



Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 14, 2014

To: Directors and Staff of the Deputy Provost Portfolio; MUNSU, GSU, MISU, GCSU Executives;
Senior Academic Administrators Group (SAAG)

From: David Wardlaw, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "DM Wardlaw".

Re: Realignment of Deputy Provost (Students) Portfolio: Board of Regents Approval

At the May 8th meeting of the Board of Regents, a proposal for a three-phased administrative realignment of the deputy provost (students) portfolio was approved, including a detailed plan for phase one. Prior to presentation to the Board of Regents, this proposal was discussed at meetings with the Deans' Council, Vice-Presidents Council, Senate, student union executives and directors within the deputy provost's portfolio.

The proposal was informed by insights and recommendations found in the Visioning Group Reports, External Review Report, Enrolment Plan, Internationalization White Paper, and correspondence with MUNSU. Each of these pieces, along with months of consultations with senior academic and administrative leaders, contributed to the development of a proposal for a new portfolio structure.

The objectives of this review and administrative realignment process continue to be finding optimal ways to enhance curricular and co-curricular supports for students, and positively impacting the overall academic performance, behaviour, health and safety of Memorial's student body.

The realignment of the deputy provost's portfolio will consist of three phases, spanning May 2014 to May 2016. In the coming weeks, the phase one plan will be communicated to the units involved and will then be shared more broadly, following which the implementation of phase one will begin.

Throughout the consultations and reports, it has become clear that some further examination of key areas within the portfolio is necessary. As part of phase two and three of the realignment plan, two review panels will commence in June 2014, with reports due in July 2014. The panels will focus on the following areas: Comprehensive Student Development and Student Health and Wellness. Further details regarding the panels and a request for written submissions to each panel will be communicated shortly. The work of each panel will include a two-day site visit for face-to-face meetings with a number of stakeholders.

I know that some of you are concerned that this realignment will result in job or employment changes. I assure you that it is not the intent of the plan to reduce Memorial's workforce. In the particular cases where roles are changing or positions are being repurposed in phase one, we have already discussed the changes with the employees affected. Organizational change is always challenging, but it is important to remain focused on the overall objective of enhancing curricular and co-curricular supports for students.

Thank you for your insight and input throughout this process.

For reference:

External Review Report http://www.mun.ca/vpacademic/Portfolio_Review_July_4.pdf

Visioning Group Reports <http://www.mun.ca/vpacademic/visioning.php>