

TO: Members, Fine Arts Faculty Council

FROM: Tristan Khaner, Secretary, Fine Arts Faculty Council

DATE: February 6, 2026

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Please be advised that the next meeting of the Fine Arts Faculty Council will be held on  
**Friday, February 13, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in EV 2.776**

## **AGENDA**

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Call to Order  | Quorum Required       |
| 2. Agenda for the Meeting of February 13, 2026  | For Approval          |
| 3. Minutes of Meeting of January 16, 2026   | For Approval          |
| 4. Business Arising from the Minutes of January 16, 2026  | For Information       |
| 5. Chair's Remarks  | For Information       |
| 6. Appointments (FFAC-2026-02-D1)   | For Information       |
| 7. Academic Programs and Pedagogy   |                       |
| 7.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy<br>(FFAC-2026-02-D4)                      | For Information       |
| 8. Motion to Approve the Revised Academic Program Approval Process<br>(FFAC-2026-02-D2)                     | For Approval          |
| 9. <b>Centre for Teaching and Learning Resources</b> (10:30 a.m.)   | For Information       |
| Guest: John-Paul Foxe, Senior Director, Centre for Teaching and<br>Learning (CTL)                           | (15 mins. incl. Q&As) |
| 10. Research, Graduate Studies and Faculty Development  | For Information       |
| 10.1. Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and<br>Faculty Development (FFAC-2026-02-D5) |                       |

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|---|-----------------|
| 11. Questions                                       | For Information |
| 12. Other Business                                  | For Information |
| 13. Advancement Activities Report (FFAC-2026-02-D7) | For Information |
| 14. Next Meeting – March 13, 2026                   |                 |
| 15. Adjournment                                     |                 |

An update with documents not included here will be sent prior to the meeting.  
Faculty Council documents are uploaded on the [Fine Arts Faculty Council web page](#).

**Concordia University**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty of Fine Arts Council**

**January 16, 2026**  
**9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**EV2.776**

**Present:** A. Gérin (Chair), E. Adams, P. Barr, J. Berzowska, J.-F. Bourgault, H. Brousseau, C. Bruce, A. Cappelluto, J. Carmichael, S. Cooke, G. Dimitrov, D. Douglas, K. Dunfield, S. Ghosh, J.R. Giersdorf, S. Janssen, C. Keegan, T. Khaner, M. Lefebvre, D. LeRue, H. McLaughlin, P. McLelland, E. Murphy, N. Pezolet, C. Ready, J. Rager, S. Romano, B. Singh, M.J. Thompson, H. Wasson

**Guests:** R. Berger, J. Johnston

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION:** (C. Bruce / D. Douglas)

“that the agenda for the meeting of January 16, 2026, be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 14, 2025**

**MOTION:** (D. Douglas / D. LeRue)

“that the minutes of the meeting of November 14, 2025, be approved.”

**CARRIED**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes of November 14, 2025**

Any business arising from the minutes of the November 14, 2025 meeting will be addressed in the Chair’s remarks.

**5. Chair’s Remarks**

- Much has happened since the beginning of January. The American incursion into Venezuela surprised everyone and protest and repression have intensified in Iran. Concordia International reaches out to members of the community, students, staff and faculty members, when these impactful events affect some who are from the affected regions to make sure they are safe and that they know resources are available to support them. Some people may be missed that are declared as Canadian citizens. If Council members have colleagues from Iran who are being affected and seeking help, they should direct them to [Concordia International](#), [HR](#) or the Dean.
- Quebec Premier François Legault has stepped down and we will see over the next months what follows.
- Provost Faye Diamantoudi, has been visiting every faculty department across the university to discuss the financial situation and to propose some initiatives and ideas to develop new student markets. FoFA meetings were all held in December and the Dean outlined the takeaways:
  - o Our expenses continue to go up, despite efforts deployed over the past few years to curb them. This is mainly due to the ongoing growth of salaries which represent the lion's share of the university budget. Not much can be done about this, except reducing the salary mass by having fewer employees. Therefore, it is expected that most of the imminent employee departures will not be replaced, and some contracts will not be renewed.

- While our expenses are going up, revenues are going down because there is an overall smaller student body across the faculty due to the following:
    - The university has fewer students, mainly international students, who have been discouraged by federal and provincial policies from coming, and the more populous years are now graduating.
    - There is a change in the provincial funding formula that now claws back some of the tuition. Should the number of students be the same, the revenues would still be lower.
  - With growing expenses and decreasing revenues, our deficit is rapidly growing.
  - The university has an agreement with the government to reach a balanced budget by 2028-2029, and in the past few years, it has reached its target deficit. This year, the university is \$12M off from meeting its target deficit and it is struggling. Without change it will be off by approximately \$45M next year.
  - To reduce the deficit as of next year, the university has implemented measures like the Voluntary Retirement Program for faculty and for staff, as well as taken the extreme measure to delay sabbaticals and put a pause on the hiring of new LTAs. The Provost has informed FoFA that new measures are soon to be announced, once the impact of the voluntary retirement has been measured.
  - The second part of the Provost's presentation was about what departments can do to help grow revenues. Expenses must be reduced but growing revenues will help lessen the number of cuts needed to reduce expenses.
  - With the loss of international students and the limited pool of CEGEP and High School students, the approach for finding other groups interested in studying at the university, must be widened and the following initiatives were proposed:
    - Stop-out campaign: reach out to students who drift away from the university for various reasons such as health, personal matters, not a good fit, or a professional contract, to let them know that after having completed a few terms or several years, they can resume their studies where they left off. Other universities do this and Concordia now will.
    - Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): this recognizes the professional experience of students who don't want to do a full degree, but who might consider coming to the university, if part of their experience is recognised.
    - Departments supporting part-time students in how they do their timetable, i.e.: night or online classes.
    - New, short programs that appeal to professionals such as the well-established Fine Arts micro-programs in Cinema and Design, which started a few years ago, and developing other short programs that address mature students, or students that are not interested in doing a BFA.
    - New pathways to facilitate the creation of microprograms, and the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), which will be discussed in Rachel Berger's presentation.
  - Discussions with the departments were overall very productive and many ideas are already in motion. The Dean thanked the departmental chairs, and all those who joined the meetings, for their openness and creativity, and for all their efforts which are putting the faculty in a position to succeed.
  - While the impetus for these conversations is financial, it's allowing the faculty to have interesting questions about its academic mission, and the kinds of programs and kinds of students it wants to help develop.
- Eldad Tsabary has stepped down from his role as Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, to return to the Department of Music who is thrilled to have him back. The Dean thanked him warmly for his great collegiality and for supporting researchers and students. As of this January, Haidee Wasson who has held the position of Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies in the past, is taking the portfolio back with

some reduced responsibilities. The role of Associate Dean, Faculty Development and Inclusion did not exist at the faculty of Fine Arts before 2020. The work was done by staff and the Dean. Haidee will keep some of the faculty development responsibilities, as will the Dean while the Office of the Dean is conducting an analysis to assess what could be given over to staff.

The Dean thanked Haidee for agreeing to pilot this role and for her courage, stamina and high degree of professionalism.

- Announcements:

In spite of the hiring freeze, the faculty is hiring.

- FoFA is conducting an external hire for the inaugural [Chair of the School of Performance](#). It is hoped that one of the many interesting candidates will be filling the position this summer.
- Volt-Age, the large research project on energy transition led by Concordia is hiring a number of fellows, who will also be tenure-track faculty members, and the search includes hiring someone in the Department of Design and Computation Arts, who will work on sustainability and the built environment as of August 1.
- In late December, the federal government launched the [Impact + federal research chair program](#) to attract to Canada talent currently working internationally. Concordia acted quickly, and sent out a [generic call](#), listing all the priorities established by the government. Anyone who knows of high-calibre researchers who are interested in moving to Canada, should send them the call quickly. The application deadline is January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- FoFA is in the process of hiring an expert-in-residence specialised in artificial intelligence and creativity. This is a donor-funded opportunity to hire a professional working in industry or as a professional artist, for three years, with a different person taking on the role each year. The first expert-in-residence is [Christian Beltrami](#), a graduate of the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema, and a film producer. Part of his commitment will be to teach a summer undergraduate class, open to folks across the faculty, on how to work with AI to assist, but not not replace, the creative process in their own projects, whether they are choreographers, designers, artists... He is also tasked with creating a publicly-accessible lecture or workshop series.
- Two art historian members of the Faculty of Fine Arts were [nominated to the Order of Canada](#) this year:
  - [Martha Langford](#), who also directed the [Jarislowsky Institute for Canadian art](#), was editor in chief of the [Journal of Canadian Art History](#), and published many works on Canadian photography.
  - Reesa Greenberg, who taught at Concordia for many years and retired long ago. She was particularly interested in feminist practices and exhibition studies, and she has greatly supported and advanced digital documentation of Canadian art.
- A team of Fine Arts graduates have created [The Girl Who Cried Pearls](#), an animation film that was nominated for the Oscars. The film is available on the [NFB website](#).
- The [Wild Talks Lecture Series](#) will feature special guest musician, singer, songwriter [Martha Wainwright](#) on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Concordia Theatre.
- The Dean encouraged everyone to visit the [MFA Gallery](#) on this final day of an exhibition of FoFA technicians works, and to visit the [FoFA Gallery](#) to see the newly opened exhibition of the works of FoFA undergraduate students.

## 6. Appointments (FFAC-2026-01-D1)

The members of Council were informed of new appointments.

## 7. Academic Programs and Pedagogy

**7.1. Curriculum Changes for the Department of Creative Arts Therapies (Dossier FA-CATS-5737) (FFAC-2026-01-D2)**

**MOTION:** (S. Janssen / D. Douglas)

“that the curriculum changes for the Creative Arts Therapies be passed.”

**CARRIED**

**7.2 Curriculum Changes for the Department of Art History (Dossier FA-ARTH-5913) (FFAC-2026-01-D3)**

**MOTION:** (S. Janssen / J. Carmichael)

“that the curriculum changes for the Department of Art History be passed.”

**CARRIED**

**7.3 Report of the Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Pedagogy (FFAC-2026-01-D4)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Shauna Janssen](#).

The Associate Dean proposed inviting [Jean-Paul Foxe](#), Senior Director, [Centre for Teaching and Learning](#) to talk about CTL resources and its [Winterfest 2026](#).

**8. Volt-Age**

Guests Jennifer Garard, Director of Engagement, Living Labs and EDI, and Carolina Mancini, Director of operations, Volt-Age, presented *Volt-Age Concordia. A Research Program on the Electrification of Society: Towards Resilient Decarbonized Communities*.

[Volt-Age](#) is a seven-year (2023-2030) research program funded through a \$123M institutional grant from the Tri-Agency Program. The presentation outlined the objectives and goals, the scope of the program, the funding allocations to research, cross-faculty and cross-institutional projects such as the [Impact Projects and Living Labs](#).

Volt-Age is seeking to engage with the Faculty of Fine Arts on various projects. Prof. Florian Grond, Department of Design and Computation Arts, is collaborating on the Living Labs project. A [call for artistic expressions](#), primarily to the Fine Arts undergraduate students, was recently announced and Volt-Age worked closely with Fannie Gadouas, Supervisor, Strategic Initiatives Portfolio. There will be a Volt-Age exhibition on the thematic of electrification seen through an artistic lens at the Volt-Age [Electrify Society Summit May 5 & 6 at Palais des Congrès](#) and [5 awardees from FoFA](#) will be showing their works of interdisciplinary performances, photography, and sculpture. Volt-Age will be asking for feedback on doing an artist-in-residence call for some of the impact projects, where they may fit and they would like to commission works that explore energy transition and electrification.

The presentation is to be circulated to Council members.

**9. New Accelerated Curriculum Process**

Guests Rachel Berger, Vice-Provost, Innovation in Teaching and Learning (VPITL) and Julie Johnston, Manager Curriculum Innovation and Development presented on the *New Accelerated Curriculum Process* and the various offerings departments can develop to grow their student body and offer a diverse category of learners the opportunity to resume or pursue studies with a targeted program path: career changers, degree-interrupted students, self-taught learners, professionals without formal credentials, workplace learners on the path to upskilling, community and volunteer contributors, immigrants and internationally educated professionals.

- **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):** a formal process which allows students to receive academic credits for skills and knowledge gained through work, training or life experiences. Departments interested in adopting the RPL can reach out to the VPITL about developing an RPL plan.
- **Online Programming:** faculty developed eConcordia courses that support diverse learners and evolving student needs and that are embedded in long-term academic planning.
- **Designing for Students and Sustainability:** intentionally designing the timing of classes, modality, pedagogy and tools with program-level planning and implementation.
- **New Program Approval Process:** a new 3-tier more flexible process of governance for the approval of programs is being proposed to make things move forward more efficiently:
  - o Full for programs leading to a new degree, expedited and express for programs leading to a new degree, a new minor, certificate or diploma with more or fewer than 30% new credits.

New degree programs will continue to require full approval including approval by Council whereas other programs, following the expedited and express approval processes, will not. Council members will have the opportunity to vote on the new accelerated approval process at the February 13 Faculty Council meeting.

The VPITL will be running a series of workshops on good practices for developing microprograms, certificates and diplomas, and on the RPL and online strategies.

The presentation is to be circulated to Council members.

#### **10. Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies, and Faculty Development (FFAC-2026-01-D5)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Haidee Wasson](#).

The Associate Dean sent an email with details about the Impact + program for Doctoral Fellowships and Post-Doctoral Fellowships. There is a tight timeline for applications.

The AIR requests are being reviewed and the Associate Dean will get back to the Chairs about next steps.

#### **11. Questions**

The Dean will follow up regarding facilities issues in some classrooms.

Faculty members can reach out to Associate Dean Haidee Wasson to enquire about international student tuition remissions.

#### **12. Other Business**

There are concerns about the new government-mandated internship safety assessment processes. Tristan Khaner will collect questions and concerns from the Department Administrators and will submit them to EH&S for discussion.

**13. Advancement Activities Report (FFAC-2026-01-D7)**

Report submitted. Questions/comments may be directed to [Marc Wieser](#).

**14. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on February 13, 2026.

**15. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

[Fine Arts Faculty Council](#)

Submitted by E. Murphy

## **Appointments for Council's Information**

### **Graduate Thesis and Mentoring Award**

- Chih-Chien Wang, Department of Studio Arts  
(repl. Mitch Mitchell)

February – October 31, 2026



## FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

### REPORT TO FINE ARTS FACULTY COUNCIL

SUBMITTED BY:

Shauna Janssen, Associate Dean, Academic Programmes and Pedagogy

PREPARED BY:

Christopher Cooke, Facilitator, Academic Programmes and Pedagogy

#### 1. Active Curriculum Dossiers

*No dossiers for Faculty Council approval.*

#### 2. Final Approval of APC/Senate

*Upcoming:*

Department/ Dossier	Description	Final approval
<b>FA-5891</b> <b>UNDERGRADUATE</b>	This dossier contains changes to the graduation requirements in <b>Section 81.2.4</b> of the <b>Undergraduate Calendar</b> .  The new language provides clarity on the graduation requirements for students who are in failed standing.	<b>Senate</b> <b>February 6, 2026</b>

#### 3. Winterfest

This year's [Winterfest](#) will take place from **Thursday February 5 to Friday February 27, 2026**.

The theme for 2026 is *From classroom to online: Designing meaningful learning experiences*.

There will be opportunities to learn about ways to engage students online, provide effective feedback, convert your course from in person to online, tech tool demos and more.

Highlights include:

- *Online by design: Rethinking course components for online delivery* **Tuesday February 10, 2026, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.** HyFlex
- *Lightening tour of learning technologies: Making the most of Concordia's institutional tools* **Thursday February 12, 2026, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.** HyFlex

Full programming and registration information [here](#).

#### 4. Distinguished Teaching Awards

The call for nominations for the **2026 Faculty of Fine Arts Distinguished Teaching Awards** was sent out in late November. The Distinguished Teaching Awards recognize superior performance in one or more areas of teaching. The awards are designed to encourage and acknowledge the commitment of Fine Arts faculty at different points in their career in educating and inspiring students through superior teaching.

There are two award categories:

- **The Emerging Award** will recognize one full-time faculty member (including LTAs and ETAs) with up to ten years of experience teaching within Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts.
- **The Established Award** will recognize up to one full- and one part-time faculty member who has more than ten years' teaching experience within Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts.

See [here](#) for a story about last year's DTA winners and the student-led nomination process.

The deadline for the submission of completed dossiers is **5 pm, February 11, 2026**. Please email [fineartscurriculum@concordia.ca](mailto:fineartscurriculum@concordia.ca) with any questions.

### 5. President's Excellence in Teaching Award (PETA)

The Office of the Provost shared the call for the **2026 President's Excellence in Teaching Awards** in early 2026. These awards recognize excellence in teaching as characterized by high academic quality, social responsibility, pedagogical innovation, outstanding student experience, and community engagement. The awards will be announced by the end of April 2026, and a celebration will take place at the end of May/early June 2026.

Nominations should be sent to [fineartscurriculum@concordia.ca](mailto:fineartscurriculum@concordia.ca) by the Office of the Dean's internal deadline of **Wednesday February 25, 2026**.

Faculty can [request an individual consultation](#) with a member of the CTL team to develop or to receive feedback on their dossier.

### 6. Guidelines for Teaching with AI

Review the newly revised [Guidelines for teaching with generative AI](#) that include important new information on ethical use of GenAI and its impact on equity, representation, and culturally diverse communities.

The Library has launched [GenAI Quickstart for Students](#), a series of short, online modules designed to be starting points for students to think about when and how to use GenAI in academic contexts (or not). Topics include an overview of GenAI tools, possible uses for learning, graduate research, and more. Content was developed by experts across Concordia, including our own teaching consultant Alicia Cundell who worked on the [professor expectations module](#).

### 7. CTL Teaching Resources

The [Centre for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#) continues to offer invaluable resources on course design, teaching strategies, inclusive pedagogies, decolonization of curriculum, and use of digital teaching tools, among others.

Upcoming:

- **February 10, 2026:** [Practical strategies on decolonizing curriculum and pedagogy](#)
- **February 26, 2026:** [Grading and feedback strategies for large enrolment classes](#)

The CTL team continue to be available for [one-on-one consultations](#)

### 8. Blended/remote Teaching

Blended and remote courses will continue to be offered in the **2025-26** academic year.

Request forms for the **2026-27** academic year are available on [Carrefour](#).

The deadlines for submissions for **2026-27** were/are:

- **End of Fall 2025** session for FT faculty.
- **June 30, 2026**, for PT faculty.

Note that [blended teaching](#) is a combination of synchronous in-person teaching and a minimum of 25% asynchronous learning; while *remote teaching* is 100% online, synchronous and asynchronous.

## **Motion: Approval of Revised Academic Program Approval Processes**

**Whereas** the University has developed a revised framework for the approval of new academic programs and program changes in order to improve efficiency in academic governance;

**Whereas** the revised framework establishes three distinct approval pathways—**Regular**, **Expedited**, and **Express**—each aligned with the scope, complexity, and resource implications of proposed programs or program changes;

**And whereas** the framework clearly defines:

- the types of academic initiatives subject to each approval pathway;
- the sequencing and concurrency of approvals, including provisions for information-only reporting where appropriate;
- a veto mechanism to ensure academic oversight and quality assurance when concerns are raised;

**Be it resolved that** the Fine Arts Faculty Council **approve the revised Academic Program Approval Processes**, including the **Full Process, Expedited Process, and Express Process**, as outlined in the VPITL presentation shared at Faculty Council on January 16<sup>th</sup> 2026.

**And be it further resolved that** the revised approval processes take effect and apply to all new program proposals and program changes submitted on or after the meeting of the Fine Arts Faculty Curriculum Committee on March 11<sup>th</sup> 2026.



# Curriculum Updates

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Rachel Berger & Julie Johnston

Office of the Vice-Provost, Innovation in Teaching and Learning

# Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

**Recognition of Acquired Competencies (RAC)** is the umbrella concept encompassing all forms of recognition of prior learning, including both academic and non-academic learning.

Within this framework, **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is the formal process that allows students to receive academic credit for skills and knowledge gained through work experience, training, or other life experiences, without having to retake courses covering material they already know.

# Samples of student categories

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Career changers

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Degree-interrupted students

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Self-taught learners

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Professionals without formal credentials

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Workplace learners on the path to upskilling

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Community and volunteer contributors

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Immigrants and internationally educated professionals

# RPL adoption process



# Reimagining Online Programming

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In development — more details coming Spring 2026

From individual initiatives:

- Online courses developed independently by faculty using eConcordia

To a shared, program-level vision:

- Intentional decisions about which courses belong online
- Programming that supports diverse learners and evolving student needs
- Online offerings embedded in long-term academic planning

# Designing for Students & Sustainability

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## Intentional Design:

- Timing: evenings, weekends, intensive or extended formats
- Modality: asynchronous, synchronous, hybrid, blended
- Pedagogy & tools: Moodle and complementary platforms used to enhance learning

## Collaborative Process:

Department → Dean's Office → Provost & Registrar

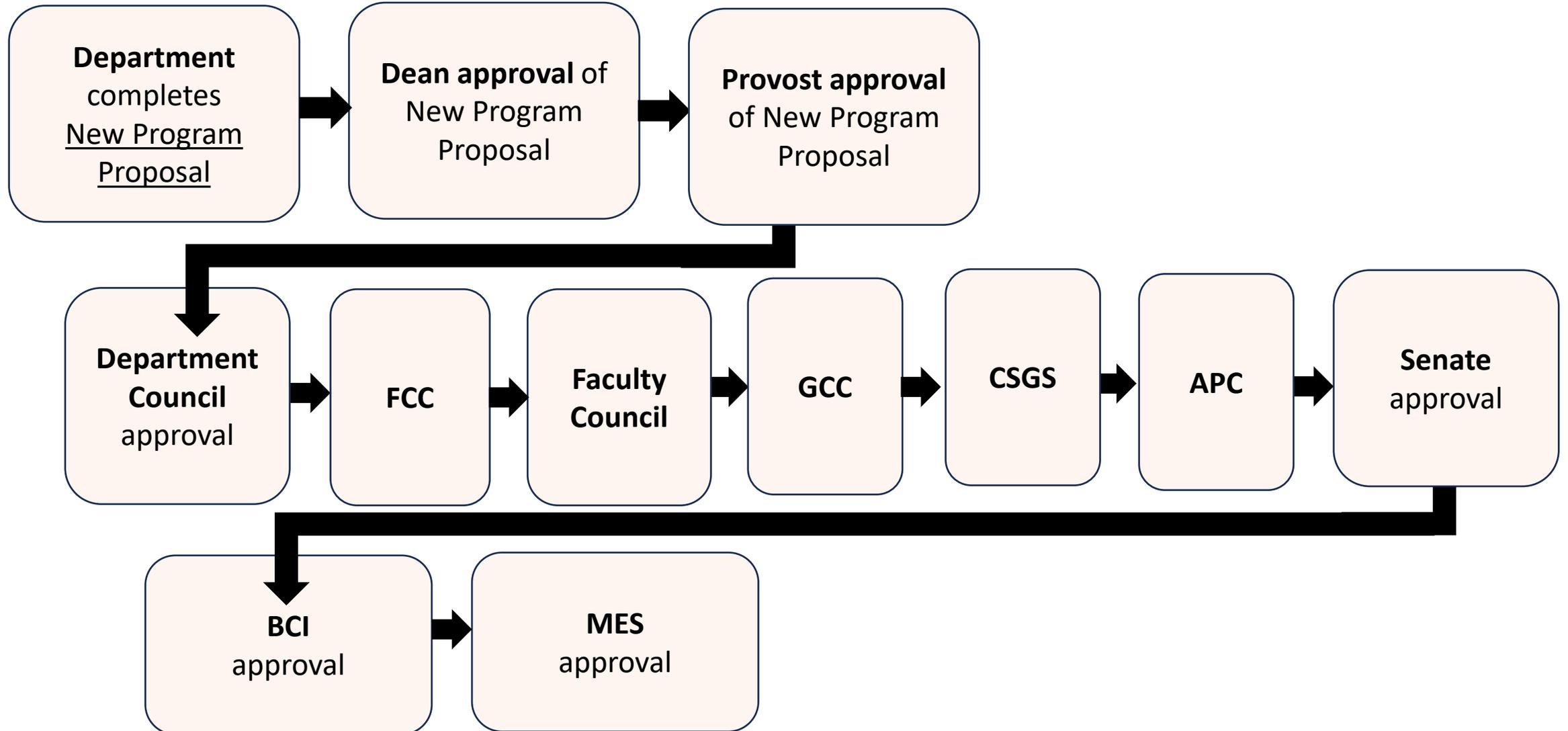
- Shared academic, pedagogical, and enrolment support
- Clear pathways for program-level planning and implementation

# New Program Approval Process

<b>Full Process</b>	<b>Expedited Process</b>	<b>Express Process</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leading to a <b>new degree</b> program</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leading to a <b>new minor, microprogram, certificate, or diploma</b> with <i>more than 30%</i> new credits</li><li>• Leading to a <b>new degree program</b> with <i>fewer than 30%</i> new credits</li><li>• <b>Program changes</b> of <i>more than 30%</i> of new credits</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leading to a <b>new minor, microprogram, certificate, or diploma</b> with <i>fewer than 30%</i> new credits</li><li>• <b>Program changes</b> affecting <i>fewer than 30%</i> new credits</li></ul>

# Full Process for New Degree Programs

- Any new program leading to a full degree requiring MES approval



# Full Process Example

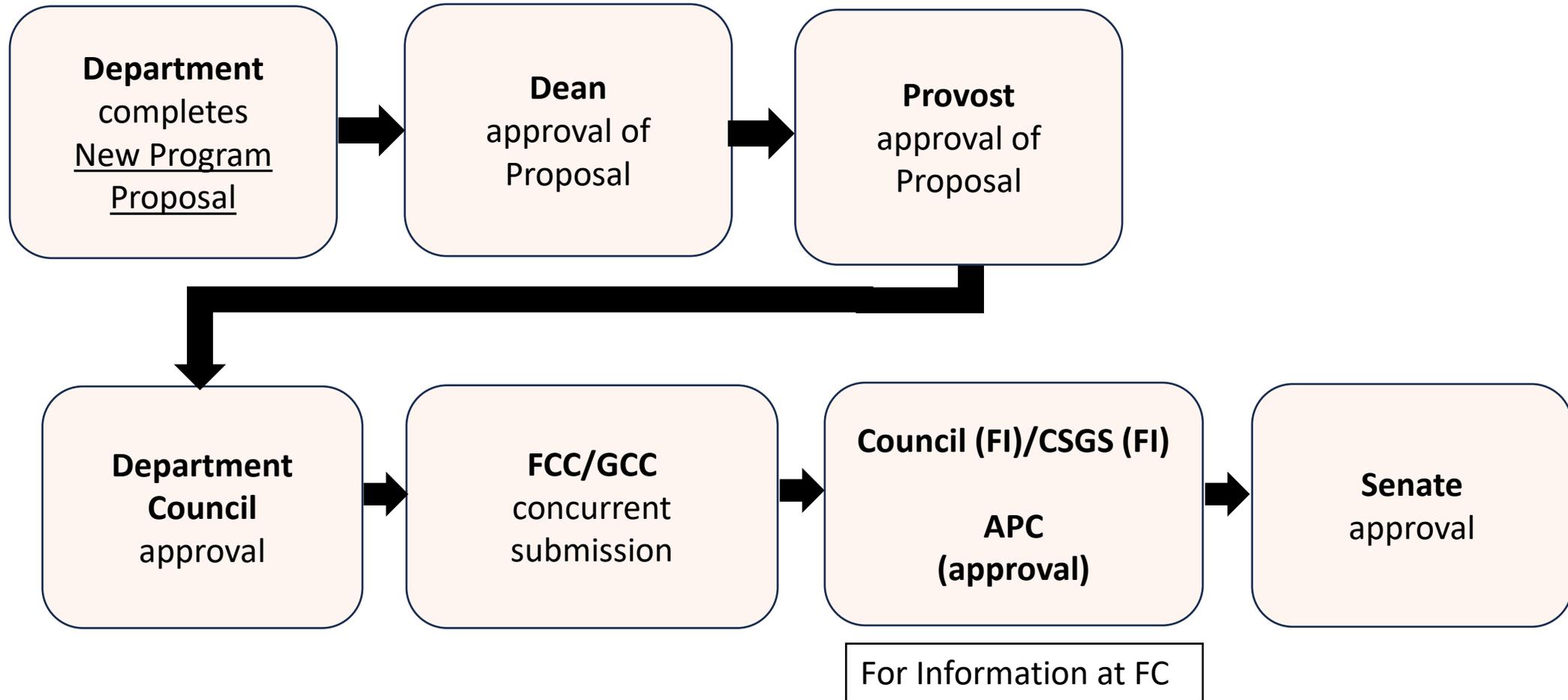
## New Degree Program

### **MFA in Performance Practice**

- Full new program leading to a Master's degree
- 45 credits of new courses, including a 27-credit Thesis Project
- Additional resources: administrative support, full/part-time faculty, technical support.
- Reported to MES & BCI site visit

# Expedited Process for New Short-term Credentials and New Degree Programs

- Any new program leading to a minor, microprogram, certificate, diploma with more than 30% new credits
- Leading to a new degree program with less than 30% new credits
- Program changes of more than 30% of new credits



# Expedited Process Example:

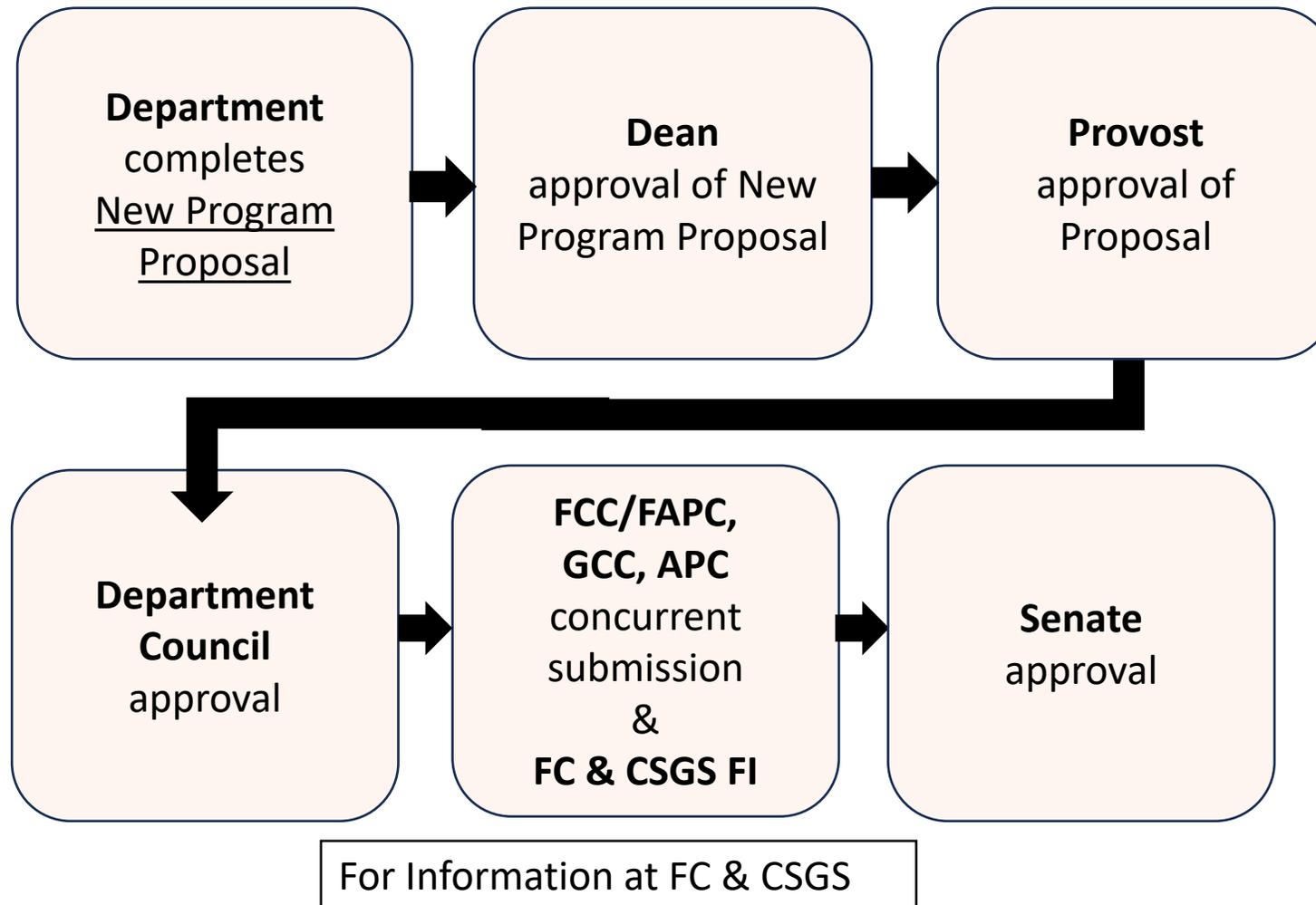
Degree Program with less than 30% new credits

## **BFA Sculpture and Expanded Practices (hypothetical example)**

- Program that encompasses traditional methods for producing sculpture and offers opportunities to learn digital fabrication, embracing video, sound, interactivity and performance.
- 6 new undergraduate courses, otherwise comprised of existing Fine Arts courses in Studio Arts, Design, Music and the School of Performance.
- No need for MES Program approval

# Express Process for Short-term Credentials

- Leading to a new minor, microprogram, certificate, diploma with less than 30% new credits
- Program changes affecting less than 30% new credits



# Express Process Example 1:

## New microprogram

### **Microprogram in Songwriting and Music Production**

- 9 or 12 credits of existing courses
- Not reported to MES

# Express Process Example 2:

## Curriculum changes to existing BFA program

### **BFA in Contemporary Dance**

- Deletion of 3 x 6-credit courses
- Creation of 6 x 3-credit courses

18 credits of new courses = fewer than 30% of the total

- Not reported to MES

# Veto Power

- If further feedback or consultation about curriculum dossiers submitted concurrently to FCC, Faculty Council, GCC and APC is required, the Associate Dean of Academic Programs & Pedagogy will steward this process.
- Should a serious concern be raised at a **Council** receiving the news **For Information** only, it will be the responsibility of the **Associate Dean** to shepherd the coordination and resolution of the issues with other committees involved.

# Report of the Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and Faculty Development

February 13, 2026

Questions/comments

Please direct to Haidee Wasson: [adrgrs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgrs.fofa@concordia.ca)

## Academic Staffing for 2026-2027

We have two ongoing faculty searches. One DHC is working to hire a new Chair for the School of Performance. Another DHC is working to hire a Volt-Age Fellow in Human-Centered and Sustainable Design, who will be housed in the Department of Design and Computation Arts. Work is in-progress and our committees will be interviewing as soon as the end of February and into March. We encourage you to keep an eye out for on-campus presentations and to attend, should time permit. These are great ways to learn about new research and pedagogy, and potentially new colleagues while also contributing to our collegial hiring process.

We also expect to fill 16 Artist- or Scholar-in-Residence positions (new and renewals), spread across five departments and the FFAR Area. Additionally, thanks to a three-year donor-funded program, FoFA's first Expert-in-Residence will be appointed to teach a course in the summer 2026 term and present six public-facing events on AI-augmented creativity during the period from March 1, 2026, to December 15, 2026.

The FPTC will also be meeting this month and the next to review Promotion to Professor and Tenure files. Results will be communicated in accordance with critical dates and deadlines in the CUFA Collective Agreement. Thank you to all who serve on this important committee.

## Retirement

Please note that March 1, 2026, is the CUFA Collective Agreement deadline for requesting early or regular retirement effective June 1, 2026. For gradual retirement (GR) plans starting June 1, 2026, GR applications must be submitted in writing to the Dean by February 15, 2026. Feel free to discuss these with me if you would like clarification or help understanding your options.

## Graduate Recruitment

The Graduate School is rolling out an AI-enabled recruiting campaign that seeks to match prospective students with supervisors across the University. There is a chance that Full-Time Faculty may experience an increase in students contacting them for supervision. This tool is designed to increase connections between students with an interest in studying at Concordia and available Faculty members in an increasingly interdisciplinary environment. Questions, concerns or feedback can be sent to: Associate Dean Recruitment and Awards, SGS: [charalambos.poullis@concordia.ca](mailto:charalambos.poullis@concordia.ca)

## Research Awards and Faculty Recognitions

The Office of the Vice-President, Impact and Innovation (OVPRII) has just circulated its call for applicants to its **Research Impact Awards** (RIA) competition. The OVPRII offers five awards valued at \$5,000 each. We strongly encourage nominations for this award, which serves as an important recognition of the diverse ways in which research and research-creation contribute to academic and scientific impact as well as beyond, through contributions to society, culture, policy, innovation, and the broader community.

- Complete applications should be submitted to me [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca) and also copied to Marina Polosa: [researchatfinearts@concordia.ca](mailto:researchatfinearts@concordia.ca)
- The deadline is **Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at noon.**
- If you are thinking of applying and have questions, please contact Associate Dean Wasson at: [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca).

The Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic has circulated its call for nominations to the **Provost's Circle of Distinction** (PCOD). The Provost's Circle of Distinction gives formal University recognition to faculty members and librarians who have received awards or recognition from external bodies such as the Order of Canada and the Order of Quebec, as well as those who have been appointed Fellows of learned bodies such as the Royal Society, or who have received 3M Teaching Awards.

- Complete nomination dossiers should be submitted to [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca) and copied to [researchatfinearts@concordia.ca](mailto:researchatfinearts@concordia.ca)
- The Faculty of Fine Arts internal deadline is **Monday, March 9, 2026, by 10 am.**
- If you are thinking of applying and have questions, please contact Associate Dean Wasson at: [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca).

The Office of the Vice-President, Impact and Innovation (OVPRII) circulated its call for nominations for **Distinguished Research Professor** (DRP). Nominees must be full professors who over the course of their careers have demonstrated outstanding and sustained distinction in research (including research-creation). Nominees must also be recognized nationally and internationally for their contributions, impact and leadership in their fields. The status of Distinguished Research Professor is conferred in title only with no additional compensation or course release. Individuals will retain the title until retirement.

- Complete nomination dossiers should be submitted to [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca) and copied to [researchatfinearts@concordia.ca](mailto:researchatfinearts@concordia.ca)
- The Faculty of Fine Arts internal deadline is **Friday, February 27, 2026, by 5 pm.**
- If you are thinking of applying and have questions, please contact Associate Dean Wasson at: [adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca](mailto:adrgs.fofa@concordia.ca)

## Research News

The Tri-Council Agencies are switching over to a new “narrative CV”. Internal Concordia Awards are also beginning to require the same. The award mentioned above (RIA) will require this.

The Office of Research (OOR) will hold a workshop on this new CV-format, helping researchers to develop their narratives and also to help with writing techniques. This workshop will be held at the end of February, and another toward the end of March (exact dates and times TBD). Please consider registering your interest in this workshop by adding your name to the signup sheet (first meeting expected ~Feb 24, details to follow): [Workshop Signup Sheet: Developing your narrative CV \(SIGNUP\)](#)

Since April 1, 2025, Fine Arts faculty have submitted 40 funding applications across provincial, federal, and institutional programs. These include five FRQSC submissions (two Appui à la recherche-cr ation and three Soutien à la recherche-cr ation pour la rel ve professorale), four MITACS applications (one Accelerate and three Globalink Research Awards), and one NFRF Transformation LOI. SSHRC activity remains strong, with seven Connection Grants, one Destination Horizon, nine Insight Grants, ten Insight Development Grants, and one application each to the Partnership Impact Award and Partnership Development Grant programs. One application was also submitted to the CFREF TMU Bridging Divides initiative.

During the same period, 32 Fine Arts projects received funding, totaling \$369,249 from agencies including MITACS, SSHRC, TMU’s CFREF Bridging Divides initiative, and Concordia.

Faculty Council meeting  
February 13, 2026  
FFAC-2026-02-D7

## **University Advancement Faculty of Fine Arts Development Update**

Submitted by: Marc Wieser, Principal Director of Development

### **1. Department update**

- [Wild Talks](#) lecture series (funded by Emerald Investments) took place on Monday, January 26 and featured special guest musician, singer, songwriter Martha Wainwright. Over 200 guests attended the fireside chat. View the [pictures here](#).
- Marc and Annie Gérin attended the [Development for Deans](#) workshop hosted by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) in Ottawa.

### **2. Summary of gifts raised (FY26)**

To date, we've raised approximately **\$1.34M** for initiatives in the Faculty of Fine Arts since the start of this fiscal year in May.

- We are currently awaiting responses on approximately \$647K
- We currently have \$3.74M in potential donations in active cultivation

#### **New Gifts to the Faculty of Fine Arts**

- I. Ross Quigley – \$225K towards the Tom Hopkins Graduate Award in Painting and Drawing. Established in 2012 to honour the memory of Tom Hopkins, who passed away in 2011 at age 66, was a highly successful Montreal-based artist. The award is conferred upon graduate students pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in Studio Arts, Painting and Drawing.

This latest donation brings the Quigley family's support of Concordia to \$690,000 total, all in support of MFA students. For the next five years, every MFA student in Painting and Drawing will receive financial support from this gift.