



Date: May 29, 2024
To: Senate
From: Ad-hoc Senate Committee on Academic Health Programming
Re: **Committee closeout report**

Since June 2023, the ad-hoc Senate Committee on Academic Health Programming, chaired by the Deputy Provost, has been exploring and determining the structure of a health-related faculty at the University of Victoria. With Senate and Board of Governors approvals for the establishment of the Faculty of Health and its constituent units, the Committee has fulfilled its mandate and will thereby be dissolved in accordance with the approved Terms of Reference (attached). This closeout report serves as the Committee's final submission to Senate.

As per the BC University Act, final approval for a faculty is the responsibility of the Board of Governors on the recommendation of Senate. At their March 1, 2024 meeting, Senate voted unanimously in favour of moving the omnibus motion to establish a Faculty of Health, and the Board of Governors subsequently approved the motion on March 25, 2024.

Additional motions for the Clinical Psychology and Counselling Psychology programs were passed unanimously by Senate on May 3, 2024, and approved by the Board of Governors on May 28, 2024.

In its work to develop the Faculty of Health recommendation to Senate, the Committee successfully completed the following Terms of Reference responsibilities:

- Developed a project plan and timeline consistent with UVic governance structures and moved through approval processes.
- Reviewed existing structures at UVic and welcomed suggestions from the campus community related to comparator and aspirational institutions.
- Consulted with UVic students, staff, faculty, librarians, leaders and others through a campus-wide survey, information booth, townhall, chairs and directors' forum, and meetings with units, among others. A summary of consultations was provided to Senate for the March 1, 2024 meeting, as were letters of support and expressions of interest from units.
- Considered and made structural recommendations regarding the Faculty of Human and Social Development and Division of Medical Sciences, and other units with health programming.
- Considered and made recommendations on the name of the faculty and academic departments, schools and programming to be included.
- Attended to and engaged with Indigenous programming and partners through the Indigenous Wellness Working Group. The group submitted their milestone interim report on January 31, 2024, which was subsequently shared with Senate and posted on the project web page.

- Updated Deans' Council and Academic Leadership, Senate, the Board of Governors and the university community as appropriate and necessary. To keep members of the campus community informed, the Committee sent broadcast emails to faculty and staff on Aug. 9, Sept. 5, Oct. 20, Dec. 12, Feb. 2, Feb. 23, March 8 and March 26 and to students on March 28. Copies are posted on the project web page.

The Committee endeavoured to be as transparent as possible throughout the process, including through the project web page (uvic.ca/health-faculty). The page launched in May 2023 and was updated regularly with milestones, presentations, memos, FAQs, reports and other materials as information became available. The University Secretary's office will keep records and document and archive the Senate process and materials should the university engage in similar processes in the future.

Through existing committees—in particular Deans' Council and Academic Leadership, Integrated Planning, and Executive Council—leaders responsible for UVic Libraries, Continuing Studies, Student Affairs, and non-academic units were engaged during the 2023/24 academic year so they could consider implications to their units as the initiative evolved. The Deputy Provost will continue to play a leadership role in moving this initiative forward by engaging with committees and units on campus responsible for matters outside of Senate's purview. For example, the Deputy Provost will convene and lead an operational working group, bring together chairs and directors of units, and connect with Deans' Council and Integrated Planning as needed.

The Committee acknowledges that there remains a significant amount of work towards the Faculty of Health becoming operational on May 1, 2025, and the Faculty of Human and Social Development being disestablished on May 1, 2026. Some of this work has already begun through parallel processes (e.g., recruitment and onboarding of the inaugural dean, culture building and supporting those who are moving to a new faculty, academic resource planning, updating student information systems, etc.). While this work is the responsibility of established committees and offices, the Committee recommends that the Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost continue maintaining the project web page to keep campus informed, at least until a Faculty of Health website has been established.

The Indigenous Wellness Working Group will continue its work, supported by the Office of the Vice-President Indigenous, as their mandate encompasses more than what is outlined in the Committee's terms of reference.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead this transformative project on behalf of the university, and for Senate's thoughtful engagement, advice and support throughout the process. We look forward to the Faculty of Health enhancing UVic's health profile by highlighting our strengths in health education, training and research and providing a stronger external profile to attract students, faculty, research chairs and partners.

Attached: Ad-hoc Senate Committee on Academic Health Programming Terms of Reference

Respectfully submitted,

Ad hoc Senate Committee on Academic Health Programming

Helga Hallgrímsdóttir, Deputy Provost (Chair)

Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, Associate Vice-President Academic Programs

Carrie Andersen, University Secretary

Vanessa Andreotti, Dean, Faculty of Education

Lisa Bourque Bearskin, School of Nursing (VP Indigenous nominee)
Tony Eder, Associate Vice-President Academic Resource Planning
Lindsay Gagel, Director, Academic Communications and Projects
Lois Harder, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
Robin Hicks, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Fraser Hof, Associate Vice-President Research
Sandra Hundza, School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education
Cole Kennedy, Graduate Student, Department of Psychology
Darryl Knight, Providence Health Care (Presidential nominee)
Nathan Lachowsky, Associate Dean Research, Faculty of HSD
Peter Loock, Dean, Faculty of Science
Anastasia Mallidou, School of Nursing
Simon Minshall, School of Health Information Science
Nathaniel Sukhdeo, Undergraduate Student, Faculty of Law
Wendy Taylor, A/University Registrar
Bruce Wright, Head, Division of Medical Sciences
Ashley Fitterer, Senior Project Officer (support)