

Faculty Relations Fall Update

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Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations, Office of the Provost



Greetings Faculty,

I love being on campus in the fall. As the students return, they infuse the entire place with energy and optimism; everything feels possible. Welcome to the first semester. I wish you the best as you inspire students and create new knowledge. What a noble profession we have chosen.

Alright, coming back down to earth: my office is tasked with implementing the new collective agreement. You will have seen the [guidelines](#) for the new entitlement for Indigenous faculty or those engaged in Indigenous RSAW to have an advocate submit a statement or meet with search, renewal/tenure, and promotion committees. Also I shared [instructions](#) to sign up for unconscious bias and anti-racism training, which will support membership on the above listed collegial process committees and special salary (merit) increases committees. The new provisions in the collective agreement reflect a shared priority between the USFA and the University to act on our commitments to [ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan](#) and the [EDI framework for action](#). I hope you see this as a tremendous opportunity to inspect and strengthen our collegial processes with an EDI and Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression lens. We are fortunate to have in-house experts design and lead

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

CHANGES TO THE
UNIVERSITY STANDARDS
(DEPARTMENT HEADS)

October 22 @ 9:00am

EDUC 1024 & Zoom

SPECIAL & CAREER
DEVELOPMENT INCREASES
(DEPARTMENT HEADS)

November 19 @ 10:30am

GEOL 161 & Zoom

ASSIGNMENT OF DUTIES
AND IN-PERSON WORK
INFO SESSION

December 11 @ 2:00pm

Available on Zoom

Zoom links are available on
our website

training that is tailored to address the unique power dynamics of the academic workplace and the collegial process.

Finally, the plan to have departments, colleges, and the University develop standards for the new tenure track teaching stream has been [communicated](#). While they are at it, departments and colleges are asked to provide comments on the proposed revisions to the university standards which have not been updated since 2011. After departments submit to the colleges, they will provide submissions to the URC by January 1st, and barring any major obstacles, we will have approved standards in place for the 2025/2026 academic year.

Returning to the happy optimism in my opening greetings, please let me know how my office can help you be productive. Please email vpfr@usask.ca with any questions about recruitment and searches, tenure and renewal, promotion, merit, standards, assignment of duties, retirement and anything else prescribed by the collective agreement. Your department head and dean are also good sources of information. I am also happy to come to a committee meeting to discuss issues within my portfolio that are of concern; I just need an invitation.

You're Invited: Distinguished Professor Lectures

New this year, the Office of the Provost is organizing a lecture series so that our most accomplished academics may recount their career journey: challenges, mistakes, accomplishments, and lessons learned. The schedule of three of our distinguished professors, who received the title in the previous academic year, are listed below. You are welcome to come and enjoy the conversation, food, and drink.

Jim Handy	February 5; 4-6pm	Convocation Hall
Vivian Ramsden	April 9; 4-6pm	Convocation Hall
Terry Wotherspoon	March 12; 4-6pm	Convocation Hall

VPFR Team: Help is Here



Ana Crespo-Martin

Director

Sara Wust

Faculty Relations Specialist

Kennedy Galbraith

Faculty Development Advisor

Larissa Wudrick

Executive Assistant

Nicole Bowden

Administrative Assistant

Amy Manovich

Administrative Assistant (On Leave)

Elyse Lalonde

Human Resources

Strategic Business Advisor

Jan Baxter-Jones

Sr. Finance

Strategic Business Advisor

VP Faculty Relations

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CALL FOR

NOMINATIONS!

Every year the University celebrates outstanding careers by awarding the title of 'Distinguished Professor' to a handful of full professors. The call for nominations is open and can be accessed: [distinguished-professor-call-nominations.docx \(live.com\)](#).

**Would you like
to hear more
from the VPFR?**

Please email vpfaculty.relations@usask.ca and invite me to attend committee meetings. I want to hear from faculty; the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Have a great first semester.