

**University of Windsor  
Senate**

5.8: **Report of the Provost**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Robert Aguirre**

The Office of the Provost works collaboratively across the university to advance academic excellence. Guided by our strategic plan (*Aspire: Together for Tomorrow*), the office oversees long-range academic planning, teaching and learning, faculty innovation, student life and academic success, enrolment management, and institutional analysis. We are committed to promoting equity, sustainability, and the rich diversity of our campus.

**1. Campus Update—Odette Dean finalists on campus in November**

After an exhaustive search generating many excellent candidates, I am pleased to announce that we will host three highly promising finalists for the Dean of the Odette School of Business on campus during the first two weeks of November, dates to be finalized soon. Candidates will meet a broad range of individuals and groups. We are hoping to identify a candidate of choice by the end of the calendar year. I encourage interested members of the university, whatever their discipline, to attend the public presentation and provide feedback to the search committee. I would like to thank the search committee for their excellent collegial work; it has been a privilege to collaborate with them on this project.

**2. Campus Update—Approval of new bachelor's degree in Mechatronics**

I am happy to report that the Faculty of Engineering recently received approval for a new undergraduate degree in Mechatronic Systems Engineering (MSE). This program was created in response to many of Engineering's industrial partners who need engineers that are versatile in the content of both mechanical and electrical engineering. The Mechatronics program will have two unique areas of specialization: autonomous vehicles and intelligent manufacturing. Local industry leaders have identified both areas of specialization as the most relevant for the Windsor/Essex area. The program will offer both a regular and co-op stream with a schedule of classes similar to the other Bachelor of Applied Science programs. Congratulations to the Faculty of Engineering for the excellent work in getting this program off the ground!

**3. Odette School of Business Accreditation preliminary report**

Odette is accredited by the AACSB, an honour bestowed on less than 6% of business schools worldwide. The AACSB Peer Review Team's recent visit to renew Odette's accreditation was a resounding success, although the formal announcement can only be made after receiving affirmation from the AACSB board. The team commended Odette on its strong focus on student support, innovative programming, and efforts to foster industry partnerships that contribute to outstanding student and alumni outcomes. Odette was also commended for its Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Reconciliation initiatives. This positive feedback reflects Odette's dedication to continuous improvement and positions it well for future growth and impact.

**4. Campus Update—Renewal process for Dean of the Faculty of Human Kinetics**

In accordance with Senate procedures, the process to consider the request of the Dean of the Faculty of Human Kinetics for a 5-year renewal has commenced. I will update the Senate on the outcome once the process has been completed.

**5. Campus Update—Meet and greets for new advisors to Jewish and Palestinian students**

We are pleased to welcome and celebrate two new faculty advisors supporting students, our Jewish Student Support Advisor Dr. Ira Cohen, and our Palestinian Student Support Advisor, Dr. Riham Al-Saadi. Meet and greets with our advisors have been scheduled for the weeks of November 4<sup>th</sup> and November 11<sup>th</sup>, at both the main and downtown campus locations. Information is posted on our Advisors' webpages.