A Senator conveyed the view that it is not the role of any external authority to determine whether the Senate is violating its own rules. They further emphasized that all University employees have a responsibility to support Senate, characterizing this expectation as non-negotiable. They concluded by calling for a vote on the motion.
- The Interim President reiterated that, if passed, the motion would infringe upon the rights and authority of the President as outlined in the Algoma University Act.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Senate Consultation - Revised AVP Positions

The Vice-President Academic and Research presented the revised Associate Vice-President job descriptions in the spirit of consultation, noting that oversight of the National Centre of Excellence for Immersive Technology had been included under the portfolio of the AVP Research and Graduate Studies, as requested.

Discussion:

- None.

6. OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Curriculum Committee Recommendations

Note: Dr. T. Tchir requested that the following item be added to the agenda at the outset of the meeting. While approved by the Senate, this item did not end up getting discussed or approved during the meeting.

Program Revision, minor modification, BA3 Law & Justice (Single & Combined), BA4 Law & Justice (Honours & Non-Honours, Single & Combined) program

***Moved [/]:** To approve the program revision, minor modification to the BA3 Law & Justice (Single & Combined), BA4 Law & Justice (Honours & Non-Honours, Single & Combined) programs that includes the course revision to JURI 3206: Introduction to Criminal Law and Procedure.*

The Senate did not review this item during the meeting.

7. DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

- A Senator requested an update from the President on the university's financial situation, noting that it may be more serious than originally indicated.
- The Interim President noted that the Board of Governors passed the 2025-2026 Budget with a small surplus based on assumptions related to the University's usage of its 2,358 allocated Provincial Attestation Letters (PALs).
- The Interim President explained that if the University does not utilize at least 50% of its PALs, the Ministry may reallocate some of them. She shared the most recent update she received earlier in the week outlining that the University was not on track to meet the 50% threshold required by the MCURES deadline. She further added that if the Ministry reclaims a portion of the PALs, it will reduce the university's capacity to issue them in the second part of the year and have negative impacts on the University's finances.
- A Senator inquired about the internal allocation process for PALs and how they relate to the Post-Graduate Work Permit and program codes. The Senator noted that Geography had recently been reclassified as a STEM program and asked whether, in light of this change and the fact that it is a four-year degree, it would be possible to lift the pause on program admissions.
- In response to concerns regarding student enrolment and the University's cash-flow, the Interim President acknowledged the current challenges, but emphasized that these issues were not specific to Algoma University. She noted that more than half of Ontario universities are currently running structural deficits. The Province, she added, is expected to begin reviewing the funding formula next month.
- The Interim President highlighted the significant decline in funding faced by universities, citing the 10% tuition cut followed by a seven-year tuition freeze, as well as the recent changes by IRCC affecting eligibility for Post-Graduate Work Permits, factors that are beyond the university's control. She shared that the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) remained committed in its advocacy efforts and communicating the importance of the sector to the public and the economy.
- She further noted that while the provincial government has allocated additional funding for STEM programs, these come with higher operational costs. She expressed cautious optimism, stating her hope that the situation will improve within the next 12 to 18 months.

- In response to a question about whether the Board was willing to run a deficit to pay salaries, the Interim President stated that she did not know, as the Board had not yet discussed the matter.
- In response to a question about whether the university was doing everything possible to maximize its PALs allocation, the Interim President emphasized that the issue did not lie with program quality. She highlighted that the Faculty of Computer Science had been responsive in creating programs aligned with the new requirements. However, she noted that the recent changes introduced by IRCC had negatively impacted Canada's international reputation, and that it would take time to recover from such. She added that revenue diversification was a positive development.
- A Senator inquired about the support provided to programs that are exploring ways to diversify their offerings and attract students, specifically those programs that have experienced a pause in admissions. Concern was expressed about the lack of information surrounding the university's recruitment plans and with the vacant leased space in Brampton. Additionally, she asked how the University's Special Mission is being prioritized in its advocacy efforts and emphasized the needs for more transparent conversations moving forward.
- The Interim President explained that vacant space is currently on the sublease market. She emphasized that, despite the decline in enrollment numbers, the Brampton campus continues to generate revenue that maintains the University as a whole. She also highlighted that Algoma University continues to actively recruit domestic students across all three campuses. She expressed confidence that the provincial government will ultimately recognize that the sector's current financial situation is unsustainable. Additionally, she noted that the University is expecting its largest cohort of incoming domestic students.
- At the request of a Senator, the Interim President provided an overview of corridor funding noting current challenges with the model. She further noted that the Council of Ontario Universities (COU)'s advocacy work shows that by 2030, there could be up to 100 000 domestic students across Ontario outside the corridor, and without additional funding universities may be forced to stop admitting them.
- A Senator suggested holding a meeting with Department Chairs and interested faculty to collaboratively explore potential solutions to recruit international students, noting that many faculty members have long-standing relationships all over the world that could potentially be leveraged.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Election of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary of Senate

The Deputy Speaker chaired this item.

Moved [Dr. L. Bloomfield / Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada]: *To bring onto the floor the motion on the election of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Secretary of Senate.*
Carried.

Discussion:

- None.

Speaker of Senate Nominations

- The Interim President inquired why the process approved by the Senate last year for electing the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Senate was not followed this year. She pointed out that the approved process requires a call for expressions of interest, including submission of a Curriculum Vitae and a personal statement.
- The Speaker of Senate responded that she forgot to ask for nominations and to rectify this situation is asking for nominations to be forwarded to the Senate Executive for an electronic vote to take place afterwards.
- The Deputy Speaker made three separate calls for nominations for Speaker of Senate.
- Dr. D. Woodman nominated Dr. N. Shaw as Speaker of Senate. Her nomination was seconded by Prof. P. Matthews. Dr. Shaw accepted the nomination.
- A Senator requested a copy of the process governing the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Senate, or details about when the relevant motion was passed, in order to locate it in the Senate meeting minutes. The Deputy Speaker noted that this would be shared with Senators to ensure transparency.

Deputy Speaker of Senate Nominations

- The Deputy Speaker made three separate calls for nominations for Deputy Speaker.
- The Interim President thanked the Speaker and Deputy Speaker for their service this year.
- The former Speaker encouraged Senators to consider the appointment if they are interested in Senate-related work.
- Dr. N. Murray nominated himself. His nomination was seconded by Prof. P. Matthews.

Secretary of Senate Nominations

- The Deputy Speaker made three separate calls for nominations for the Secretary of Senate.
- Dr. D. Woodman nominated Dr. A. Ridout, with the nomination seconded by M. Paul. Dr. A. Ridout declined the nomination.
- Dr. L. Bloomfield nominated Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada, with the nomination seconded by Dr. G. Townsend. Dr. V. Jimenez-Estrada declined the nomination.
- The Deputy Speaker closed the nomination period noting that it would be reopened at the next Senate meeting.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS - N/A

10. IN CAMERA SESSION

The Senate held an *in camera* session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved [Dr. D. Rogers / Dr. G. Townsend]: to adjourn the Senate meeting.
Carried.

Prior to adjourning the meeting, the following discussion took place.

- A Senator expressed concerns that the nominees for the Speaker and Deputy Speaker positions were not members of Senate for the 2025-26 cycle. The Speaker acknowledged the concern and indicated that the matter would be addressed.
- The Speaker and Deputy speaker were thanked for their leadership.
- The Interim President was also thanked for her service to the University.

DRAFT



Nadya Ladouceur <nadya.ladouceur@algonau.ca>

Results of e-vote on Speaker of Algoma University Senate, for the 2025/26 term.

Sean Meades <sean.meades@algonau.ca>

Fri, Jun 27, 2025 at 4:36 PM

To: Senate <senate@algonau.ca>

Good afternoon everyone,

The e-vote on whether to accept Dr. Nikki Shaw's nomination as Speaker of Algoma University Senate, for the 2025/26 term ran from Tuesday, June 24th to Friday, June 27th at 4:30 p.m. Voting is now closed.

The results have been tabulated and the nomination is **approved**.

A quorum of eligible votes was received by the morning of Wednesday, June 25th, and in all 34 valid votes were cast by the closing of the poll today (35 votes were registered, but one of those was my own which was done to test the functionality of the poll before it was distributed. Typically, however, the person chairing a vote does not cast a ballot except in the case of a tie, and as such I am excluding the test vote that I cast from the total tally).

Congratulations to next year's Speaker of the Algoma University Senate, Dr. Nikki Shaw.

No nominations have yet been received for the positions of Deputy Speaker or Secretary. Please consider submitting a nomination when a new call for nominations is issued in the months to come. It has been an honour to serve you as Deputy Speaker these last 12 months, as well as a tremendous learning experience.

Wishing you all the very best in the academic year ahead,

Dr. Sean Meades

Pronouns / Pronoms: he / il

Chair, [Department of Community Economic and Social Development](#)

Assistant Professor, [Algoma University](#)

Research Associate, [NORDIK Institute](#)

SH418, [1520 Queen St. East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON](#)

[P6A 2G4](#)

705-949-2301 ext. 4235

sean.meades@algonau.ca

I wish to acknowledge that I am on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and Métis peoples. I also acknowledge that I am on sacred lands set aside for education as envisioned by Chief Shingwauk for our children and for those as yet unborn.

This email and any files transmitted with it are solely intended for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is confidential and privileged. If you believe that you have received this email in error, or that you are not the intended recipient, please advise me by return email immediately. Please also disregard the contents of the email, delete it, and destroy any copies immediately. Your attention to this is appreciated.

Faculty of Computer Science and Technology | September 2025

Report submitted by: Dr. Simon Xu - Acting Dean, Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

Date: 2025-09-12

Major Accomplishments of Faculty Members in Research, Teaching, and Service

Faculty Focus:

Hosted SNPD 2025 International Conference | Brampton, July 23–25, 2025

Algoma University's Faculty of Computer Science and Technology proudly hosted the 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025) at its Brampton Campus. The event brought together researchers, industry leaders, and students to share cutting-edge advances in AI, networking, and software engineering.

Co-organized with IEEE and ACIS, the three-day conference featured approximately 75 peer-reviewed research paper presentations, keynote speeches on machine learning, cybersecurity, and natural language processing, as well as workshops, and networking opportunities. The University President, **Dr. Sheila Embleton**, gave a welcome address. The conference was supported by sponsors including **INZola Group**, **Greenwin**, and **Algoma's Centre of Excellence in Immersive Technology**.



Beyond the academic exchange, the event fostered meaningful dialogue between academia and industry, creating pathways for future research collaborations and professional partnerships. This milestone also marked Algoma University's first three-day international conference, demonstrating the Faculty's growing global presence and its commitment to advancing research in computer science and technology.

Faculty members from the FCST contributed actively, serving as Session Chairs and Co-Chairs: **Randy Lin**, **Syed Danish**, **MD Nashid Anjum**, **Faria Khandaker**, **Yazan Otoum**, **Mahreen Nasir**, **Ajmery Sultana**, **Arghavan Asad**, **Sathaporn Hubert Hu**, and **Miguel Garcia-Ruiz**. The conference was led by General Chair **Dr. Simon Xu**.

The full news release is available on the Algoma University website.

List of Research Publications, Conference Presentations, Performances, and Events

Conference Presentations and Papers Accepted:

1. Ali Ranjha, Gautam Srivastava, Muhammad Asif, Mostafa Hussien, Kapal Dev, and **Syed Muhammad Danish**. "Zero SolarWing: A net-Zero Solar Wind-Powered UAV-Enabled RIS System for URLLC Services in 6G Compute First Networks." **IEEE Transactions on Consumer Electronics (2025)**.
2. Gia Ky Huynh, **Rashid Hussain Khokhar**, and **Ajmerly Sultana**, "Blockchain-Based Cross-Chain Crowdfunding Platform: A Solution for Student Project Funding", August 2025, at the 3rd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, and Internet of Things, co-organized by Central Michigan University, USA, and Istinye University, Türkiye.
3. **MN Anjum** - Conference Presentation - "Cogniroot Edge: A Quest for A Fair AI Grader" at ACIS International Summer Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
4. **Somang Nam** - Conference Presentation - "Towards Designing User Interfaces for Optimized Human-AI Communication and Supervisory Control in Software Engineering", presented at the IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
5. **Sathaporn Hu** – Conference Presentation: "Chatbots as Turing Machines", *32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing*. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. (2025, July).
6. Aroosa Hameed, **Syed Muhammad Danish**, Aris Leivadeas, "Aligning Pre-Trained LLMs for Enhanced UAV Power Consumption Forecasting", **accepted at IEEE Globecom 2025**
7. Haseeb Saeed, **Syed Muhammad Danish**, Kaiwen Zhang, "Privacy-Preserving Energy Trading: A TEE-Based Blockchain Solution Using Secret Network", **accepted at ACM BSCI 2025**
8. Jenish Gajera, Adla Jahnavi, Nikhil Pinto, Rupinder Kaur, **Arghavan Asad**, Farah Mohammadi, "Machine Learning Based Dynamic Overload Surge Protection System for Electrical Appliances," 2025 IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and Systems (ISCAS 2025), London, UK.
9. Ali Shahraeeni, Rupinder Kaur, Abbas Koochari, Farah Mohammadi, and **Arghavan Asad**, "Empowering IoT with Large Language Models: A Survey of Applications, Challenges, and Future Directions," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
10. Amir Javad Mostafavi Nejad, Rupinder Kaur, Abbas Koochari, Farah Mohammadi, and **Arghavan Asad**, "Integrating Matrix Factorization with Fair Re-Ranking for Improved Personalization in Recommender Systems," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
11. Shayan Mohammadi Gorji, Hamed Karimi, Alireza Siadatan, Maryam Sepehrinour, Rupinder Kaur, Seham Al Abdul Wahid, Farah Mohammadi, and **Arghavan Asad**, "Increasing Power Transmission in Compact Low-Frequency Antenna Arrays through Active Negative Impedance Conversion," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
12. Rupinder Kaur, **Arghavan Asad**, Farah Mohammadi, "A Heterogeneous Scheduling Approach for Efficient Memory Management in IoT Systems," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
13. Maryam Sepehrinour, Alireza Siadatan, Seham Al Abdul Wahid, Farah Mohammadi, and **Arghavan Asad**, "DeepNRSfPP: Learning-Based Real-Time Non-Rigid Structure-from-Perspective Projection," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).

14. Maryam Sepehrinour, Alireza Siadatan, Seham Al Abdul Wahid, Farah Mohammadi, and **Arghavan Asad**, "Reinforcement Learning-Driven Energy Optimization of Industrial Induction Motors under Dynamic Load Conditions," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
15. Isha Lad, Rutisha Patel, Ekta Patel, Rupinder Kaur, Mahreen Nasir, **Arghavan Asad**, and Farah Mohammadi, "AI-Enabled Phishing Links Detection Using Machine Learning Models," 32nd IEEE/ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD2025).
16. **Yazan Otoum, Arghavan Asad**, Amiya Nayak, "Blockchain Meets Adaptive Honeypots: A Trust-Aware Approach to Next-Gen IoT Security," IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering (TNSE), August 2025.
17. **Yazan Otoum, Arghavan Asad**, Ishtiaq Ahmad, "Open-Source LLM-Driven Federated Transformer for Predictive IoV Management," IEEE Global Communications Conference 2025, August 2025.
18. **MN Anjum**, S Ahmed, M Hasan, **W Lin**, "Cogniroot Edge: A Quest for A Fair AI Grader", ACIS International Summer Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
19. J Thapa, RH Khokhar, **MN Anjum**, "Efficiency in Chat Application Encryption: A Comparative Review with Proposed Enhancements", ACIS International Summer Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
20. P Paneri, W Danesh, **SM Danish, MN Anjum**, "Uninterrupted Internet Access: A Peer-to-Peer Alternative for Outage-Proof and Censorship Resistant Communication", ACIS International Summer Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
21. K Igweh, **W Lin, MA Garcia-Ruiz, MN Anjum**, "ASL Subtitle Generation Using NLP Models for Enhanced Accessibility", submitted to ACIS International Summer Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025).
22. James Gu, Ahmed Sartaj, Mohammed Akram Taher Khan and **Rashid Hussain Khokhar**, "Design and Implementation of a Controlled Ransomware Framework for Educational Purposes Using Flutter Cryptographic APIs on Desktop PCs and Android Devices", July 2025.
23. Lien Tran, Boyuan Zhang, Ratchanon Pawanja, and **Rashid Hussain Khokhar**, "The Passwordless Authentication with Passkey Technology from an Implementation Perspective", July 2025.
24. Aanya Goel, **Wenjun Lin**, and **Rashid Hussain Khokhar**, "LLM-Powered SQL Querying: Transforming Natural Language into Database Insights", July 2025.
25. Jikesh Thapa, **Md Nashid Anjum**, and **Rashid Hussain Khokhar**, "Efficiency in Chat Application Encryption: A Comparative Review with Proposed Enhancements", July 2025..

Brampton Campus Retreat:

On June 20, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., all faculty and staff members from the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology at Algoma University's Brampton campus held a one-day retreat facilitated by **Dr. Simon Xu**, Acting Dean. The retreat focused on key priorities, including: Vision and Strategic Planning, Research Support and Clusters, Teaching Innovation, Service and Governance, Space Planning and Open Forum. **Dr. Syed Mohammad Danish**, recipient of a 2025 NSERC grant, also shared insights and tips on successful grant proposal writing.

Faculty and staff engaged in productive discussions that fostered collaboration, addressed challenges, and generated ideas to guide the Faculty's growth and planning for the coming year.



Professional Development Event:

On June 24, a group of faculty members from the Faculty of Computer science and Technology at Brampton campus visited ventureLab, an innovation hub focused on hardware and semiconductor entrepreneurship. During the visit, we learned about ventureLab's founder-focused programs and strategic initiatives, particularly in support of deep-tech and hardware-based ventures. The discussions highlighted opportunities for future collaboration and engagement, especially in fostering innovation and experiential learning for our students.



Team Building Event at SSM:

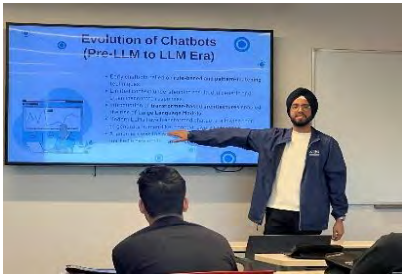
On July 14, 2025, some faculty and staff in Sault Ste Marie joined the Indigenous Guided Eco-Tours and Educational Experiences at Hiawatha Highlands Conservation Area for an outdoor adventure hiking trip. The half-day outdoor activity allowed us to connect with the refreshing beauty of the local environment and strengthened our faculty relationships.



Community Engagement Events:

June Highschool Event

On June 10th, the Faculty of Computer Science & Technology welcomed Grade 10 students from Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Secondary School to Algoma University's Brampton Campus for a day of exploration in Computer Science. The visit featured a campus tour, an informative session by **Dr. Arghavan Asad** on academic pathways and career opportunities, presentations from ALCOMS and current students sharing their research, and a hands-on VR demonstration—one of the day's highlights. Many students left inspired and are now considering Algoma U's Computer Science programs for their future studies.



Cameron Faculty of Science | September 2025

Report submitted by: Dr. Laurie Bloomfield - Acting Dean, Cameron Faculty of Science
Date: 2025-09-12

Historic Naming of the Cameron Faculty of Science



In June, Algoma University celebrated the renaming of the Faculty of Science, with a special recognition event. This event marks the first faculty naming in the University's history. Welcoming members of the Cameron faculty, the University gave a tour of the campus, including the unveiling of a classroom dedication, as well as a larger Cameron Faculty of Science designation in the CC building. Thank you to **Dr. Laurie Bloomfield**, for leading the tour, and to professors **Dr. Bill Dew, Dr. Brandon Schamp, Dr. Christine Madliger, and Dr. Ammar Saleem** who were present to provide tours of their labs.

The Soo Today article is [linked here](#).

Pictured: **Dr. Donna Rogers, Dr. Laurie Bloomfield** and members of the Cameron family

Major Accomplishments of Faculty Members in Research, Teaching, and Service

Faculty Recognitions

The Cameron Faculty of Science would like to congratulate two faculty members for receiving awards to recognize exceptional contributions to the Algoma University community:

Dr. Arthur Perlini (Department of Psychology)	2024/2025 Excellence in Teaching Award
Dr. Brandon Schamp (Department of Biology)	2024/2025 Distinguished Faculty Award

List of Research Publications, Conference Presentations, Performances, and Events

Please see Appendix A, [linked here](#)

Appendix A: List of Research Publications, Conference Presentations, Performances, and Events

The following are some of the activities by faculty members from Science in June, July and August 2025.

Department of Biology

Twiss, M., Lavia, B., Aguilar-Izzo, T., Francis, A., Rivera, S., 2025. Verbatim transcripts from the AARoN (Assessing Attitudes towards Rights of Nature) Project: Development of a discourse tool for discussing contentious topics with polarized groups. Mendeley Data, V1, <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/h4t4gx9gvv/1>

DeBruyne, R.L., Roseman, E.F., Moerke, A.H., Lauren M. Fry, L.M., **Twiss, M.R.**, Tank, S.N., 2025. Visioning and Conceptual Framework for Coordinating Great Lakes Connecting Waters Research and Monitoring. J. Great Lakes Res. doi.org/10.1016/j.jglr.2025.102605

Twiss, M.R., 2025. Insight into successful research impacts: An environmental scan of academic and non-governmental institutes focused on the Laurentian Great Lakes ecosystem. J. Great Lakes Res. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jglr.2025.102612>

Podcast:

Great Lakes Odyssey Radio Hour, [Season 4: Episode 4: The Meeting Place](#), Public Radio Exchange (PRX), April 23, 2025. **Michael Twiss**, Professor of Limnology at Algoma University, gives knowledge on the Great Lakes waterway system and the super-importance of the connecting rivers for both humans and wildlife.

Conference Presentations:

ICOR-OWN: Advancing Great Lakes oil spill research, infrastructure, and expertise in cold, freshwater ecosystems, Moerke, A., **Twiss, M.**, Adeweile, B., Dew, W., Fisk, A., Fitzpatrick, F., Kapuscinski, K., Passow, U., Annual Conference of the International Association for Great Lakes Research, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 2-June-2025, (presented by A. Moerke).

An experimental approach to observe multi-trophic level effects of oil on coastal wetlands. K. Kapuscinski, A. Moerke, J. Doubek, Liu, B., Ranson Olson, B., **Twiss, M.**, Dew, B., Madliger, C., McKay, R., Weisener, C., Jobin, P., Snider, A. Annual Conference of the International Association for Great Lakes Research, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 2-June-2025, (presented by K. Kapuscinski).

Into the breach - Talking with polarized communities: Assessing attitudes towards Rights of Nature. **M. Twiss**, S. Rivera, B. Lavia, T. Aguilar-Izzo, A. Francis, Annual Conference of the International Association for Great Lakes Research, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 3-June-2025. Presented by M. Twiss.

Department of Psychology

Pastore, O. L., Fortier, M. S., Maffin, J., McBride, C. B., Aslam, L., Dorvil, E., & Sweet, S. N. (2025). Feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of a tailored self-compassion program for peer mentors within Canadian spinal cord injury community service organizations. *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09638288.2025.2513588>

Ng, N. J., Bédard, G. D., Mullan, M. A. R. S., Liska, T. M., **Pastore, O. L.**, Li, C., Wong, A. C., Tomasone, J. R., Herbison, J. D., & Sweet, S. N. *Coaching behaviour change techniques to university students with physical disabilities and chronic health conditions: Preliminary results of a single-subject design intervention*. (June 3-5, 2025). Poster Presentation at the North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity 2025 Annual Conference. South Lake Tahoe, CA, United States.
<https://doi.org/10.1123/jsep.2025-0094>

Bedard, G. D., **Pastore, O. L.**, Herbison, J. D., Tomasone, J. R., Liska, T. M., Mullan, M., Burns, A., Jeans, A., & Sweet, S. N. (2025, June). *The daily enactment of behaviour change techniques among physically active university students with physical disabilities and chronic conditions* [Oral presentation]. North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity Annual Conference, Lake Tahoe, California, United States.

NORDIK Institute | September 2025

Report submitted by: Amy Boyer

Date: 12-Sept-2025

- Keepers of the Circle and NORDIK will begin the fall cohort of the virtual social entrepreneurship program on September 22 and 23, 2025. This program provides Indigenous women, 2Spirit and non-binary participants with the essentials for social enterprise development and business plan writing.
- NORDIK will host its Annual Meeting on September 24, 2025, at The Grand Gardens North from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. This year's theme is **Broadening Horizons**: Advancing exploration and innovation across disciplines, bridging social, cultural, scientific, and technological domains. The Annual Meeting will feature a panel discussion and poster presentations.
- Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority, in partnership with NORDIK Institute, was awarded \$309,000 for 2025-2029 to support our collaboration in increasing and improving community-based water quality monitoring across Lake Superior, St. Marys River, and Lake Huron.
- On May 15, NORDIK Institute hosted a community engagement session on health indicators for the DATA NORTH Project—an initiative led by **Dr. Tamanna Rimi** to bring community voices together for a data-informed future. Healthcare professionals, service providers, and community partners from Sault Ste. Marie shared insights to help shape a community-driven data hub for Northern Ontario. The discussion highlighted how locally relevant health data can strengthen decision-making, collaboration, and community wellbeing. The Data North research team includes three NORDIK research associates: Dr. Teryn Bruni, Dr. Zamilur Rahman, and Dr. Ahmed Aziz.
- On August 1-3, 2025, the Community Support Team and Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association (CSAA) held a gathering with the theme **Life After Residential School**. This meaningful event brought together Survivors, intergenerational family members, and the community to reflect, connect, and support one another in the ongoing journey of truth and healing.

Report of the COU Academic Colleague to Senate: September 2025

Linda Burnett

Preliminary Notes:

- This Report is for these meetings of the COU Academic Colleagues: February 11 & 12, April 15 & 16, May 13 & 14, 2025; and
- This is my last Report as COU Academic Colleague, as I have now served a 3.5-year term—and it is time for someone new to take on this role. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming AU's next COU Academic Colleague and/or have questions about the role and its responsibilities.

May 13 & 14 Meetings

On May 13, Dr. Barbara Fallon, Associate Vice-President, Research, University of Toronto, delivered a presentation on the work underway at the University of Toronto to promote impact storytelling in which she covered the following:

- The impetus behind the University's focus on impact initiatives, which is aimed at demonstrating the benefits of universities to society in response to declining public and government support;
- Examples of effective impact storytelling at the University;
- The mapping of impact pathways to facilitate expressing impact by breaking down the components of research activities into categories, as follows:
 - o Inputs: funding, infrastructure and personnel
 - o Activities: outreach to partners, training, experimentation
 - o Outputs: conferences, publications, partnership, companies
 - o Outcomes: citations, media coverage, implementation of new policies or tools
 - o Impacts: sustained change to thinking, behaviours, practices or policies;
- The leadership of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in the development of impact resources, notably the [Research Impact through Strategic Engagement \(RISE\) Toolkit](#);

- The University's participation in the Program to Enhance Organizational Research Impact Capacity (ORIC), a two-year cohort program that helps organizations build or expand their in-house expertise to assess and communicate the impact of their research enterprise and to support effective, innovative broader impacts; and
- Short- and long-term goals of the University's impact work, such as the development of an impact template to help researchers frame their work in terms of impact, workshops on impact for the community, and building staff capacity in knowledge translation and impact strategies

A discussion ensued, covering the following:

- The tangible, attainable goals of impact storytelling and possible measures of success, such as surveys to scholars who participate in impact workshops;
- The level of engagement from stakeholders within the University, with many requests being received from scholars seeking guidance on communicating their work more broadly;
- The variance among disciplines with respect to the ease of demonstrating the impact of research, and the importance of centering equity, diversity and inclusion in science and research;
- Potential barriers to impact storytelling for faculty members, who may not have the bandwidth or training to be able to communicate the impact of their research to a variety of audiences;
- The possibility that the shift to a narrative style of CVs will have the by-product of helping to demonstrate the impact of researchers in the future; and
- Existing initiatives at universities that foster community connections to demonstrate impact and pathways to a university education.

If you would like to see Dr. Fallon's presentation slides, let me know.

On May 14, Colleagues shared updates on topics and issues that were front-of-mind at their respective institutions, including the Ministry-initiated Efficiency and Accountability Fund (EAF) reviews that are concluding at some institutions and beginning at others; continuing fiscal pressures due to budgetary constraints; changes in senior administrative positions; ongoing and upcoming collective bargaining; and conversations about alternate approaches to teaching evaluations.

As well, COU President and CEO Steve Orsini delivered an update to the Colleagues on the postsecondary landscape and COU advocacy activities. The following items were covered in the presentation and discussion:

- The ongoing challenges with respect to international students, with declining enrolments over the previous year and lengthy visa processing timelines;
- Recent provincial government investments in the postsecondary sector, including funding for STEM enrolments and primary care teaching clinics announced this spring;
- The efforts of COU to promote the need for and value of postsecondary education in a wide range of disciplines to provincial government officials, to foster well-rounded, global citizens who contribute to the economy in a variety of ways and serve as thought leaders;
- Recent Ipsos polling that demonstrated a positive correlation between participants' knowledge about the financial situation in universities and their support for increased operating funding and a modest tuition increase paired with supports for low-income students;
- The recent calls for greater funding in the sector by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, with whom COU has built strong partnerships;
- A Working Group of university government relations and strategic communications leaders that is looking at building a more positive image of universities in the public; and
- Efficiency initiatives in the sector, including the exploration of efficiency metrics and the Efficiency and Accountability Fund (EAF) reviews initiated by the Ministry of Colleges, Universities and Research Excellence and Security (MCURES)

Towards the end of the meeting, topics for future meetings of the Academic Colleagues were discussed, with the following topics were suggested:

- Revisiting the Scarborough Charter, specifically the role of universities in engaging with racialized students and implementation of the Charter recommendations in universities;
- Student evaluation tools;
- The role of Academic Colleagues;

- Collaboration across units within universities;
- Academic freedom and freedom of expression;
- Future of work and skills development;
- Ethics and integrity in academia; and
- Quality assurance processes, specifically related to different options for the degree structure.

Finally, we set a date for the next meetings, which are to be in-person in Toronto: Tuesday, August 12, 6:00 to 8:30 pm, and Wednesday, August 13, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

April 15 & 16 Meetings

On April 15, we focussed on the impact of US Policies on Academic Activities at Ontario Universities. [Sarah Laframboise](#), Executive Director, Evidence for Democracy, gave a talk that included the following:

- Background information on the founding of Evidence for Democracy in 2012 and its mission as a “non-partisan, not-for-profit organization championing the integration of scientific evidence in government decision-making”;
- The major impacts of the Trump administration on Canadian research, which include cuts to funding for Canadian researchers collaborating with US counterparts, threats to environmental protections; data censorship and loss of scientific integrity; restrictions on international collaboration and talent flow; and the weakening of public trust in science;
- The Evidence for Democracy tracker on the [effects of American policies on Canadian research](#);
- The activities underway in other countries to recruit American researchers, through relocating grants, fast-tracking of visas and direct recruitment;
- Challenges within Canada that may limit its ability to benefit from a “brain gain” of American researchers, such as its declining percentage of GDP expenditure on research and development, financial constraints in Ontario universities and international student caps;
- The equity, diversity and inclusion landscape, with an overall growing interest in the commitment to EDI within institutions, but some signals of waning interest at the federal level; and

- The results of polling which show that Canadians are very supportive of science and research, with 90% of Canadians supporting investments in research even without immediate benefits.

The ensuing discussion touched on these issues/concerns:

- The possibility that international undergraduate students may choose to study in Canada rather than the US as a result of American policies;
- Concerns about American promotion of a merit-based system spilling over into Canada, and the importance of collecting evidence on the positive impacts of EDI across research and teaching activities as a pre-emptive measure;
- The reality that the US is Canada's top source for research collaboration but the reverse is not the case; and
- Concern about future missed career opportunities for researchers in light of travel advisories for the US, and the measures universities may take should researchers traveling to the US find themselves in difficult situations.

If you would like to see Dr. Laframboise's presentation slides, let me know.

On February 16, Colleagues shared updates on topics and issues that were front-of-mind at their respective institutions and prepared a presentation for the afternoon COU Council meeting.

February 11 & 12 Meetings

On February 11, Suzanne Curtin (Vice-Provost & Dean Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs, Brock; Chair, Ontario Council on Graduate Studies [OCGS]) and Ben Bradshaw (Associate Professor and Assistant Vice-President (Graduate Studies), Guelph; OCGS member) shared some of the exciting initiatives happening within graduate studies in Ontario, along with some of the collective challenges. Key points raised during the presentation and discussion were as follows:

- the development of [Principles of Graduate Student Supervision](#) by OCGS, with accompanying resources to support the Principles and preliminary discussions about professional development opportunities for supervisors underway;
- the expansion of graduate degree pathways, including the recent creation of micro-credentials and stackable micro-programs, as well as ongoing efforts to enable credit transfer between universities for micro-programs and explore

direct-entry PhD programs from undergraduate programs with off-ramps into Master's level degrees;

- work to streamline the Ontario Visiting Graduate Students Plan, which allows graduate students from one university to take courses at another at no additional cost to the student, with a no institutional fee pilot project in progress for the 2024-25 academic year;
- the recent expansion of applied Master's programs proposed by colleges;
- challenges associated with funding and recruitment, the cap on international graduate students, and artificial intelligence;
- potential areas of collective advocacy, such as the international student cap and enhancing support for the Ontario Graduate Scholarship; and
- the [LEAD: Lifelong Education and Development](#) online course developed by Academic Colleagues Kim Hellemans, Carleton, and Alison Flynn, Ottawa, along with a team of faculty and students, aimed at empowering learners with essential skills and knowledge for personal and professional success.

If you would like to see their presentation slides, let me know.

On February 12, Colleagues shared updates on topics and issues that were front-of-mind at their respective institutions, including the development of new academic and strategic plans; continuing fiscal pressures due to budgetary constraints; changes in senior administrative positions; and ongoing and upcoming collective bargaining.

As well, COU President Steve Orsini delivered an update on the provincial attestation letter (PAL) allocation process for international students, the creation of two new [Working Groups with the Ontario Centre for Innovation](#) on Life Sciences and Critical Minerals and Battery Technology, and activities underway in preparation to escalate advocacy with the government following the provincial election.

SENATE REPORT

Vice-President Academic and Research | September 2025

Senate Meeting Date: 12-Sept-2025

PURPOSE:

☐ Expedited

Prepared By: Brett Goodwin, PhD - Vice President,
Academic and Research

☐ Approval

☐ Discussion

☒ Information

Office of the AVP-RGS

Office of Research and Innovation

Over the course of Summer 2025, the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) has observed a significant increase in external grant submissions. A record-setting 21 Notice of Intent (NOIs) were submitted to the NSERC Discovery grant program, with full applications due in November 2025. Additionally, 8 federal/provincial grant applications were submitted with Algoma at the lead institution, and 2 applications with Algoma as a co-investigator.

The summer has also brought positive funding outcomes, with notification of 1 successful award and 2 grants with international organizations where Algoma is a collaborating institution. We intend to keep this momentum going into the fall with the rollout of a suite of grant writing workshops and resources designed to further strengthen Algoma's funding competitiveness. At the beginning of the summer, the ORI successfully recruited a Research Outreach Officer using RSF funding to expand the team. This will help increase grant revenue and support the continued growth and evolution of our research portfolio.

Building on this momentum, three Algoma University faculty members were recently awarded prestigious NSERC Discovery Grants, securing a combined investment of \$541,000 over the next five years. The funded projects span health, sustainability, and technology, advancing research in early cancer detection, sustainable infrastructure for clean energy and AI, and plant-based biotechnology. These awards highlight Algoma's growing research capacity and provide students with hands-on opportunities to contribute to globally significant innovation.

Graduate Studies

To ensure alignment with student needs and the requirements of new graduate programs, a comprehensive review of all graduate policies is currently underway. This review is aimed at enhancing clarity, consistency, and accessibility of policies for graduate students.

-Graduate Orientation and Student Engagement Activities

To support returning graduate students and facilitate smooth program entry, several orientation and engagement activities have been conducted and scheduled for the Fall semester:

- 25SP Graduate Student Gatherings on Jul 11 and 24

- 25F Pre-Arrival Information and Support Sessions on Jul 30, Aug 6, and Aug 13
- 25F Meet and Greet Events on Aug 28 and Sep 2
- Mandatory Policy Orientation and Program Presentations on Aug 26 and Sep 2

– MSBA, MGBE, and MSc CompSci in Program Launch

The Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) program, initially proposed for an earlier start, has been rescheduled for launch in 26W. In addition, the Fall 2025 launches of the Master of Global Business and Economics (MGBE) and the Master of Science in Computer Science (thesis) have been confirmed.

National Centre of Excellence for Immersive Technology (NCoE)

Education and Innovation

The XR microcredential courses will relaunch on October 15, 2025, with updated program details available online. To expand its reach, the NCoE is collaborating with Skillswave on B2B corporate training, while also exploring funding opportunities to deliver XR learning programs for underrepresented communities. In parallel, the Centre is promoting the new XR specialization in the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology's undergraduate program, strengthening alignment between academic pathways and industry needs. These initiatives are designed to support reskilling, upskilling, and career transition for students and professionals, positioning Algoma as a hub for talent development in immersive technologies.

Innovation (Accelerator & Student Projects)

Eight companies, including seven from Ontario and one from the GTA, are progressing through Canada's first XR-focused accelerator, preparing for Demo Day on November 26, 2025, in Brampton. Students from Computer Science, ITVR, Project Management, and Business will engage in 30-hour project-based challenges, gaining direct industry experience while supporting the growth of early-stage ventures. The NCoE is also showcasing two student projects at the BVX Innovation Zone (Sept 11, 2025), reinforcing its commitment to experiential learning. Additional innovation efforts include early-stage collaboration with the Makwa Project to showcase Indigenous-focused work through XR, as well as the development of a business-led innovation strategy in Sault Ste. Marie, in partnership with the Faculty of Business and local organizations.

Sponsorship and Funding

We continue to work closely with municipal and corporate partners to secure funding for NCoE initiatives. The City of Brampton has confirmed its sponsorship for the VRARA Roadshow. Further proposals for 2025–26 funding are in development.

Office of the AVP-ACE

Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

eLearning and Learning Management System (LMS)

Faculty Training

- **Faculty Training – Fall 2025:** Weekly one-hour sessions will support faculty in maximizing Brightspace LMS, covering course setup, assessment design, instructional design, academic integrity, and related topics.

Support and Service Delivery

- **Ticket Resolution:** In July 2025, the LMS Support Team resolved 106 tickets (avg. 26–27/week) covering course access, enrollment, D2L migrations, gradebook setup, and quiz/assignment support. Complex issues were escalated to the E-Learning Specialist.
- **Third-Party Tools:** Supported deployment of Copyleaks, Turnitin, SafeExam Browser, and ProctorU to uphold academic integrity in online/blended assessments.
- **Student Success:** Assisted students with navigation and login issues, ensuring uninterrupted access to resources and early preparation for Fall 2025 courses.

Strategic Initiatives for Fall 2025

- **Brightspace LMS:** Transition to a single LMS (Brightspace) completed; Moodle retired. All courses set up and faculty have login credentials.
- **ILP Integration:** Implemented Intelligent Learning Platform (ILP) for all Fall courses to enhance personalized learning and efficiency. Academic integrity content monitored for timely release.
- **PACE Expansion:** Advanced Brightspace integration for professional and continuing education, including login page updates, workflows, and instructor onboarding.
- **Vendor Management:** Renewed contracts for plagiarism detection (Urkund/Ouriginal, Copyleaks) and secure assessment tools (Meazure Learning), ensuring service continuity.

Academic Integrity Office (AIO)

Strategic Activities and Initiatives

- **Violations:** Oversaw 74 Notices of Offence (May–Aug), ensuring adherence to Senate policies and due process. Collaborated with faculty on appeals and clarifications.
- **Policy Review:** Completed review of penalties across peer institutions. Proposed a balanced framework emphasizing education alongside sanctions.
- **Faculty Support & AI Guidance:** Provided consultations on generative AI in coursework, detection strategies, and case adjudication using Copyleaks.
- **Student Engagement:** Delivered integrity workshops, including plagiarism avoidance sessions and a graduate seminar on AI and integrity. Praised as effective for international and graduate students.
- **Orientation:** Prepared for Fall 2025 orientation with AIO presence at major events. Trained two student ambassadors to deliver pre-orientation integrity presentations.

Resource Development and System Enhancements

- **Tutorial:** Developed five-module Academic Integrity tutorial on Brightspace with UX/graphic improvements in progress.
- **Website:** Launched revised AIO webpages with centralized resources and streamlined navigation.

- **Mini-Course:** Moodle integrity mini-course reached 2,364 completions, demonstrating sustained engagement.

Quality Assurance Office (QAO)

New Programs

The QAO is supporting the development of two new programs: The MA in Psychotherapy (MAP) and the BSc Economics and Data Science (BEDS). The MAP program proposal will be reviewed by QualCom at their August meeting and sent to the Senate for September. It is anticipated that we will be able to open admissions for this program in mid fall 2025 and launch the program at the Sault Ste. Marie campus in Fall 2026. The BEDS program proposal is nearing completion and is awaiting review and approval by the Advisory Committee. It is anticipated that this program will be able to launch for Fall 2026.

Cyclical Program Reviews

2024/25 CPRs: Two of the three 2024/25 self studies were submitted before the deadline of August 1st and one received a 1 month extension. It is anticipated that this third self study will be submitted before the end of the month. The QAO will ensure that all three CPRs adhere to the timelines in the IQAP for all subsequent processes.

2025/26 CPRs: The QAO has created timelines and made plans for all 2025/26 CPRs. All CPRs are running according to schedule.

2023/24 CPRs: All 4 2023/24 CPRs are at the Report on Program Quality Stage.

Training and Education

The QAO is focusing on improving education opportunities for faculty and staff in 2025/26. This will involve Senate Committee specific training, and training opportunities for various departments, staff, students, and administrators.

Professional and Continuing Education (PACE)

The PACE unit is committed to expanding access to flexible, career-focused education that responds to evolving workforce needs across Ontario and beyond. Strategic priorities include building strong employer and community partnerships, implementing targeted outreach and enrollment models, and positioning PACE as a key contributor to Algoma University's equity and economic development goals.

Industry & Workforce Engagement

- Aim is to develop programming through intentional, industry-informed collaboration.
- Active engagement with public sector, industry associations, and private businesses.
- Exploring co-creation and endorsement opportunities to ensure employer recognition and relevance through initial partnership discussions across sectors.

Centre for Project Management (CPM)

Fall 2025 Term and Graduation Overview

- Fall 2025 will be the second-to-last term for Project Management programs under the teach-out plan.
- Current enrollment projections indicate approximately 500 students for Fall 2025.
- Two graduation events are planned for students who completed program requirements during the Summer term.

Summer Term Completion

- The Summer term has concluded, and the grade appeal process is complete.
- The Verification of Program Completion memo has been issued.
- By the end of August, a final list of students eligible for Fall graduation ceremonies will be confirmed.

Project Management Student Guild – Leadership and Engagement

- Leadership Recruitment: Key student leadership positions are being recruited as current leaders graduate; new candidates are expected to be onboard by the second week of Fall 2025 term.
- Event Planning with PMI Lakeshore Chapter: Discussions are underway to organize Fall 2025 networking events, including in-person and virtual sessions for students to engage with industry professionals and learn emerging trends.
- Collaboration with Computer Science Club: Discussions are ongoing to explore potential collaborative opportunities.

University Librarian and Wishart Library

- **Fall Semester Brampton Campus Information Literacy Sessions:**
For more information or booking a session please contact Nicole Gajda
nicole.gajda@algomau.ca
- Our Academic Librarian Lisl Schoner-Saunders is currently on a year's leave. There is no replacement Librarian. For research/library services please reach out to library@algomau.ca
- **Covidence is offering Free Webinars for New Researchers:**
 - **Which Review Is Right for You?**
2 October
 - Dr. Tamara Lotfi (3ie) introduces the most common review types—systematic, scoping, rapid, umbrella, narrative—and when to use each.
 - [Register here](#)
 - **Covidence 101: General Overview**
21 October
 - A walkthrough of the Covidence workflow with live demo, tips & tricks, and Q&A.
 - [Register here](#)
 - **A Practical Guide to Scoping Reviews**
11 November
 - Dr. Danielle Pollock (University of Adelaide) explores the purpose, process, and best practices for scoping reviews.
 - [Register here](#)

*A recording will be shared to all registrants after the webinars.

Career, International and Experiential Education (CARIEE)

Career Development

- **Core Competency Project:** Launching Fall 2025. Framework expands on Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations with 11 competencies (e.g., collaboration, communication, digital literacy). Integrates Algoma's Special Mission, including cultural competence, Indigenous knowledge, equity, reconciliation, and the Seven Grandfathers' Teachings.
- **Career Navigator:** Launching Fall 2025 as CareerNavigator.Algomau.ca, providing access to experiential learning, co-op, and career resources. Initial release includes career tools, job postings, and appointment booking; future phases will add Co-Curricular Record integration and advanced Co-op/Experiential Learning tools.

International Affairs

Queen Elizabeth Scholars (QES):

- Four Scholars returned from placements in Indonesia, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Colombia, working on community health, sustainable agriculture, decolonizing education, and youth initiatives. A re-entry ceremony will support knowledge-sharing.
- Three Scholars departing Fall 2025 to Costa Rica and Vietnam. Applications open for Winter/Spring 2026 (Sept. 15 deadline). Destinations: Costa Rica, Vietnam, Colombia, Guatemala, Morocco.

WUSC Student Refugee Program (SRP): Two refugee students from Kenya began studies at the Sault campus. Supported by a WUSC Local Committee (faculty, AUSU, SRP Coordinator Archana Pathak) with housing, food, and academic support.

UArctic Membership: One Biology student joined a Northern Environmental & Conservation Sciences field school in Yukon, supported by a \$3,000 North2North scholarship.

Exchange & Internships:

- 21 exchange students arriving Fall 2025 from seven countries, including two Brazilians via Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program.
- Six international interns (Bangladesh, Korea) joined Brampton campus through Mitacs GRA (\$36,000 in funding) under Dr. Ajmery Sultana, focusing on quantum machine learning and quantum magnetometers.
- Six Algoma students participated in a Summer School in Social Work at the University of Vechta, Germany (online).
- Upcoming Fall virtual exchange with UnoChapeco (Brazil): *Actors, Power, and Global-Local Governance* (8-week Saturday course).

Experiential Learning

Co-op Education Modernization: Transitioning from Co-op Certificate to **Work Experience Program**.

- Co-op (structured): Available in Computer Science; includes 3×4-month work terms (credited), with 5-year graduation and degree designation.
- Work Experience Program (flexible): Open to all students starting in year two; includes a preparatory course plus 1+ full-time work terms (not degree-designated).
- Both require a minimum 70% average. Current Co-op Certificate students will complete their programs as planned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Goodwin, PhD



Interim President and Vice-Chancellor's Report to Senate

September 2025

Message from Interim President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Sheila Embleton

Boozhoo, Aanii, Bonjour, Hello,

Welcome back to campus for the Fall 2025 semester! As we begin this new academic year, I am filled with optimism for the months ahead and the opportunities they hold for our students, faculty, and staff. I am confident that together, despite multiple challenges ahead, we will continue to build on Algoma University's proud tradition of learning, growth, and transformation.

I began on July 1 as Interim President and Vice-Chancellor at this unique moment in Algoma University's evolution. A sincere thanks to everyone across our three campus communities for the warm welcome! While my time here so far has been both busy and energizing, it has also been inspiring to witness the dedication, creativity, and care throughout this institution.

It's a time of significant change, so also an opportunity for conversation, reflection, and community building. My role is to listen, learn, support, and guide — helping the University stabilize and thrive during this period of transition.

This is a moment to review what is working well and to identify areas where we can better align with the ever-shifting postsecondary education landscape. Over the coming months, my focus will be on helping the institution adapt to the realities of the new financial landscape while advancing academic innovation, championing collaboration and transparency, ensuring operations align with the University's vision and Special Mission, and maintaining open lines of communication with the Algoma University community.

Algoma University's purpose, values, commitments, and potential inspire all of us every day. Together we will honour the past, remain grounded in the present, and shape a future that reflects the aspirations of our university and the people it serves. I am delighted to walk alongside you in the year ahead and to support all that Algoma University is becoming.

Fall 2025 Enrolment Update

As of August 28, a total of 444 new students (364 domestic and 80 international) have enrolled at Algoma University across all three campuses for the Fall 2025 semester. At the same time, we have a total of 3,356 unique students registered—not including Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) students—against a projected 4,840, which represents approximately 69% of the target. Registration is ongoing and we are continuing to identify and assist students who have been unable to access registration for various reasons such as delays in visa processing and outstanding tuition balances to maximize our enrolment for fall. We are expecting an increase in registrations into the first week of classes based on similar data from Fall 2024. These barriers highlight areas where our Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) strategy will





play a key role in supporting students and ensuring timely progression.

Latest Immigration, Refugee & Citizenship Canada & Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) Updates

The focus of our international enrolment discussions has needed to shift recently. For much of the past year, the key question was whether institutions had been allocated enough Provincial Attestation Letters (PALs) to meet their needs. Now, the more pressing issue is our ability to fully utilize the allocation we already have. This change reflects two intersecting challenges. First, the broader global environment for international education has undergone a dramatic shift. Federal policy changes, visa processing delays and approval rates have led to a decline in certainty for prospective students and have drastically impacted Canada's competitiveness. Other countries have acted swiftly to capture a larger market share. Within Ontario, competition has intensified from both public and private institutions, with many expanding their graduate-level offerings and recruitment capacity. We are not just aware of but, of course, actively addressing these challenges.

Second, institutional readiness plays a role. Earlier cost-containment decisions, prudent at the time, reduced our market visibility during a critical recruitment window. Additionally, our graduate program portfolio remains limited compared to the growing demand for applied, career-focused master's programs. This programmatic gap limits our ability to respond to shifting market preferences, even in cases where PALs are available.

While we continue to perform well relative to many peers on key conversion metrics, the current constraints on PAL utilization cannot be overcome solely through recruitment activity. We must rely on data-driven enrolment forecasting, grounded in actual conversion data rather than optimistic assumptions. This, along with targeted reinvestment in high-yield markets and the accelerated development of graduate-level programming, will ensure that we not only allocate PALs but also position ourselves to convert them into enrolled students, despite the significant headwinds in the external environment.

Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) — Fall 2025

Looking ahead, the Registrar's Office is preparing to pivot its SEM starting in Fall 2025. The new structure is designed to create more substantial alignment across portfolios, improve responsiveness to student needs, and ensure our enrolment strategies remain focused and effective.

The revised approach will include:

- Co-leadership by the University Registrar and the Executive Director, Student Services, alongside the Vice-President Academic and Research.
- A high-level steering committee of senior leaders tasked with setting overarching enrolment goals.





- Three sub-committees will be formed, each including subject matter experts and, importantly, voices that work directly with students. Their mandate will be to review data, assess existing action items, and recommend new strategies to meet enrolment priorities.

The three sub-committees will focus on:.

1. Enrolment Growth and Partnerships;
2. Equity, Access and Indigenous Engagement; and
3. Program Demand and Market Alignment.

This new model replaces the current 20-subcommittee structure, streamlining our approach while ensuring expertise and student perspectives remain central to decision-making. Ultimately, this change will position us to better respond to evolving enrolment trends and support student success more effectively.

Temporary Pause in First-Year Admissions for Low-Enrolment Programs

In May 2025, the Board of Governors approved a one-year time-limited pause on first-year admissions into five low-enrolment programs: Geography, History, Music, Sociology, and Visual Arts. The Board did not take these decisions lightly and emphasized our shared responsibility to ensure the long-term strength and financial sustainability of all our academic programs.

Together with the interim VPAR, Brett Goodwin, I have met with each of the affected departments. These discussions provided an opportunity to review the data, to hear directly from faculty about the strengths and uniqueness of their programs, as well as about their ideas for strengthening admission into the affected programs and making them financially sustainable. I am optimistic that the creativity, expertise, and commitment within these departments will generate actionable proposals that both protect academic excellence and position these programs for future success.

Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES): Improving College and University Governance Structures

In the Spring 2025 Red Tape Reduction package, the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES) committed to consulting with Ontario's publicly assisted colleges and universities to explore ways to improve institutional governance. This includes areas such as board size and composition, roles and responsibilities, skills and knowledge, government appointments, and financial management. The Ministry's goal is to enhance decision-making efficiency and accountability of college and university governance, drawing on best practices and input from the sector. I continue to work closely with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and other member universities on ensuring the soundness and effectiveness of university governance, as well as adherence to leading governance practices and fiduciary responsibilities.





Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security (MCURES): Funding Formula Review

In late July, MCURES commenced consultations on the long-anticipated Funding Formula Review. During a preliminary meeting with Executive Heads (University Presidents), the Ministry outlined the scope of this process and emphasized that the Funding Formula Review builds on ongoing work with the sector to achieve long-term financial sustainability. This work has already included additional “STEM” enrolment funding and increased per-student grants through the Postsecondary Education Sustainability Fund.

At a high level, the objectives of the Funding Formula Review are intended to:

- Serve the needs of all learners while aligning with labour market needs, particularly in light of projected demographic growth and consistently strong domestic demand.
- Support postsecondary and provincial financial sustainability in the context of increasing financial constraints due to federal changes to the International Student Program and frozen domestic tuition fees.
- Ensure responsiveness to the unique needs of different regions and learners, including Indigenous, northern and rural communities (a priority that is especially relevant to us).
- Incentivize continuous improvement in student, community and economic outcomes.
- Drive greater institutional efficiencies and accountability.
- Allocate funding in a fair, predictable and transparent manner. The Ministry aims to explore opportunities to simplify the funding model, including integrating specific special-purpose grants into the Strategic Mandate Agreement framework where appropriate.

I, along with other presidents, shared preliminary comments on these objectives and will have further opportunities to provide detailed feedback as the consultations continue. We will also work closely with the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and the Ministry to ensure that Algoma's specific needs and priorities are taken into consideration, as the Funding Formula Review evolves.

People & Culture Updates

The renewal collective agreement between OSSTF District 35 and Algoma University has been ratified by both the membership and the University. This agreement is the result of productive and respectful negotiations, reflecting our shared commitment to strengthening the working relationship between the Union and the university, supporting the continued success of our institution and the people who make it such a special place. The new agreement is in effect, with further details being provided by the Union and the People and Culture team in the coming weeks.

Last month, Richard Peters joined Algoma University as our new Chief Financial Officer, based in Sault Ste. Marie. Richard is a Chartered Professional Accountant and a Chartered Business





Valuator. He holds both a Master's of Accounting and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Waterloo. His career spans 15 years of senior leadership roles across the Ontario college system, most recently as *Vice President of Strategic Enrolment, Partnerships & Employment* at Sault College. He previously served as *Vice President, International*, at Sault College, *Vice President, Finance & Administration*, at Sault College, and *Vice President of Finance & International*, at Canadore College.

Makwa Waakaa'igan Construction Updates

Construction is currently underway on Makwa Waakaa'igan, a future Centre of Cultural Excellence that will serve as an international hub for cross-cultural learning, Indigenous-led research, and reconciliation work on the Sault Ste. Marie campus. The most recent project updates include:

- Demolition of the old building was completed in June 2025.
- Footings were completed on August 11, and foundation walls and backfilling began on August 22.
- Superstructure is expected to start in November 2025.
- Construction is expected to be completed by the beginning of December 2026; however, our focus has shifted from "construction completion" to the projected "move-in date", which is currently set for January 2027.
- Following the completion of construction, a fit-out period of a couple of months will be required to prepare the building for occupancy. This phase encompasses essential tasks, including air balancing, carpentry, furniture installation, and testing the alarm system.

Major Milestone for Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig (SKG)

Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig (SKG) has received a 10-year approval from the Indigenous Advanced Education Skills Council (IAESC). With this approval, SKG will be able to submit new program proposals directly to IAESC for stand-alone accreditation. This approval is a step towards the institution's full accreditation. SKG is right across the road from us in Sault Ste. Marie; we have agreements with SKG, and are in the process of renewing and updating our agreement, to reflect this new evolution. Congratulations to all involved, and we look forward to our future cooperation and synergies.

Office of Research and Innovation (ORI)

Throughout Summer 2025, the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) observed a significant increase in external grant submissions. A record-setting 21 Notice of Intent (NOIs) were submitted to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery grant program. Additionally, eight federal/provincial grant applications were submitted





with Algoma as the lead institution, and two applications with Algoma as a co-investigator. The summer has also brought positive funding outcomes, with one successful award and two grants with international organizations where Algoma is a collaborating institution. We intend to maintain this momentum into the fall with the rollout of a suite of grant writing workshops and resources designed to further strengthen our institution's funding competitiveness.

Fall Convocations

This Fall, I look forward to participating in Convocation ceremonies in both Timmins and Brampton. The Convocation ceremony in Timmins is on October 8, and will also give me an opportunity to engage with community members and university partners. Later in the month, I will also participate in the Brampton Convocations on October 21-22 to celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates.

September Forums

There will be two Forums scheduled later this month—on the Brampton campus on September 18, and on the Sault Ste. Marie campus on September 22, which I look forward to attending and participating in. This round of Forums will differ slightly from previous iterations as it will be hybrid, combining both in-person and virtual elements. Additionally, we will welcome both staff and faculty members from all three campuses—Brampton, Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins—rather than hosting separate Forums for each group.

Recent University Achievements

Hon. Nolan Quinn Campus Visit: In July, we welcomed the Honourable Nolan Quinn, Ontario's Minister of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security, to our Sault Ste. Marie campus. The special visit, in honour of increased provincial funding for STEM seats in universities, featured guided tours of two of the University's cutting-edge research facilities. We also discussed Algoma's growing role in Ontario's post-secondary landscape, the University's commitment to environmental sustainability, and its expanding research footprint for both undergraduate and graduate students.

32nd ACIS International Conference on Software Engineering, AI, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025): During the summer period, the Faculty of Computer Science and Technology hosted the 32nd Association for Computer and Information Science (ACIS) International Conference on Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Networking and Parallel/Distributed Computing (SNPD 2025) on the Brampton Campus. This three-day global conference convened international researchers, industry professionals, and students to share breakthroughs and foster collaborations in AI, networking, and software engineering. Organized by Algoma in partnership with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and ACIS, approximately 75 research papers authored by researchers from China, the USA, Jordan, Tunisia, Japan, Oman, Bangladesh, and Canada were accepted and





presented at the conference, including a paper submitted by an Algoma University researcher.

Human Library Event: Last month, the Arthur A. Wishart Library was transformed into a unique living library. In an atmosphere filled with courage, compassion, and hope, students, staff, faculty, Elders, and Residential School Survivors gathered for a profoundly emotional Human Library: Unjudge Someone. This inaugural event brought stories to life through raw and honest conversations. The Human Library is a global movement that aims to challenge stigma and foster understanding through open dialogue. At Algoma University, a place built on the former site of the Shingwauk Indian Residential School, the experience carried a weight and resonance that was uniquely powerful. The event was singled out for prominence in *Academica's Daily Top 10 Newsletter*.

NSERC Discovery Grants: Algoma University is celebrating a major research milestone, with three faculty members awarded prestigious Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grants, totalling \$541,000 over the next five years. Dr. Ping Luo is developing artificial intelligence (AI) tools to detect cancer earlier and more accurately, Dr. Syed Muhammad Danish is designing smarter, greener infrastructure for electric vehicles and renewable energy systems, and Tier II Canada Research Chair Dr. Isabel Molina is investigating how plants naturally produce protective compounds, with the potential to transform sustainable farming and biotechnology.

Royal Society of Canada: Algoma University has been accepted as an Institutional Member of the Royal Society of Canada, beginning September 1, 2025. This is another significant milestone in the recognition of our impact on the Canadian research and knowledge creation landscape.

Chi-Miigwech, merci, and thank you for all you do for Algoma University.



Senate Membership 2025-2026

Faculty of Business and Economics:

Faculty Chair: Prof. Pelham Matthews

Department Chair, Applied Business and Executive Education: Prof. Pelham Matthews

Department Chair, Business Administration: Dr. Aaron Gordon

Department Chair, Finance and Decision Sciences: Dr. Robert Xu

Part-Time Teaching Staff: TBD

Faculty of Cross Cultural Studies:

Faculty Chair: Dr. Laura Wyper

Department Chair, Sociology: Dr. Vivian Jimenez-Estrada

Department Chair, Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship: Dr. Nairne Cameron

Department Chair, Community Economic and Social Development: Dr. Sean Meades

Part-Time Teaching Staff:

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences:

Faculty Chair: Dr. Linda Burnett

Department Chair, English & History: Dr. Alice Ridout

Department Chair, Law and Politics: Dr. Trevor Tchir

Department Chair, Inwewin, Ozhichigewin & Izhitwaawin: Prof. John-Paul Chalykoff

Department Chair, Music: Dr. Edward Turgeon

Director, School of Social Work: Dr. Deb Woodman

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Kelly DeLuca

Faculty Member-at-Large: Prof. Andrea Pinheiro

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Warren Johnston

Part-Time Teaching Staff: TBD

Faculty of Science:

Faculty Chair: Dr. Bill Dew

Department Chair, Biology: Dr. Brandon Schamp

Department Chair, Psychology: Dr. Dwayne Keough

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Nikki Shaw

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Rose Cameron

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Christine Madliger

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Teryn Bruni

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Paul Dupuis

Faculty Member-at-Large: TBD

Part-Time Teaching Staff: TBD

Faculty of Computer Science and Technology

Faculty Chair: Dr. George Townsend

Department Chair, Computer Science and Mathematics: Dr. George Townsend

Department Chair, Information Technology and Professional Studies: Dr. Yi Feng

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Mahreen Nasir

Faculty Member-at-Large: Dr. Muhammad Azam

Part-Time Teaching Staff: TBD

Non-Teaching Staff Members:

Anishinaabe Peoples Council: TBD

Board of Governors Member: Sonja Kosuta

Non-teaching staff member: Nicole Gajda

Students [4]: TBD

Members by Virtue of Office:

President and Vice-Chancellor: Dr. Sheila Embleton

Vice-President Academic and Research: Dr. Brett Goodwin

Deans from each of the Faculties: Dr. Laurie Bloomfield, Dr. Simon Xu

University Registrar: Lorretta Neebar

University Librarian: Tracy Spurway

President of Shingwauk Kinooomaage Gamig or designate: Mary Wabano-McKay

SENATE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - VACANCIES TO FILL FOR 2025-2026

In accordance with Chapter 8.8 of the Senate By-laws: *All Senate committees shall serve for a one-year term commencing July 1, with the exception of Ad Hoc and Special Committees (eg. Decanal Review/Search Committee), the Quality Assurance Committee, and the Research Advisory Committee whose terms shall be set by the Senate in such Committee's Terms of Reference.*

Senate Executive Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
Speaker of the Senate	Dr. Nikki Shaw	Dr. Nikki Shaw
Deputy Speaker of the Senate	Dr. Sean Meades	Vacant
Secretary	N/A	Vacant
President	Dr. Donna Rogers	Dr. Sheila Embleton
VPAR	Dr. Istvan Imre	Dr. Brett Goodwin
Chair, FBE	Professor Pelham Matthews	Professor Pelham Matthews
Chair, FCCS	Dr. Laura Wyper	Dr. Laura Wyper
Chair, FCST	Dr. George Townsend	Dr. George Townsend
Chair, FHSS	Dr. Linda Burnett	Dr. Linda Burnett
Chair, FS	Dr. Paul Dupuis	Dr. Bill Dew
University Registrar	Lorretta Neebar	Lorretta Neebar

Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
VPAR	Dr. Istvan Imre	Dr. Brett Goodwin
Associate VP Academic (ex-officio, non-voting)	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Saud Taj
Dean, FBE	Dr. William Wei	Vacant
Dean, FHSS/FCCS	Dr. Laurie Bloomfield (Acting until June 30, 2025)	Vacant
Dean, FCST	Dr. Simon Xu (Acting)	Dr. Simon Xu (Acting)
Dean, FoS	Dr. Laurie Bloomfield (Acting)	Dr. Laurie Bloomfield (Acting)
University Registrar	Lorretta Neebar	Lorretta Neebar

Last update: August, 2025

Chair, FBE	Professor Pelham Matthews	Professor Pelham Matthews
Chair, FCCS	Dr. Laura Wyper	Dr. Laura Wyper
Chair, FCST	Dr. George Townsend	Dr. George Townsend
Chair, FHSS	Dr. Linda Burnett	Dr. Linda Burnett
Chair, FS	Dr. Paul Dupuis	Dr. Bill Dew
Student	Cheryl Toulouse	

Academic Regulations and Petitions Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
University Registrar or Appointed Associate Registrar	Loretta Neebar	Shelley Mitchell
Associate Registrar, Admissions	Shelley Mitchell	Angela Catahan
One faculty member, FBE	Dr. Jo-Anne Ryan	Dr. Jo-anne Ryan
One faculty member, FCCS	Dr. Isaac Darko (F24) / Dr. Sean Meades (W25)	Dr. Laura Wyper
One faculty member, FCST	Dr. George Townsend	Dr. George Townsend
One faculty member, FHSS	Dr. Tony Robinson-Smith	Dr. Michael DiSanto
One faculty member, FS	Dr. Dave Brodbeck	Dr. Dave Brodbeck
Student	Anvi Thakkar	

Appeals and Academic Standards Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
FT faculty member at-large, FBE	Dr. Hari Luitel	Dr. Omar Abu-Kasm
FT faculty member at-large alternate, FBE	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Farzana Alamgir
FT faculty member at-large, FCCS	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Ushnish Sengupta
FT faculty member at-large alternate, FCCS	Isaac Darko	Isaac Darko
FT faculty member at-large, FCST	Dr. Rashid Khokhar	Dr. Rashid Khokhar
FT faculty member at-large alternate, FCST	Dr. Ping Luo	Dr. Nashid Anjum
FT faculty member at-large, FHSS	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Suleyman Demi
FT faculty member at-large alternate, FHSS	<i>Vacant</i>	
FT faculty member at-large, FS	Dr. Christine Madliger	Dr. Linda Lait
FT faculty member at-large alternate, FS	Dr. Olivia Pastore	
Academic Dean	Dr. Laurie Bloomfield	
University Registrar or Appointed Associate Registrar	Lorretta Neebar	Shelley Mitchell
Student	Abdul Hayyi	Pratham Sharma
Student alternate (1)	Nidhi Patel	Hem Doshi
Student alternate (2)	Minion Paul	Karma Gurung
Student alternate (3)	<i>Vacant</i>	
Academic Integrity Manager (non-voting)	Muhammad Ashraf	Muhammad Ashraf

Board-Senate Liaison Committee (Senate composition)

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
Speaker of Senate	Dr. Nikki Shaw	Dr. Nikki Shaw
Senator-at-large from FT teaching staff of Senate (1)	Dr. Alice Ridout	
Senator-at-large from FT teaching staff of Senate (2)	Dr. Vivian. Jimenez-Estrada	

Last update: August, 2025

Curriculum Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
University Registrar or designated Associate Registrar	Dr. Lorretta Neebar	Hanna Lin
Academic Dean	Dr. William Wei	
Associate VP Academic (ex-officio, non-voting)	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Saud Taj
Faculty member, FBE	Dr. Jo-Ann Ryan	Dr. Jo-Anne Ryan
Faculty member, FCCS	Dr. Sean Meades	Dr. Sean Meades
Faculty member, FCST	Dr. Ajmery Sultana	Dr. Bodrul Alam
Faculty member, FHSS	Dr. Warren Johnston	Dr. Dionisio Nyaga
Faculty member, FS	Dr. Chantal Lemieux	Dr. Paul Dupuis
University Librarian (non-voting)	Tracy Spurway	Tracy Spurway
Student	Wayne Thompson	

Quality Assurance Committee

Note: Members of the Quality Assurance Committee are appointed for a three (3) year term.

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
VPAR or designate	Dr. Istvan Imre	Dr. Brett Goodwin
Associate VP Academic (ex-officio, non-voting)	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Saud Taj
Academic Dean	Dr. Laurie Bloomfield	
Faculty member with an established record in program administration for a three-year term, FBE	Dr. Aaron Gordon 24/25	Dr. Aaron Gordon
Faculty member with an established record in program administration for a three-year term, FCCS	Dr. Vivian Jimenez-Estrada 24/25, 23/24, 22/23	Dr. Laura Wyper
Faculty member with an established record in program administration for a three-year term, FCST	Dr. Faria Khandaker 24/25	Dr. Faria Khandaker
Faculty member with an established record in program administration for a three-year term, FHSS	Dr. Ed Turgeon 24/25, 23/24, 22/23	<i>Vacant</i>
Faculty member with an established record in program administration for a three-year term,	Dr. Paul Dupuis	Dr. Paul Dupuis

Last update: August, 2025

FS	24/25, 23/24, 22/23	
University Registrar or Appointed Associate Registrar	Lorretta Neebar	Hanna Lin
Academic Support Officer	Brittany Paat	Brittany Paat
Student	Nidhi Patel	

Research Advisory Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
President and Vice-Chancellor	Dr. Donna Rogers	Dr. Sheila Embleton
Academic Dean	Dr. Simon Xu	Dr. Simon Xu
VPAR / AVP-RGS (Chair)	Dr. Brett Goodwin	Dr. Brett Goodwin
University Librarian	Tracy Spurway	Tracy Spurway
Representative, FBE	Dr. Omar Abou-Kasm	Dr. Robert Xu
Representative, FCCS	Dr. Laura Wyper	Dr. Michael Graydon
Representative, FCST	Dr. Miguel Garcia-Ruiz	Dr. Ping Luo
Representative, FHSS	Dr. Monika Thakur	Dr. Monika Thakur
Representative, FS	Dr. Brandon Schamp	
At least one representative from any of the five academic Faculties with a good understanding of Indigenous cultures and education	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Vivian Jimenez Estrada
At least one Representative from any of the five academic Faculties, with a good understanding of Indigenization-Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	Dr. Melis Yavuz-Muren	

Senate Governance Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
Speaker of Senate	Dr. Nikki Shaw	Dr. Nikki Shaw
President & Vice-Chancellor	Dr. Donna Rogers	Dr. Sheila Embleton
VPAR	Dr. Istvan Imre	Dr. Brett Goodwin
Dean	Dr. William Wei	

Last update: August, 2025

Senator, FBE	Dr. Pelham Matthews	Dr. Aaron Gordon
Senator, FCCS	Dr. Nairne Cameron	Dr. Nairne Cameron
Senator, FCST	Dr. Yi Feng	Dr. Yi Feng
Senator, FHSS	Dr. Alice Ridout	Dr. Alice Ridout
Senator, FS	<i>Vacant</i>	
Student Senator	Minion Paul	Karma Gurung
Secretariat Office (non-voting member/resource member)	Secretariat Office	Secretariat Office

Senate I-EDI Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
VPAR	Dr. Istvan Imre	Dr. Brett Goodwin
VP Nyaagaanid	Martin Bayer	Martin Bayer
Member, FBE (1)	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Ahmed Aziz
Member, FBE (2)	<i>Vacant</i>	Dr. Taslima Nasreen
Member, FCCS (1)	Dr. Paulette Steeves	Dr Paulette Steeves
Member, FCCS (2)	Dr. Isaac Darko	Dr. Sheila Gruner
Member, FCST (1)	Dr. Randy Lin	Dr. Randy Lin
Member, FCST (2)	Dr. Syed Muhammad Danish	Dr. Muhammad Azam
Member, FHSS (1)	Dr. Walter Chan	Dr. Walter Chan
Member, FHSS (2)	<i>Vacant</i>	
Member, FS (1)	Dr. Monica Ghabrial	Dr. Christine Madliger
Member, FS (2)	Dr. Christine Madliger	
Part time teaching staff member	<i>Vacant</i>	
Student member appointed by SASA	Shelby Bennett	
Student member appointed by AUSU	Abdul Hayyi	
Graduate student member from Biology	<i>Vacant</i>	
Graduate student member from Computer Science	<i>Vacant</i>	

Last update: August, 2025

Staff member	Krista McCracken	
--------------	------------------	--

Teaching & Learning and Technical Support Services Committee

Composition	2024-2025 Members	2025-2026 Members
Faculty member, FBE	Dr. Jody Rebek	Dr. Hari Luitel
Faculty member, FCCS	Dr. Ushnish Sengupta	Dr. Ushnish Sengupta
Faculty member, FCST	Dr. Miguel Garcia-Ruiz	Dr. Syed Muhammad Danish
Faculty member, FHSS	Dr. Nathan Murray	Dr. Nathan Murray
Faculty member, FS	Dr. Jodi Webber	Dr. Chantal Lemieux
Academic Dean	Dr. Simon Xu	Dr. Simon Xu
University Librarian	Tracy Spurway	Tracy Spurway
Director of Innovation and Technology or designate	John Peters	John Peters
Director of Experiential Learning and International Affairs or designate	Dawn White	Dawn White
Director of Teaching and Learning Centre	Dr. Saud Taj	
Student (AUSU)	Anvi Thakkar	
Student (SASA)	Elizabeth Nahwegezhic	

Council of Ontario Universities (COU) (3-year appointment)

Academic Colleague	Dr. Linda Burnett 21/22 (6months), 22/23, 23/24, 24/25	Vacant
--------------------	--	--------



Faculty of Science Recommendation: Motion for the Appointment of Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone as Adjunct Professor

Senate Meeting Date:	PURPOSE:	<i>Expedited</i>
PREPARED BY: Dr. Brandon Schamp	Approval	Discussion
		Information
Committee Name: Faculty of Science, Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean		

MOTION / DISCUSSION

Moved [Bradon Schamp/Bill Dew]: That Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years starting August 1, 2025

Considerations for Senators:

This appointment follows the Senate Adjunct Professorship Policy and is an appointment for a three-year renewable term. The nomination has been approved by the Department of Biology and the Faculty of Science.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dr. Ho-Tassone regularly teaches within the biology department, and remains interested in conducting research in collaboration with members of the department. The potential exists for Dr. Ho-Tassone applying for research grants in collaboration with faculty members.

3.0 ANALYSIS

None: Supported at Faculty of Science

Attachments:

1. Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Elaine Ho-Tassone is [linked](#)

Faculty of Science Recommendation: Motion for the Appointment of Dr. Carlos Baretto as Adjunct Professor

Senate Meeting Date:	PURPOSE:	<i>Expedited</i>
PREPARED BY: Dr. Brandon Schamp	Approval	Discussion
		Information
Committee Name: Faculty of Science, Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean		

MOTION / DISCUSSION

Moved [Bradon Schamp/Bill Dew]: That Dr. Carlos Baretto be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years beginning August 1 2025.

Considerations for Senators:

This appointment follows the Senate Adjunct Professorship Policy and is an appointment for a three-year renewable term. The nomination has been approved by the Department of Biology and the Faculty of Science.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dr. Baretto has been an active contributor to our programs, teaching a graduate course for Biology, teaching laboratories as part of the undergraduate program, acting as external committee member for some of our [M.Sc.](#) students, and regularly participating in Algoma Biology events such as the poster presentations by our thesis students.

3.0 ANALYSIS

None. This is supported by the Faculty of Science.

Attachments:

1. Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Carlos Baretto is [linked](#)

Faculty of Science Recommendation: Motion for the Appointment of Dr. Riley Jones as Adjunct Professor

Senate Meeting Date:	PURPOSE:	<i>Expedited</i>
PREPARED BY: Dr. Brandon Schamp	Approval	Discussion
		Information
Committee Name: Faculty of Science, Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean		

MOTION / DISCUSSION

Moved [Bradon Schamp/Bill Dew]: That Dr. Riley Jones be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a period of three years beginning August 1, 2025

Considerations for Senators:

This appointment follows the Senate Adjunct Professorship Policy and is an appointment for a three-year renewable term. The nomination has been approved by the Department of Biology and the Faculty of Science.

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dr. Jones recently defended their PhD under co-supervision by one of our own Biology Faculty and was awarded the Graduate Thesis Excellence Award from Queen's University. Dr. Jones has taught lectures (Ethnobotany) and labs (e.g., Ecology) at Algoma University and has published a number of research papers in top journals. Dr. Jones wishes to continue their connection to Algoma's Biology Department through teaching and research.

3.0 ANALYSIS

None. This nomination is supported by the Faculty of Science.

Attachments:

1. Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Riley Jones is [linked](#)

Quality Assurance Committee Recommendation: New Program, Master of Psychotherapy

Senate meeting date: September 12th, 2025

Purpose: Approval

☐ Expedited

Prepared by: Genevieve Lachapelle, Quality Assurance Officer

☒ Approval

☐ Discussion

☐ Information

Committee Name: QualCom (Quality Assurance Committee)

Committee Chair: TBD (Interim: Paul Dupuis, Faculty Chair of Faculty of Science, Full-time Professor, Psychology)

Other Contributors:

1.0 MOTION / DISCUSSION

MOTION:

Moved: [] that the Algoma University Senate approve the new program proposal as prepared by the Department of Psychology and recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee

Considerations for Senators:

- QualCom recommended this New Program Proposal for institutional approval at Senate at its August 25th, 2025 meeting
- This program will have a Fall intake, commencing Fall 2026
- The program is designed to align with the registration requirements of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Psychology is requesting that the Algoma University Senate approve the New Program Proposal for the Master of Psychology Program. Students will complete 10 graduate-level courses, two practicum seminars and 1 internship seminar alongside supervised clinical placements.

The Curriculum Committee reviewed and approved all proposed new courses at their May 5th, 2025 meeting. QualCom approved the New Program Proposal for external review on May 12, 2025. The Site Visit took place on July 16th, 2025 and the External Reviewer's Report was received on August 15th, 2025.

The New Program Development team responded to the Recommendations on August 21, 2025. The CAO Responded on August 21st, 2025.

3.0 ANALYSIS

The Quality Assurance Committee determined that the new program proposal meets the evaluative criteria in Appendix B of the IQAP and recommended the new program for institutional approval at Senate.

4.0 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 of 3: [Section 1: New Program Proposal - MAP](#)

Attachment 2 of 5: [Section 2: List of Proposed External Reviewers - MAP](#)

Attachment 3 of 5: [Section 3: Supplementary Appendices - MAP](#)

Attachment 2 of 3: [Department Response to the External Review - MAP](#)

Attachment 2 of 3: [CAO Response to the External Review](#)

Update from the Registrar Convocation Dates for Spring 2026

Senate Meeting Date: 12 SEP 2025

PURPOSE:

☐ *Expedited*

PREPARED BY:

☒ Approval

☐ Discussion

☐ Information

Lorretta Neebar, University Registrar and Executive Director, Student Services

1.0 MOTION / DISCUSSION

Moved [/]: that the Senate approve the proposed spring 2026 convocation dates as follows:

- *Saturday, June 13, 2026 - Sault Ste. Marie Spring Convocation*
 - *Wednesday, June 17, 2026 - Brampton Spring Convocation*
 - *Thursday, June 18, 2026 - Brampton Spring Convocation*
-

2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Convocation dates for Spring 2026 were proposed based on space availability and are recommended by the Advancement and Alumni Office, which holds the responsibility for planning convocation.

3.0 ATTACHMENTS - N/A