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**Subject:** Academic Planning Priorities within the University Strategic Plan and SEM Plan

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**Prepared for:** Senate

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## ISSUE

Near-term academic priorities over the next few years should be identified, within the overall scope and objectives of the UPEI Strategic Plan and University Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) Plan. Consultations with the campus community on a draft Academic Plan are currently underway to identify these priorities.

## BACKGROUND

The UPEI Strategic Plan has specific goals that are organized around three themes: 1) thriving people and communities; 2) innovative and connected teaching, research, and scholarship; and 3) sustainability. The Academic Plan is situated within this overall strategic plan and aligned with its principles and goals. Together with the senior leadership team and Deans Council, the Vice-President, Academic and Research, has oversight of strategic decisions concerning allocation of resources to academic priorities of the University. These decisions will be guided by priorities identified in the academic plan.

In addition, the “Roadmap to Student Success and Institutional Sustainability: Strategic Enrolment Plan 2025 – 2030” aims to achieve and maintain optimal enrolments, recruitment, retention, and graduation rates. In this context, “optimal” is defined as enrolments that maintain a high quality of education and student success while reaching aspirational goals of academic units and sustainability in terms of available resources. This SEM plan has four overarching goals: 1) elevate student persistence and completion; 2) stabilize then grow enrolment; 3) strengthen graduate capacity and excellence; and 4) build SEM data and governance accountability. These goals are closely aligned with the UPEI Strategic Plan and fall within its three overall pillars.

## CONSULTATION

Numerous consultations have occurred so far with the development of a draft Academic Plan. Initially Deans Council engaged in this plan in September 2025, followed by APCC (Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee). Since November 2025, the VPAR and VPAF have attended consultation sessions with individual academic units (faculties and Robertson Library) to seek feedback on the draft Academic Plan, among other topics. In December 2025, a news bulletin was circulated to the broader campus community for feedback and comments on the draft plan. Other groups that have provided feedback include the VP Advisory Group (VPAG, including faculty, staff and student representatives), and the SEM Steering Committee and subcommittees. Special thanks to all who have contributed so far with the development of the draft document and its various initiatives therein.

### **RECOMMENDATION / DECISION**

The draft Academic Plan is presented to Senate for information and feedback as part of the broader campus community consultation. These comments will be collected and then a final Academic Plan will be brought back to Senate at a future meeting after all consultations have been completed.

### **RATIONALE**

The draft Academic Plan prioritizes the various academic related activities of the UPEI Strategic Plan and SEM Plan. Alignment of these plans will ensure that academic initiatives are effectively coordinated within available resources. The academic plan identifies near-term priorities that will meet the objectives and priorities of the SEM plan, as developed by a Prioritization and Implementation Subcommittee of the SEM Steering Committee. It is an actively evolving framework with ongoing updates alongside the implementation of the various initiatives in the university SEM and strategic plans.

The Office of the Vice-President, Academic and Research (OVPAR) provides direction and support to academic units, student services, and the Robertson Library to achieve the academic priorities and goals of the academic plan. It is responsible for ensuring that the university's academic priorities are resourced and that funding streams are identified and secured to successfully carry out this plan. The OVPAR is committed to continual improvement and delivery of high-quality academic programs across the broad range of disciplines at UPEI.