University Council April Newsletter

Council Updates

National Volunteer Week (April 24-30) celebrates Canada’s 12.7 million volunteers and the magic that happens when we work together toward a common purpose. Queen’s University is fortunate to have you as dedicated Alumni serving on University Council. You have been instrumental to the mission of the University, as ambassadors and advisors! Thank you!

Committee Updates

Council Trustees: The next regular Open Session of the Board of Trustees will be held on May 13 and 14, 2022 (meeting dates can be found on the Board website). You can check out the Board agenda/minutes on the Governance Portal. To attend the Board’s Open Session, please submit your request in advance to the Board of Trustees.

Nominating Committee: Nominations from alumni for 11 positions on Queen’s University Council closed on April 6. The election will be held in June 2022. Alumni will be alerted to this election via email. To ensure you will receive communications about this election, please update your contact information and confirm your communication preferences by contacting the Alumni Relations Office by email or by phone: 1-800-267-7837. Please share this information with your alumni networks.

Elaine Wu
Chair, Nominating Committee

On behalf of your new Nominating committee: Heather Black, Judith Brown, Samantha Cheung, Mary Drinkwater
**Program Committee:** On March 28, the Program Committee hosted ‘The Myth of Canada the Great: Why Everyone Needs to Understand the Indian Act Now’ Virtual Workshop. Facilitated by Dawn T. Maracle, BEd’98 the workshop provided a deeper understanding of the Indian Act, and how Colonialism continues to impact the well-being of Indigenous communities, as well as the institutions and processes we all engage with every day. If you couldn’t attend, you can view the workshop online.

Dawn has suggested the following readings to increase your knowledge:
- *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action*
- *MMIWG Calls for Justice*
- *Indian Act R.S.C., 1985, c. I-5*

She also recommends following the social media handles below:

**TWITTER**
@dtmaracle
@_ONWA_
@AFN_Updates
@LeahGazan
@CBCIndigenous
@ChiefsofOntario

**INSTAGRAM**
@EllenGabriel1
@1065ELMNTFM
@StevenNitah
@Jessewente
@Land.guardians
@Enns_Eli @cblackst
@Indigenous_ca

**Distinguished Service Award:** Do you know someone who has made Queen’s a better place and deserves to be recognized? Inaugurated by the University Council in 1974, this award recognizes individuals who have made Queen’s a better place through their outstanding contributions. Learn more and submit a nomination for the Distinguished Service Awards. The deadline for nominations is Friday, April 29, 2022, at 4 pm ET. Please email the University Secretariat if you have questions about the Awards or the nomination process.

And mark your calendar for the University Council AGM on November 4 and 5, 2022.

**Mary Drinkwater**
Chair, Program Committee

On behalf of your Program Committee: John Armitage, Richard Baugh, Heather Black, Doug Bruce, Mary Dodd, Alison Holt

**Senate:** Meeting dates can be found on the Senate website. The next regular Senate meeting will be held on March 29, 2022 via Zoom. You can check out the Senate agenda/minutes on the Governance Portal.

To attend any portion of the meeting, please email Senate with your request in advance.
**Queen's University Alumni Association (QUAA) Update:** It is with optimism and excitement that I begin my two-year term as QUAA President this spring. I'm grateful for the incredible leadership of Rico Garcia, ArtSci’13, who has led the QUAA with flexibility and resilience during the pandemic, and who has certainly left big shoes to fill. My vision for the Alumni Association over the next two years is to move forward as an expansive network, strengthened by lessons learned throughout the pandemic. As connectors of the global Queen’s community, the QUAA Board of Directors will continue leading a group of motivated volunteers to live out the mission of the QUAA: “To reach out and foster a lifelong association with Queen’s, to engage our members in the life and work of the University, and to serve the alumni community in all its diversity.”

Things can’t return to what they once were, pre-pandemic. Nor should they. As a community, we’ve engaged in extensive dialogue around individual identity and experience at Queen’s, highlighting the need for affinity-based groups (such as the Queen’s Black Alumni Chapter and the Queen’s Queer Alumni Chapter) and the value in their development. One of the most impactful shifts within the Queen’s alumni community over the past two years has been toward virtual programming, which has allowed us to reach a wider and more global alumni audience. Moving forward, both virtual and hybrid events and initiatives will play a key role as we actively support the advancement of the strategic goals of the university. I anticipate working closely with QUAA and University Council to collectively shape the future of Queen’s and its global impact through volunteerism and philanthropy, and I look forward to meeting many of you over the next two years.

- Colin McLeod
  Incoming President, QUAA

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**Councillor Spotlight**

**Daria Juüdi-Hope: Class of 2021 Golden Ticket Masterclass**

On May 19, **Councillor Daria Juüdi-Hope**, BNSc’11, MPH’20 will be taking part in a live virtual event where she will share a short “Masterclass style” piece of advice she wished she knew when she first graduated from Queen’s.

Six other alumni mentors from each Faculty will join Daria in speaking to a group of thirty Class of 2021 graduates, who have been selected at random to receive a golden ticket. Through this initiative, Queen’s will actively showcase our most distinguished alumni and connect
Bittu George: 3 Minute Thesis

Thank you to Councillor Bittu George for being a judge at the 3 Minute Thesis final held on March 24 in Mitchell Hall, Event Commons. “No Props, One Slide, 3 Minutes”: 3MT® is a university-wide competition for Queen's Masters (thesis or research project) and doctoral students in which participants present their research and its wider impact in 3 minutes or less to a panel of non-specialist judges.

The winner goes on to represent Queen’s at the Northeastern Association of Graduate Studies (NAGS) 3MT virtual event on Thursday, April 28, 2022, from 2-4 pm ET. They will also compete in the Ontario Regional 3MT Finals on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at the University of Guelph.

Nirosha Balakumar: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

On March 21, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Councillor Nirosha Balakumar presented a livestream event on Instagram with the Human Rights and Equity Office. Nirosha is known for her work as a spoken word artist and TEDx speaker who highly values the integration of art and advocacy as an approach to decolonizing education. For those who missed it, you can watch the event on Instagram.

Featured Opportunities

Council 100% Giving Participation Goal

Councillors set the example for fellow alumni by making charitable contributions to support Queen’s philanthropic priorities. Council aspires to a 100% participation rate of giving, at a level that is meaningful to each Councillor, on an annual basis. In the absence of any personal interest or commitment, Councillors are encouraged to direct their gifts to the University Council Bursary, which assists students in financial need.
Council currently has a giving rate of 50% (of the 44 Councillors, 22 have donated, 22 have not donated). But we still have to the end of April to meet our goal of 100%. To arrange your gift (at any level), please donate online or contact Sohee Yoo today. Let’s get to 100%!

**Give to Queen’s**

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**NOMINATE: Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching**

Nominations continue to be accepted for the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching. This prestigious award recognizes a Queen’s teacher who shows outstanding knowledge, teaching ability, and accessibility to students. Nominations can be submitted by students, alumni, and faculty. The deadline has been extended to May 2, 2022.

Learn more and submit a nomination for the Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching.

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**Cause & Effect**

Alumni Review’s new podcast, Cause and Effect, dives into the motivations of philanthropists and explores what they’re passionate about and the impact they have on the world. Listen to the latest episode featuring QUAA Board member Allison Williams, Artsci’09. And be sure to catch future interviews with Councillors Tka Pinnock and Kasmet Niyongabo!

To find out how you can become involved with this podcast, contact Nicole Lynch.

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**Queen's Links to Keep You Informed**

- Queen's Gazette
- Queen's Alumni Review
- Queen's Quarterly
- Queen's Law Reports
- Smith Magazine
- The Complete Engineer
- Inclusive Queen's
- Viewbooks
- Queen's Encyclopedia