



**Office of the Provost
and Vice-Principal (Academic)**

Provost Report to Senate: October 30, 2012

Enrolment Planning

An Enrolment Planning Task Force chaired by my predecessor recommended, in its final report to the Principal, that an ongoing Strategic Enrolment Management Group should be created, to, among other things, oversee the development of an enrolment plan for Queen's that respects academic priorities while paying due consideration to the need for flexibility to accommodate, and adapt to, factors such as changing demographics and student interest, financial challenges and opportunities, and government priorities.

The establishment of this group was postponed for a year, to await the development of the activity-based budget, which is expected to have an influence on enrolment options and capacity within Faculties and Schools. With the budget model now approaching completion, we shall soon be in a position to create the Strategic Enrolment Management Group, which will be appropriately broadly constituted.

The group, which will include a faculty member, Deans or delegates, and a representative from each of the AMS and the SGPS, will begin by developing an enrolment plan for 2013-2014 together with projections for the two subsequent years. In the spring, the plan will be presented to Senate, through SCAD.

Queen's National Scholars Program

We recently wrote to the Deans about the new Queen's National Scholars (QNS) program for the 2013-2014 academic year. Based on comments received about the structure of the previous QNS program, this year's process will involve two stages. At the first stage, we shall be inviting expressions of interest from units or groups of units wishing to propose the recruitment of a QNS in a particular area. The QNS committee will then review these expressions of interest, and select four submissions to advance to the second stage. At this stage, those responsible for each successful expression of interest will be asked to submit an expanded proposal that among other things will identify the individual to whom an offer would be made if the proposal were approved. The QNS committee will review these expanded proposals and select the best two. The appointment of the two candidates nominated in these proposals will be recommended to the Principal for appointment.

The goal of the new QNS competition is to bring early- to mid-career scholars to Queen's who have demonstrated their ability to provide rich and rewarding learning experiences to all their students and who can develop a research program that aligns with institutional priorities.

Working Group on Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs

A working group has been established to make recommendations to the Provost about mechanisms and processes that would facilitate the development and sustainment of interdisciplinary graduate programs. In particular, the group will identify encumbrances to the development of such programs and offer recommendations about: how these encumbrances might be overcome, best practices for managing such programs, and appropriate distribution of revenue and attribution of costs. The committee met for the first time earlier this month and expects to report to the Provost early in the New Year.

Student Learning Experience Task Force

The establishment of a Task Force on the Student Learning Experience is underway. A primary focus of the task force will be the Fundamental Academic Skills identified by the Academic Plan as central to the Queen's student