

Implementation of the Academic Plan – Executive Summary

Academic Affairs

While Concordia University of Edmonton’s Academic Plan does speak to every unit across campus, calling for the active engagement of us all, it necessarily has increased valence for the academic side of the house. All four AP themes explicitly guide how each of our Faculties (Arts, Education, Management, Science, and Graduate Studies), the Library, the Office of the Registrar and Enrollment Services, the Office of Institutional Planning and Program Development, and the Office of Research contribute to making CUE Canada’s pre-eminent small university.

Our Past, Our Present, Our Future

Through implementation of the GFC-approved institutional learning outcomes, all Faculties demonstrate their commitment to ensuring that our graduates demonstrate independent thinking, exemplify an ethical character, practice full citizenship, and contribute to the foundational knowledge of their university degree. Regular campus-wide scans of existing programs alongside our ongoing development of innovative new programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels help us explore CUE’s unique niche in the post-secondary landscape. Both faculty and students will find support for their evolving research ambitions in our new Strategic Research Plan, currently under development. And strategic enrollment management will allow us to ensure that CUE’s rapid growth toward our target numbers continues to enhance the student experience.

An Ethic of Comprehensive Inclusion

Core to successful implementation of the AP are the concrete steps that CUE is taking toward the recruitment and retention of students and faculty from traditionally underrepresented groups. Academic Affairs strives to support every one of our students through the timely completion of their degrees, as well as in their varied activities and events. Sustainable hiring across the academic and academic-support units helps us keep pace with both rising enrolment and new program directions. Our faculty hiring practice in particular includes attention to every individual’s contributions to promoting diversity in teaching, research and work in the community, whether on this campus or beyond. A new undergraduate Ethics course will complement our existing graduate training in that area.

Treaty 6, Edmonton and the World

Our academic programs and activities engage closely with the IKRC, ensuring that Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of our campus community have opportunities to learn respectfully from one another. Links to and with the BMO-CIAR support applied research training and career aspirations for all of our students. International offerings that are second to none for a university our size encourage CUE students and faculty actively to explore the world—through meaningful FLSA experiences, dual degrees and exchanges—and allow the world to come to us. Co-curricular activities embedded in the curriculum do the same at the more local community level.

A Boutique Experience

Through attention to detail and individualized responses, all units within Academic Affairs demonstrate a commitment to treating every CUE student, past and present, as a VIP on this campus. As a result, we enjoy robust satisfaction scores that we continue to monitor and enhance, as well as build lifelong Alumni relationships. The current student experience is enhanced through improved academic service supports, while a new focus on providing Open-Educational Resources will help minimize their costs. And developments within the Office of Research Services will provide students with access to more opportunities, specialized training, and funding. Annual awards allow us to recognize the impressive achievements of students, staff and faculty, thereby building a culture of success and celebration.

