

# Dean's Report

March 2020

*\*additional information presented by the Dean at Faculty Board*



## Coronavirus COVID-19 Information

Queen's University administrators are actively monitoring reports on the evolving outbreak of coronavirus COVID-19 that can cause acute upper respiratory illness and pneumonia. Protecting the health and safety of our students, staff, and faculty is a primary concern, and we are continuously assessing what may be required in response to any spread of the virus. For more information, please see [queensu.ca/covidinfo](https://queensu.ca/covidinfo), which includes a travel advisory that was issued on March 9, as well as [queensu.ca/studentwellness](https://queensu.ca/studentwellness). Questions and concerns can be directed to [covidinfo@queensu.ca](mailto:covidinfo@queensu.ca). Please also see the Gazette stories: [Queen's appoints COVID-19 response lead](#) and [Prevention and response to COVID-19](#)

## Strategic Plan Updates

Since the February report, the Faculty has undertaken the following initiatives that reflect and support its strategic priorities:

- See the story about how scholars in our Faculty are developing a **new BA Minor/General in Black Studies** that was posted on the Faculty website and in the Gazette [History in the making](#) See the [Twitter Post](#) and/or [Facebook Post](#). #StudentExperience #ResearchProminence
- See the story in the Alumni Review about our **Queen's Career Apprenticeship: Kingston** program, which matches new arts and humanities graduates with local employers to jump start their careers. The program started just over three years ago as a joint project between our Faculty and the Kingston Economic Development Corporation, after discussions with Queen's benefactor Alan Rottenberg, and it has grown exponentially. This year a spin-off apprenticeship program launched in Guelph and representatives from other communities across Canada have expressed interest in adopting the successful Queen's-Kingston model. See [A blueprint for success](#). #StudentExperience #SupportFASpeople
- The **Dean's Community Assembly** took place on February 26. Approximately 50 staff members participated in this unique opportunity to engage with the Faculty's Strategic Plan and share their views about how we can support them. A report with action items is forthcoming. See the [Twitter Post](#). #SupportFASpeople

The following initiatives that reflect and support the Strategic Plan strategic priority of enriching the student experience are upcoming and/or in progress:

- The **Dean's Changemaker Challenge** will take place from 11:00 am -1:00 pm on **March 16** in Mac-Corry Student Street. The Dean is challenging students to tell us what needs to change to improve the student experience in Arts and Science. Our new Dean's Changemaker Challenge courses, which will be available for September, will help turn their ideas into reality. Learn more and help us encourage students to visit our booth in Mac-Corry Student Street, which will be located near the cafeteria, to participate in a thought exchange. All they need to do is drop by – snacks will be provided and the will be entered into a draw to win a bag of Queen's swag!! Please see and share [QUartsci.com/challenge](#), [Facebook Event](#), [Facebook Post](#), [Twitter Post](#), [Instagram Post](#) #StudentExperience
- In addition to the Dean's Changemaker Challenge courses, the Faculty will be introducing a new fourth-year **Interdisciplinary Project course** (ASCX 400/3.0) this winter. Multi-disciplinary teams of students from Arts and Science and other Queen's faculties will undertake consulting projects with industrial, government, and not-for-profit clients. Projects will encompass topics based on societal and industry interests such as social innovation, process improvement, business strategy and the environment. #StudentExperience
- As part of an eCampusOntario initiative, Arts and Science, Engineering and the Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre Queen's has partnered with the City of Kingston to offer a new **online professional development workshop: Introduction to Design Thinking**. Funded by eCampusOntario, this is the first **micro-credential** at Queen's that will be written to the Ethereum Blockchain. #StudentExperience #SupportFASpeople

## Kudos

- See the Research@Queen's feature on **Myra Hird** (Environmental Studies) and her research on microplastics. "They are in the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the water we consume and we are still learning about what this means for our health, the health of our environment, and our future. How do we tackle this "wicked" problem? Queen's researcher Myra Hird believes the answer is in our own consumption habits." See [Diving into microplastics](#) and our [Twitter Post](#). #ResearchProminence
- **Joan Schwartz** (History and Art Conservation) has been appointed to the newly established International Advisory Board of the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. [Read more](#). #ResearchProminence
- **Meghan Norris** (Psychology), Michael Nevin (Education graduate student), Nerissa Mulligan (Engineering Teaching and Learning) and Mary Bouchard (Faculty of Health Sciences) took part in a key phase of [eCampusOntario's ongoing learning analytics initiative](#): a sprint designed to gather student insight and understand student learning experiences to co-design the blueprint for a learning analytics tool that could meet the needs of students, educators and administrators at Ontario post-secondary institutions. The project will follow a research-based design process, meaning the blueprint will be a starting point to support continued research, analysis, iterations and development. #ResearchProminence #StudentExperience