



Position Rationale: Associate Dean, Indigenous

At the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies we strive to make meaningful contributions to the nature and structure of graduate and postdoctoral education as well as the future of the larger academic enterprise.

Support for Indigenous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, along with openness to an examination of graduate and postdoctoral formation from an Indigenous perspective, are important to us. It is in this spirit that we have approached Indigenous initiatives and the implementation of the Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP). Some of the current initiatives include reimagining of the Indigenous Graduate Funding (IGF) award; creating an Indigenous Specialist role to help provide one-on-one support for prospective and current Indigenous graduate students from admissions through to graduation; partnering with graduate programs on Indigenous specific and related academic programming, degree pathways, initiatives, funding and awards; broadening the concept of graduate level research and thesis through the “Reimagining the PhD” and “Reimagining Graduate Education” initiatives that disproportionately attract Indigenous applicants; expanding the scope and parameters of doctoral defences to be held offsite within directly related or impacted Indigenous communities; as well as several other initiatives that are in progress already. We are hoping that an Indigenous UBC colleague will want to join us in these commitments.

We are open to conversations on the nature of the role that a colleague would play and are hoping that this call for applications will serve as an invitation for such.

Position Description: Associate Dean, Indigenous

Formally speaking, the Associate Dean, Indigenous provides academic leadership and direction to advance the decolonization and Indigenousization of graduate education and postdoctoral research, as well as relevant initiatives, programs, policies, and supports to reflect diverse ways of knowing. This position will report to the Dean and Vice-Provost, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

As part of the Faculty’s Leadership Team, the Associate Dean, Indigenous will work closely with the G+PS executive and staff, including the Indigenous Specialist position, to explore opportunities to further strategic goals and provide guidance on the implementation of various initiatives that support and align with university-wide strategic priorities as outlined in Shaping UBC’s Next Century, Strategic Plan; Indigenous Strategic Plan; and Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Strategic Plan. Some of the tasks and aspirations will be defined by our new colleague in this role, while there are also some elements that are already in place.

Some of the existing activities that the Associate Dean, Indigenous could take a lead on include:

Key responsibilities:

- Provide leadership related to broader university-wide initiatives supporting Indigenous graduate students, postdocs, faculty and staff
- Provide direction and reporting on the continued implementation of graduate and postdoctoral components of the Indigenous Strategic Plan’s Goals and Actions



- Advance the Guiding Principles and Strategies of G+PS's Strategic Plan including increasing Indigenous graduate student and postdoctoral fellow recruitment, enrolment, and retainment, as well as overall support of Indigenous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.
- Provide leadership to, and partnership with, graduate programs and academic units on Indigenous specific and related academic programming, initiatives, funding and awards (Indigenous Graduate Fellowship), etc.
- Ensure academic policies and procedures are inclusive of, sensitive to, and flexible for, Indigenous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows
- Lead inclusive discussions that build on the work G+PS has done to expand and encourage Indigenous graduate students, postdocs and faculty to broaden the concept of graduate level research, education and theses/dissertations.
- Liaise regularly with the First Nations House of Learning, the Office of Indigenous Strategic Initiatives, the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, the Indigenous Strategic Plan Implementation Committee and other Indigenous specific and related units and programs across campus to encourage Indigenous graduate student and postdoctoral fellows support and voice
- Intensify the partnership with SAGE (Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement) to expand access and support across campus
- Serve as a Faculty representative on the Indigenous Strategic Plan Implementation Committee (ISPIC)
- Lead adjudication and further development of the Indigenous Graduate Fellowship and other relevant funding mechanisms. Explore potential funding opportunities specific to Indigenous postdoctoral fellows.
- Be responsive to the needs to the Indigenous community on campus and communicate ongoing conversations, concerns and ideas back to the G+PS executive

Reporting Structure:

The Associate Dean Indigenous reports to the Dean and Vice-Provost, G+PS. The ADI will oversee the Specialist, Indigenous Initiatives staff position.

Qualifications:

The Associate Dean Indigenous must submit a personal attestation of Indigenous citizenship, nationhood or affiliation and have a regular faculty appointment at the rank of Associate Professor or Associate Teaching Professor or higher at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver campus. Experience in leadership and graduate/postdoctoral administration (or supervision) would be an asset, while recognizing that this experience could come from formal (graduate advisor, etc.) or informal (mentorship, etc.) ways.



Appointment:

Ideally this is a 0.4 FTE appointment, where you will be expected to dedicate 2 days per week, on average, to Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies issues.

How to apply:

In accordance with UBC's Indigenous Strategic Plan, and pursuant to sections 11 and 13 of the BC Human Rights Code, this search meets the criteria for restriction to Indigenous persons.

To register your interest in this position, please email Dr. Michael Hunt (michael.hunt@ubc.ca) – Dean *pro tem*, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies – with the following attachments: 1) your UBC CV, 2) a statement of interest for this position, and 3) a personal attestation of Indigenous citizenship, nationhood or affiliation, including a brief statement of your academic, professional and/or lived experience contributions to Indigenous ways of knowing and community-engaged teaching, research and/or service.

If you have any accommodation or accessibility needs during the job application process, please contact the Centre for Workplace Accessibility at workplace.accessibility@ubc.ca

Consideration of applications will begin on December 1, 2024.