

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.8: **Report of the Provost**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Robert Aguirre**

1) Student Life—Welcome Week

Welcome Week was once again a success. The return of students reminds us of our core mission. Campus hummed with spirit activities, BBQs, student gatherings, and other festivities. Many thanks to all who participated and led, including student organizations, staff, faculties, alumni, and our Office of Student Experience. As always, a team effort!

2) Update on Strategic Planning—Cascading Plans

The university strategic plan, *Aspire: Together for Tomorrow*, features several key sub-plans that support its ambitions. These include:

- a. Strategic enrolment plan (chaired by Chris Busch, AVP enrolment management)
- b. Integrated academic/research plan (co-chaired by Robert D. Aguirre and VPRI Shanthi Johnson);
- c. Teaching and learning plan (chaired by Erika Kustra, AVP, Academic).

Senate approved the strategic enrolment plan in Spring 2024. A draft of the academic and research plan has been completed and will come before the Senate later this term. A consultation process with key stakeholders is currently underway. The teaching and learning plan is well along in its development. Faculties are also at work on their own strategic plans, which will nest under and articulate with the university plan. The sum of these plans will provide a road map for the university over the coming years. All plans will be undertaken in the spirit of collegial governance and will address current and future priorities.

3) Dean of Odette School of Business Search Update

The search committee, chaired by the Provost and comprised of faculty, staff, and students, has met several times since the early summer. We have identified several candidates for first-round interviews, which took place this week. Campus visits from shortlisted candidates will follow, and we remain on schedule for the search to conclude by the end of the calendar year.

4) Other personnel matters—New Dean of Science

I am pleased to recognize formally in this report our new Dean of the Faculty of Science, Dr. Cláudio Verani, who joins us from Wayne State University in Detroit, where he served with distinction as professor of chemistry and associate dean for research in the largest and most diverse faculty, Arts and Sciences. Dr. Verani has hit the ground in a sprint and is already making a positive difference in his work, championing the Faculty and working with colleagues across the university to move us forward. Please welcome Dr. Verani to the Senate.