

## Meeting Notes

## Office of the Principal & Vice-Chancellor

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                       |                             |
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| <b>Meeting:</b>   | SDG Implementation Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Date and time:</b> | Friday March 27<br>9am-10am |
| <b>Location:</b>  | <b>Richardson 340/Microsoft Teams</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                       |                             |
| <b>Chair:</b>     | <b>Marcus Taylor</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                       |                             |
| <b>Attendees:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juan Francisco Chavez Ramirez</li> <li>Julia Stroud</li> <li>Klodiana Kolomitro</li> <li>Brooke Schmidt</li> <li>Patrick Deane</li> <li>Paul Grogan</li> <li>Denise Stockley</li> <li>Heather Kincaide</li> <li>Dawood Tullah</li> <li>Nick Mosey</li> <li>Nathan Splinter</li> <li>Jennifer Campbell</li> <li>Mika Henry</li> <li>Melinda Knox</li> <li>Bhavya Bogra</li> <li>Jessica Whiting</li> <li>Vicki Friesen</li> <li>Ruth Dunley</li> </ul> |                       |                             |
| <b>Regrets:</b>   | Brenda Paul, Leigh Kalin, Cathy Keates, Ali Basra, Ellie Sadinsky, Matthew Evans, Benjamin Bolden, John DiPaolo, Stephanie Simpson, Jake Kaupp, Brian Amsden, Jana Amer, Lisa Walsh, Michelle Searle, Melissa East Aspila, Kristen Lowitt, Oyedeji Ayonrinde, Patrick Fisher                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                       |                             |
| <b>Admin</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meghan Hatch</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       |                             |

| Action Items                                                                                                                                                          | Who |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Review and provide feedback on CTL's resources in support of <a href="#">SDG and global engagement-informed curriculum design</a>                                     | All |
| Suggested review of the City of Kingston's <a href="#">Climate Adaptation Plan</a>                                                                                    | All |
| Volunteers to populate the new subcommittees are needed – please reach out to Marcus Taylor if interested                                                             | All |
| Review <a href="#">Responsible Futures audit criteria</a> and submit any evidence or examples that speak to these criteria to the <a href="#">SDG advisor email</a> . | All |
| A volunteer is needed to participate in the UC3, particularly in the Research Working Group.                                                                          | All |

### 1. Welcome and land acknowledgment

- The meeting opened with an update on recent changes in SDG portfolio including Marcus Taylor as the new Special Advisor to the Principal on the SDGs and Chair of this council. Thanks

were offered to Heather Aldersey for her work during her tenure as Chair. Marcus made a land acknowledgement.

## 2. SDG updates

- a. SDG Month
  - i. SDG Month included a wide range of events extending into early April. Thanks were given to Brooke Schmidt, the AMS, and student organizations for coordinating activities.
  - ii. Graduate Research Day was highlighted as a major success featuring interdisciplinary graduate research connected to SDG themes. The proposed next step is a series of interdisciplinary graduate research panels on global challenges planned with SGSPA..
  - iii. The feature event was a [keynote](#) from Dr. Alaa Murabit, globally renowned strategist and contributor to the creation of the UN SDGs. The keynote was followed by a student discussion involving undergraduate and graduate students engaged in sustainability work. Dr. Murabit later wrote to express how impressed she was by the level of student engagement.
- b. Tagging SDG-related Courses
  - i. Work is underway to identify and tag SDG-related courses from all Faculties.
- c. Green Lab Initiative
  - i. A Green Lab Initiative is being piloted in the Department of Biology with the aim of improving sustainability practices in laboratories. Interest has already expanded beyond Biology to areas such as Chemistry, Physics, and Environmental Science and may provide a model for broader sustainability assessment beyond the sciences.
- d. Career and Curriculum Resources
  - i. Career Services launched a [sustainability-focused career guide](#) that connects students' work to the SDGs.
  - ii. The Centre for Teaching and Learning is developing resources to support [SDG and global engagement-informed curriculum design](#). Members were encouraged to review and provide feedback on those materials.
- e. City of Kingston Update
  - i. Members were encouraged to review the City of Kingston's newly finalized [Climate Change Adaptation Plan](#).
  - ii. The city is advancing the Official Plan and Integrated Mobility Plan together. A new draft of the Official Plan is going to Council early April for feedback. A community online open house will be held on April 8. The planning horizon is 25 years and anticipates Kingston reaching a population of 220,000. This plan was described as highly progressive and important for sustainable city-building.
- f. Queen's Institute for Educational Scholarship and Research
  - i. The Office of the Provost is launching the Queen's Institute for Educational Scholarship and Research on April 30. The institute will focus on the connection between teaching and research. It was presented as an opportunity for collaboration across portfolios, particularly in relation to SDG learning, pedagogy and scholarship.

## 3. Subcommittee restructuring

- a. A proposal was introduced to reorganize SDG subcommittees around the seven pillars of [Queen's SDG framework](#) (Research Impact, Student Learning, Research and Teaching Integration, Global Engagement, Queen's in the Community, Organizational Culture, and Operations).
- b. Queen's in the Community would be spearheaded by Special Advisor to the Principal on Community Engagement Michelle Searle.

- c. Student Learning and Research and Teaching Integration could be merged into one subcommittee.
- d. Subcommittee work would begin in September. Volunteers for each subcommittee are needed.
- e. Strong student engagement in the subcommittees was noted as a priority.

#### **4. Responsible Futures Audit**

- a. Responsible Futures is a UK-based, student-led sustainability audit framework and Queen's is preparing for its second audit, scheduled for March 2027.
- b. Queen's and Mohawk College are participating Canadian institutions. The audit will involve external facilitators and student auditors to review the evidence submitted by the university across 51 criteria.
- c. The full [spreadsheet of criteria](#) was circulated to members. Members were urged to review it and identify existing evidence, relevant initiatives, and people or offices that may hold useful information
- d. The 2027 audit can build off the evidence and results from the 2024 audit.

#### **5. Questions/comments/conclusion**

- a. Queen's is a member of the [University Climate Change Coalition](#) (UC3), a North American higher education partnership supporting climate research and engagement. A volunteer is needed to participate in regular UC3 meetings, particularly in the Research Working Group.