

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Reporting period from September 4 to November 4, 2024

## PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

In September, Paul Dangerfield attended the annual European Association for International Education (EAIE) Conference in France with the interim, VP academic & provost, AVP international and AVP CARS. The conference, which hosted over 7,000 participants globally, focused on networking, learning, collaboration and co-creation. It aimed to foster dialogue between alliances, non-European higher education institutions, and European policymakers to explore the current state and future pathways of alliances' internationalization.

On October 21, a President's Perspective event was held for the CapU community where updates were provided on various projects, highlighting key activities and recent events. President Paul Dangerfield shared positive news about the University's sustainability efforts. An expert panel of faculty joined in the discussion about current sustainability actions, initiatives and future perspectives. The session concluded with a Q&A.

The president attended Universities Canada's fall membership meetings in Ottawa, focusing on Canada's role on the global stage and strategies to elevate engagement and discourse on campuses. VP university relations also accompanied this trip where they met with federal government officials and discussed CapU's priorities around student housing, the home for Skw'cháys, infrastructure upgrades and graduate studies.

On November 5, Paul Dangerfield, along with various CapU leaders, provided updates on key projects at CapU. They discussed the results of the employee engagement survey, the deployment of the Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) system—Workday, Student Enrolment Management (SEM), and updates on the Squamish campus. The session concluded with a Q&A segment.

## ACADEMIC & PROVOST

Welcome to H el ene Leboucher who joined Capilano University as the new executive assistant to the vice-president, academic & provost.

### FACULTY OF BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

- » School of Communication instructors Alaa Al-Musalli and Adam Vincent (chair) have each received CARS Grants towards Research Assistants (RA) for their research and scholarly endeavours. Their work will not only support the reputation of Capilano University but support diverse learners in the community.

### FACULTY OF GLOBAL & COMMUNITY STUDIES

- » The Kinesiology program moved into a new KINE lab space. Located in Willow Building on the main campus, this lab is bigger and was needed to accommodate the program's enrolment growth.
- » On Saturday, October 26, the Outdoor Recreation Diploma Program celebrated its 50th anniversary with close to 300 attendees on campus.

- » The Curriculum Committee welcomed a new student to its membership this term and the Faculty Council welcomed two students.

## KÁLAX-AY THE SUNSHINE COAST CAMPUS

- » kálaš-ay Sunshine Coast campus welcomed Deborah Mazerolle, our new Department Divisional Assistant (DDA) 1. Deborah's role is crucial as the initial point of contact for learners and communities we serve.

- » The kálaš-ay campus gathered at the start of the Fall term at the shíshálh Long House for student orientation; 45 students were in attendance. shíshálh



member Andy Johnson provided a welcome song and a delightful First Nation activity to unite us. We were honoured to hear from our campus Elder, Robert Joe, and each faculty member welcomed returning and new students to the CapU kálaš-ay campus.

- » Natan August, the dedicated education training and post-secondary coordinator for the Education division at the shíshálh Nation, plays a crucial role in the Pathways to Higher Education (P2HL) program. This year, she is on campus once a week, providing invaluable weekly support to students and assisting them in achieving their academic and career aspirations.

- » In September, the first-year Indigenous Digital Filmmaking (IDF) students arrived at the kálaš-ay campus with their esteemed instructor, Gregory Coyes, MFA. Megan Smetzer, PhD, an instructor of art history, joined them as she will document the historical story of the shíshálh people's Canoe and the journey to fulfill a long-held desire to



have a canoe once again. The visit revolved around the activity of a shíshálh Canoe, a project and an important item for the Nation. The students arrived enthusiastically, curious and engaged; several chose the shíshálh Canoe project for their short film assignment. Traditional food was shared and Elder Robert Joe spoke about the profound significance of totems and the rich history of the shíshálh Canoe, deepening our connection to the Shíshálh culture.

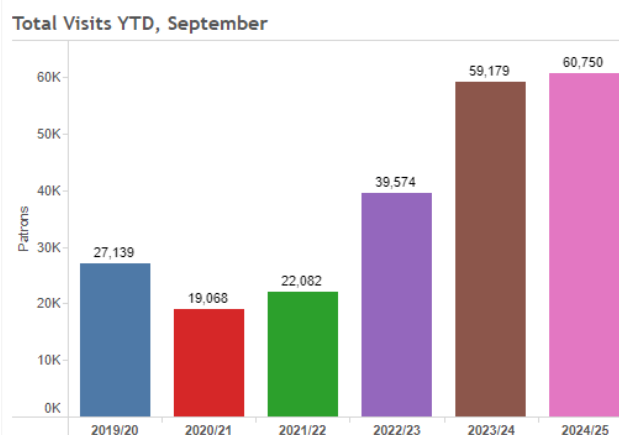
- » The campus hosted the annual International Medicine Conference—A platform where local doctors gather for professional development, knowledge sharing and networking. The conference covers a wide range of medical topics and provides a valuable learning opportunity for our local health-care professionals.

## SQUAMISH CAMPUS

- » The Squamish campus welcomed Leah Primeau as the new community engagement & events manager and Kat Lee as the Department Divisional Assistant (DDA) III.
- » On campus operations now include limited café food service from 9:30–2:30 p.m. on weekdays.
- » Squamish has already successfully hosted several events this academic term, including the Great Squamish Fieldtrip open house for all employees, the UNESCO Howe Sound Biosphere Initiative roundtable, the School District 48/Squamish Chamber of Commerce entrepreneur mentor event and the CCAA Women's Soccer National Championships where the CapU Blues won Bronze.

## LIBRARY

- » The library welcomed Victoria Gauthier as our new area lead, library technician for the Squamish campus, adding another important service point in supporting student and faculty information needs at this location. Melinda Watkins and Selena Cho also join us as technicians, and we are delighted to have Jonathan Sin, a library technician student, help us serve students on Saturdays.
- » **Data-informed decisions:** The library is beginning to benefit from data harvesting tools that were implemented last year. The tools provide detailed information about the use of services and collections, so we are able to enhance library services and adapt to the technological changes and evolving needs of the CapU community.
- » **Engagement:** The library provided a Truth and Reconciliation display to honour paddlers as described in Chénchenstway, and featured CapU students, faculty and alumni photos linked through QR codes to their *Capsule* stories. We also featured a collection of audiobooks by Indigenous writers and a display of audiobook titles representing women's and feminist perspectives to honor Women's History Month.
- » **Services:**
  - a) *Research Help:* 1232 questions were answered by librarians and library staff in September, breaking last September's record of 1048 questions. Requests for research help continue to increase.
  - b) *Instruction:* Thanks to Krystyna Nowak, teaching & learning librarian, the library launched a publicly available interactive library skills tutorial this term. This tool enables students to develop their research knowledge and skills by learning to explore and narrow a research topic, identify appropriate source types, identify academic materials and much more.
  - c) *The Library as Place and Space:* Gate counter data shows that student demand for library space continues to grow and has now surpassed pre-pandemic levels.



## FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

### BOARD SECRETARIAT

- » Board orientation was held in early September to welcome the new members to the Capilano University Board of Governors: Amina El Mantari and Pegah Yaghmaie as elected faculty members, Prince and Sophia Kara as elected students, and Shelley Frost and Katrina Paddon as appointed members.
- » Finance & administration said farewell to Lesley Cook who left her role as executive assistant to the Board of Governors on October 31, after six years with the University.

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

- » The fiscal 2024/25 Q2 forecast was submitted to the Ministry in October and was a surplus of \$9.3 million which is a \$6.2 million favourable variance compared to the Board approved surplus budget of \$3.1 million. The major variances as of Q2 forecasting are in enrolment, capital operating and Squamish campus.

### CORPORATE SERVICES

- » Corporate services said farewell to Amanda Graham, purchasing assistant, whose last day was October 31, after six years with the University. Iain Medcalf, senior buyer, was seconded to the Enterprise Resources Planning (ERP) project. Recruitment is underway to fill procurement roles by the end of the year.
- » Procurement had a busy period, finalizing an agreement with Whistler Cooks Fine Foods Inc. to supply food services to the Squamish campus for the next three years. The contracts for significant facilities services and upgrades at the main and Squamish campuses were finalized during September and October.

### FACILITIES SERVICES & CAMPUS PLANNING

- » Operations welcomed Andy Witan as the new manager, facilities operations for the main campus.
- » Mechanical upgrades and preparation for the heating season are underway at all our campuses.
- » Safety and Emergency Services (SES) welcomed Chester “Chuck” Faliao, new security operations & parking advisor.
- » Since the start of the academic year, SES has been updating management systems, implementing training for and installation of nasal naloxone response stations at all campuses and housing locations and monitoring pro-Palestinian activism on campus.
- » The new Squamish campus successfully opened on September 3 with new interior/exterior signage and new classroom equipment/furnishings. The recreation building’s gymnasium was renovated, as well as the turf field, which is FIFA-grade certified. The service building was renewed and the cafeteria is fully operational.
- » The Campus Functional Programming Project began with the goal of collecting baseline data for operational and space requirements for all academic and administrative departments across campuses. This project will identify gaps and provide a dashboard for dynamic strategic space planning in alignment with University goals.

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

- » Digital Technology Services (DTS) welcomed Ann Louise Filbert, new director of business solutions. Ann Louise is responsible for working with the University community in developing core business solutions, specifically for the operationalization of the ERP and integration hub projects.
- » This has been a busy period for DTS with the following work in progress:
  - **Digital roadmap:** The team completed the development of a digital roadmap in collaboration with the University community to support the digital transformation work required for the *Envisioning2030* and *Illuminating 2030* strategic plans.
  - **Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project:** The project planning phase is complete, along with the foundation and discovery build. The detailed design phase is in progress with a completion date of January 2025.
  - **Integration services:** A project manager for the Data Integration project started work and is staffing for integration initiatives. Request for proposal submissions for the development of an Integration Hub were received and are being evaluated. Data integration consultants are working with the ERP project to validate existing interfaces.
  - **Cybersecurity:** A cybersecurity program is continuing to be established to support the University. In October we completed a successful Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

## POLICY, PRIVACY & GOVERNANCE

- » The Board of Governors welcomed David Ayriss as the new chair in September with Rodger So continuing in his role as vice-chair in collaboration with RJ Wallia who also accepted the vice-chair role.
- » The Board approved the updated B.109 Student Appeals Policy and Procedure and rescinded ARM 53 – Administrator Emeritus Policy. The Senate approved two new policies to support the introduction of graduate studies, S2024-02 Graduate Studies, Final Project/Capstone/Thesis and S2024-03 Graduate Supervision. The SLC approved revisions to OP.311 Filming and Photography Policy and Procedure (now renumbered OP.611).

## PEOPLE, CULTURE & DIVERSITY

### PEOPLE SERVICES

- » We hired a temporary HR business analyst, Emilie Roy, to support the secondment of Joy Chan to the ERP project.
- » ERP project kicked off. We had discovery sessions with Deloitte, our implementation partner, as well as multiple in-depth meetings with subject matter experts on the PCD and finance teams.
- » We submitted a pay transparency report and met the deadline of November 1, as per government requirement.
- » We submitted the Compensation Base Report to PSEA, who will share information with PSEC.
- » We are developing a regular cadence for reporting employee-related data regarding talent acquisition, onboarding and turnover.

## TALENT ACQUISITION

- » We attended two career events on October 10 and 23 at SFU and UBC, positioning CapU as an employer of choice.
- » On October 9, the team attended the *Journey to Employment* event hosted by Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation, Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation and Work BC to connect with Indigenous community partners and showcase job opportunities and career pathways at CapU.

## ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- » The 2024 Engagement Survey analysis was delivered to executive and Senior Leadership Council (SLC) for discussion with their departments, and the analysis and next steps were presented at a November 5 town hall.
- » Year 1 of the Goals and Performance (GAP) program wrapped up and Year 2 kicked off with positive feedback about the program, supporting the alignment of departmental and individual goals to University strategy. Year 2 included a shift to align the GAP program cycle with the fiscal year (April–March).
- » Updated CapU's use of the term 'EDI' to 'DEI'—diversity, equity and inclusion, aligning with the DEI landscape.
- » The manager, DEI, presented at various faculty meetings to introduce himself, share upcoming DEI initiatives and address questions. Engagement will continue as initiatives progress and we invite ideas for collaboration.
- » On October 22, a DiSC 1 session rolled out to a group of 28 new hires and existing employees.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING, ASSESSMENT & INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

### INTEGRATED PLANNING

- » The team successfully gathered useful feedback from SLC. Using MS Forms, SLC members were asked questions related to what 'integrated' means to them, along with suggestions to improve the planning process and templates. The team is currently working on identifying themes that will inform developments to the integrated planning journey.
- » Vice-presidents and associate vice-presidents were asked to update the SWOT analysis they developed in May. The group also crafted some conclusions after the analysis of elements included in this updated version. These conclusions will be used to identify shifts or adjustments to plans moving forward.

### ENVISIONING 2030

- » The team has been actively supporting the development of the Chénchenstway project monitor. Multiple meetings were held to gather feedback and recommendations to ensure the structure and content of this monitor serves the Nations and internal community. This work will be ongoing throughout the fall.

### STRATEGY, ANALYTICS & TRANSFORMATION

- » The institutional research team completed the interim Central Data Warehouse (CDW) load to the Ministry. Below are a few preliminary findings:
  - a) The domestic Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) target decreased this fiscal year by a net of 63 for a total target of 5,606. This was due to reduced targets for Health and Early Childhood Education programs (dean and faculty accountable in brackets).



- Health programming: Net decrease of 50 FTEs, specifically decrease of 20 FTEs for Health Care Assistant—Partnership Pathway and decrease of 30 for Rehabilitation Assistant. (Dean Brad Martin, Faculty EHHD).
  - Early Childhood programming: Net decrease of 31 FTEs, specifically decrease of 26 FTEs related to CAPU-KPU-MNBC Early Childhood Care and Education Diploma and decrease of 9 FTEs related to the part-time Early Childhood Education Diploma. (Dean Brad Martin, Faculty EHHD).
- b) The interim domestic FTE count is 2,146. This number only includes Summer and Fall term registrations and represents a 9 per cent increase (+194 FTEs) from the previous year's summer and fall count.
  - c) The interim international FTE count is 2,334. This number only includes Summer and Fall term registrations and represents a 5 per cent increase (+113 FTEs) from the previous year's interim count.
  - d) As of October 16, we are forecasting a final domestic FTE count of 3,811. If this forecast is realized, it would represent 68 per cent of the Ministry domestic FTE target. We are also forecasting a final international FTE count of 3,891. However, no Ministry targets are assigned to this number. Note: international FTE forecast may not be accurate due to unrealized/to be realized Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) impacts.

## INTERNATIONAL

- » The latest and potentially most impactful revision to international education study permit and Post Graduate Work Permits (PGWP) conditions was made by IRCC on October 4. They released a list of 965 CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs) codes for programs eligible for PGWP. These program codes align with federally identified long-term labour needs, and if a student is enrolled in a degree at a university or a non-degree program that aligns with one of these codes, they will be eligible for a PGWP. As a result, all CapU's degree programs qualify, but only seven non-degree programs currently qualify. Important international programs such as tourism and hospitality, business and several associate of arts degrees, plus additional distinctive programs such as our creative arts, film and early childhood education that are critical for international reputation and attract significant international registration also do not qualify. While it is unclear how the new landscape where degree programs may become more attractive to international learners will pan out, the changes undoubtedly present a significant challenge for CapU in the years ahead. It will require an effective strategic approach to both advocate for the addition of CIP codes, program renewal and development, articulated dual-admission partnerships, and for strategic recruitment activities to support offerings at CapU. In several cases, these approaches and initiatives are already underway.
- » As a result of the uncertainty in the educational marketplace, applications for the fall were significantly less than the last two fall intakes. However, we had high conversion rates and will register approximately 450 new international students in the spring. This is lower than our original target of 600, but higher than our revised expected enrolment estimates of 300. Applications for the summer are, however, strikingly low because of uncertainty in the market and other diplomatic factors.
- » On Friday, October 25, the Centre for International Experience and the School of Motion Picture Arts hosted a magnificent evening of short films produced by students who participated on the Vietnam field school in August this year. The school, led by Chris Carnovale and Debra Rurak, was a unique collaboration between the School of Tourism Management and the documentary filmmaking program. Twenty-two students from over 10 different program areas showcased ten-minute films of their field school experience. The films were moving, inspiring, educational and entertaining. A brilliant showcase of talent and a wonderful illustration of the unique capacities at CapU.
- » The Ghana field school is getting closer to departure. Twenty-four students are participating in this exciting new venture that will centre around music activities in the village of Dzodze at the Nunya Music Academy in Ghana. The field school being run by Kofi Gbolonyo and Jared Burrows from the School of Music is a first

for CapU. Linked to this field school, DTS kindly facilitated the transfer of 40 identical Dell computers for the school members. This will benefit over 240 kindergarten to grade four students at the school. A special acknowledgement to Rav Goodison, AVP, digital technology services, Michael van den Heever, director, infrastructure/customer experience, and Sohaib Anwar, manager, customer experience, client services & help desk, from DTS for making this happen.

- » In October, Paul Dangerfield, Tracy Penny Light, Dawn Whitworth, Chris Bottrill and Stasa Andric attended the European Association of International Education (EAIE) event in Toulouse, France. This provided an opportunity to meet with over 30 European partners and engage with hundreds of international institutions on academic and strategic matters. Following EAIE, some of us visited Leeds University, the University of Edinburgh, and our long-time partner, Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen for partnership building and strengthening. New agreements are in process with at least three new institutions in the UK.

## STUDENT SUCCESS

### CENTRE FOR ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

- » Matthew Menzies joined the team on October 28, in the capacity of faculty advisor to students requesting academic accommodations. Matthew comes to us with a wealth of experience from the Centre of Accessible Learning, Simon Fraser University.
- » Heather Mitchell has stepped away as CAS coordinator and will continue her work within the University's Accessibility Advisory Committee. Niloo Aslaminejad stepped into the role, November 1.
- » Registrants at CAS continue to rise. In Fall 2023, we served 629 registrants. Eight weeks into the current Fall 2024 term, the number of registrants has already reached 618 and is expected to grow as advisors remain fully booked at least two weeks in advance.

### ATHLETICS & RECREATION

- » CapU Rec along with CapU Safe and the CapU Blues athletic therapist hosted the first annual Restart a Heart and Naloxone training event in September and trained 60 participants. The event instructed people on how to save a life. Nine free 45-minute classes were provided over three days and taught participants hands-on CPR and AED and Naloxone training.
- » CapU Rec added several new weekly fitness, dance, wellness and lifestyle classes (10) to their line up for Fall 2024. All the CapU Rec classes have been very popular and filled within the first few days of the session. These low barrier classes assist people with obtaining their 150 move minutes per week and improve their mental and physical health. We have hired several certified CapU students as instructors.
- » CapU Rec weight room ambassadors are back this session thanks to funding through the STEP program. These ambassadors are CapU Kinesiology students and provide weight room orientations and fun pop-up activities and events at the weight room. These positions provide CapU Kinesiology students with hands-on industry experience and create a friendly, warm and inviting atmosphere in our weight room.
- » At the Squamish campus, CapU Rec has designed, created and opened two new spaces in mid- October 2024 for students and employees. With the help of facilities, the main campus facility supervisor and head strength and conditioning coach, the weight room equipment and flooring left in the Recreation Complex was cleaned, repaired and repurposed to provide equipment for the weight and movement spaces. This



space has been used daily by students and employees.

- » CapU Rec continues to work with Sea-to-Sky community organizations to provide rental access to the Recreation Complex and surrounding areas throughout the weeks. This provides valuable service to the community as recreation spaces in Squamish are limited.
- » CapU Rec continues to offer the Move More North Shore program. This session had a record number of participants. This free 12-week physical activity prescription program provides one-on-one active health coaching with kinesiology students to help you set and achieve your fitness goals. The program is designed to support individuals who are not currently meeting the Canadian physical activity guidelines and provide CapU kinesiology students with hands-on industry experience.
- » A huge piece of the Capilano Blues 50th year celebrations was revealed on September 7, with the unveiling of the Blues Hall of Fame wall at Cap U's Centre for Sport and Wellness.
- » Inductees to the Hall of Fame enter as athletes, coaches or builders. The Hall of Fame wall is just inside the upper entrance to the Centre for Sport & Wellness in the niche on the east side of the staircase. Moving forward, the department expects to name three to five new inductees each year to be introduced at the annual April awards banquet and subsequently added to the Hall of Fame.
- » Capilano Blues Women—Silver. Off to the National Championships November 6–9, 2024 hosted at the Capilano University Squamish campus.
- » Capilano Blues Men—After a successful year with a second-place finish in league play, the Blues men's team finished third and did not advance to Nationals.



## CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

- » On October 3, CDC hosted the first ever Business Career Fair in collaboration with the School of Business and partnering with North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. Nineteen community partners (including North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and CapU PCD team) and their 44 representatives welcomed 228 students from different faculties and programs. A professional photographer was also present to provide students with free portraits, resulting in 79 students taking part.
- » In addition to the Business Career Fair, the CDC organized Link Up Explore with the Dean: Disrupt YVR 10.0 and Job Shadowing at Lawson & Coleman for students. Accompanied by Anna Kuziakina, Francisco Nogueira and Magdalena Mot, five students attended Disrupt YVR 10.0, while engaging with inspiring speakers and networking with industry professionals during an information exchange event designed to energize, inform and empower people. Our Job Shadowing program created an opportunity for two business students to learn about day-to-day business operations while engaging in informational interviews with several industry professionals at Lawson & Coleman.



- » Career development advisors delivered 35 workshops, as part of regular programming and in collaboration with faculty from across the University, presenting engaging professional development content to 575 students. They also conducted over 200 one-on-one student advising appointments with over 55 per cent of the appointments online.
- » Career ambassadors were busy engaging with new and returning students, sharing information about CDC through in-class presentations and the Out & About campaign. They collaborated with faculty to deliver 34 in-class presentations to USS 100 and ENGL 100 classes, and in combination with our Out & About campaign, they reached over 700 students.
- » As part of our fall guest speaker series, CDC welcomed Elizabeth Maschmann from the Employment Standards Branch of the Ministry of Labour and Kathleen Brett from MEP Business Counsel, who delivered engaging sessions for students regarding the BC Employment Standards Act and understanding job offers and benefits. These intimate 1.5-hour sessions allowed 19 students to learn from industry experts and get answers to some of their most pressing questions.

## COUNSELLING & LEARNING SUPPORT

- » Multiple workshops on learning strategies were offered to students. Topics included time management, academic reading, note taking, exam preparation, mindset and executive functioning:
  - 103 learning strategist appointments were booked.
  - 529 counselling appointments were booked.
  - Seventy-four student drop in/urgent appointments.

## STUDENT LIFE

- » Student life welcomed Kristie Lummack in the newly created role of student success facilitator at the Squamish campus. Kristie will lead a diverse range of student life activities, including new student orientation and engagement events, leadership development, well-being and back-to-school initiatives. In her first few weeks, she was actively engaging with our Squamish students and hosted a week-long pumpkin carving event at the end of October.

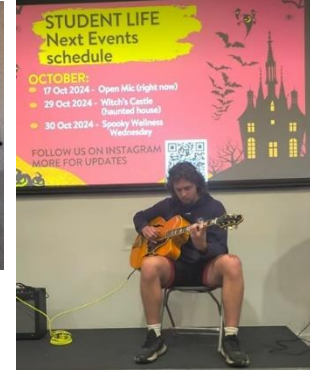


- » The team, led by student life assistants and student volunteers, hosted a large-scale haunted house called "The Witch's Castle" on October 29. In just four hours, 249 students joined us to experience this unforgettable "CapU Bucket List" event with many more coming by to visit the face-painting or popcorn booth, making it a highlight of the fall term so far. A



huge shoutout to the 30+ volunteers, our student staff and facilities for setting up BlueShore at CapU, for lending us their props, and all the employees who helped from various departments.

» Student life introduced a new series of events. Every third Thursday of the month, student life brings something new to campus, alternating between lively game shows and open mic nights. Students come together, have fun and let their creativity flow. These nights have been building a real sense of community with both domestic and international students and are giving students a place to unwind and connect. *Photo caption: Deal or no Deal contest (September 26, 2024), left and Open Mic (October 17, 2024), right.*



## STUDENT HOUSING SERVICES

- » Applications for Spring 2025 and the academic year 2025/26 opened on October 1, 2024, for both the North Vancouver and Squamish locations. North Vancouver housing has already seen an impressive 52 applications for Spring 2025 alone, far exceeding expected available spaces, signaling strong demand. The Squamish location received two Spring 2025 applications, and we anticipate this interest will grow as we continue to introduce new programs and our outreach efforts.
- » Our North Vancouver student housing team has kept up the excitement from orientation through a series of dynamic, community-building events. Popular activities include:
- **Karaoke Night:** Now an annual tradition due to overwhelming student enthusiasm.
  - **Weekly soccer and volleyball leagues:** Encouraging teamwork and fostering community bonds.
  - **Seasonal festivities:** Pumpkin carving and Halloween movie nights have brought the Halloween spirit to student housing!
  - **Creative events:** Bob Ross-inspired paint nights and field trips to Maplewood Farms were a hit.
  - Additionally, we launched the **Reusable Container Pilot Program (Friendlier)** at the dining hall, which has been remarkably effective in reducing single-use waste by nearly 90 per cent. This initiative received enthusiastic student support, with many students enjoying the app's tracking feature that quantifies their personal waste reduction, turning sustainability into a fun, competitive challenge.





- » The Squamish residence life team curated a unique experience for residents, celebrating the natural beauty and spirit of the area. Events have included:
  - **Guided hikes and outdoor activities:** Connecting students with the scenic surroundings.
  - **DIY terrarium workshops** and a **Northern lights viewing:** Bringing students closer to nature.
  - **Exploring Squamish:** Regular outings that help students fully experience their community.
- » We are hosting referees and volunteers for the **CCAA Women's soccer tournament**. They will stay in the Serratus Building. This initiative supports the event and brings a unique energy to the housing community.
- » Student housing services continues to focus on fostering a welcoming, sustainable and engaging environment, making residence life an invaluable component of the student experience.

## FOOD SERVICES

- » **Food services operation:** With the new term in full swing, we are pleased to see a notable increase in the use of campus food services, with both students and employees engaging more frequently for daily meals and catered events. Daily visits are nearing pre-pandemic levels, showing a strong recovery for on-campus dining.
- » **Vegan/gluten-free tasting booth:** In early October, we hosted a vegan/gluten-free tasting booth in collaboration with Rawmbas, a local Indigenous company, offering the campus a chance to sample their delicious blueberry and apple-raspberry muffins. This event was well received and showcased our commitment to supporting local businesses and promoting diverse dietary options.

- » **"Connecting Through Food" campaign:** In recognition of World Food Day, Chartwells, our main campus food services operator, brought back the "Connecting Through Food" campaign. This initiative aims to raise awareness about student food insecurity. As part of the campaign, Chartwells made a generous donation to the on-campus food bank, contributing \$183.84 from meal sales, along with 74 pieces of fruit and vegetables and 44 bags of proteins and grains, and other food items. This effort underscores our ongoing commitment to supporting the well-being of CapU students.



- » We are excited to announce the launch of our new food services operation at the Squamish campus, now managed by Whistler Cooks. The food service is open Mondays to Fridays, from 9–2:30 p.m., offering a variety of convenient dining options including cold drinks, grab-and-go sandwiches, coffee and tea, freshly baked pastries and soup of the day. This new service is designed to enhance the campus experience by providing accessible, quality meal choices. We are confident that it will quickly become an integral part of the Squamish campus community.

## REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

- » The registrar's office was pleased to welcome over 2,000 newly admitted students in addition to the nearly 7,000 returning students back to school this fall.

## FINANCIAL AID & AWARDS

- » 187 students received retention-based awards totaling \$211,425.40. This is an increase from Fall 2023 by 42 per cent for the number of students receiving awards and 37 per cent in funds distributed.
- » 84 students received entrance awards totaling \$266,728.48. This is an increase from Fall 2023 by 16.7 per cent for the number of students receiving awards and 11.5 per cent in the funds distributed.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

- » The academic advising team held two in-person drop-in advising sessions over the first two weeks of the Fall term, with over 150 students in attendance. Students have appreciated the opportunity to connect with an advisor in-person on short notice during high volume periods. Similar events are planned for future terms.

## RECRUITMENT & ADMISSIONS

- » A new team of student ambassadors started working with recruitment for program promotion efforts, campus tours and peer-to-peer interactions with prospective students. The ambassadors represent a diverse range of programs, including Business, Communication, Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Kinesiology, Legal Studies, Science and Tourism.

- » The recruitment team began their travels across B.C. and Alberta, visiting 135 schools and public events to date, where they are meeting with students, families, teachers and counselors. *Photo caption: Student Recruitment Advisor Mei Kawasaki at Westview Secondary, showcasing creations from the Costuming for Stage and Screen students (left) and Adriana Bathurst, Indigenous student recruitment advisor, together with Mei Kawasaki and Darya Wei, recruitment advisors, during a high school visit in September (right).*



- » The admissions team collaborated with the curriculum, Centre for International Experience (CIE), and Education Planner BC teams to implement EducationPlannerBC (EPBC) 3.0, which significantly improves the student application process, making it clearer and more straightforward.

## SYSTEMS & SCHEDULING

- » The Spring 2025 schedule was officially published on Wednesday, October 30.
- » Installation of Infosilem Data Capture Utility (DCU) was completed on Friday, October 25, with training sessions to follow in early November. DCU will improve our institutional scheduling practices by removing the need for duplicate manual data entry into multiple systems.

## UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

- » University Relations welcomed several new members to its leadership team during the period, including three internal transitions and two external hires. Jennifer Bryan was appointed permanently to the director, philanthropy & alumni relations role; Brittany Haavaldsrud moved into the expanded role of manager,

philanthropy & alumni relations; and Alisha Moolla transitioned to director, university relations. Linda Ong joined CapU in the role of director, communications and Melanie Pennington assumed the role of director, marketing & digital experience.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- » In collaboration with colleagues in MDX and university events, the communications team provided communications support for the successful delivery of the Great Squamish Field Trip, which introduced the Squamish campus to nearly 250 employees.
- » Communications promoted the following programming to University-wide audiences: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Women's History Month, Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and the October 19 Shake Out exercise.
- » CapU's LinkedIn followers hit the 50K+ mark, supporting the team's long-term organic content strategy.
- » Media coverage of CapU included news pick-up on new academic programs, sports and entertainment events, and CapU's 2024–25 recruitment campaign received coverage in industry publications:
  - [Capilano University adds more programs to Squamish campus](#)
  - [CapU announces new Bachelor of Arts in Writing & Literature](#)
  - [Mentorship key to Capilano University's Indigenous Digital Accelerator success](#)
  - [Capilano University Squamish campus hosts first conference league games](#)
  - [Capilano University begins campaign](#)

## GOVERNMENT RELATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- » President Paul Dangerfield, along with several CapU representatives attended the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding and Affiliation Agreement between Líl'wat Nation and Capilano University on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Tszil Learning Centre. President Dangerfield provided remarks, along with two Líl'wat Chiefs.
- » In late October, President Paul Dangerfield and Vice-president, University Relations Kari Wharton visited Ottawa for a series of meetings with federal government ministries and public service organizations.
- » CapU is participating in a provincial post-secondary institution coalition on transit issues, including the impact of proposed cuts to transit services on students and employees.
- » Ryan Blades, associate vice-president, facilities & campus planning, participated in a [panel discussion at the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce](#) on housing development and growth for the North Shore. The sold-out event included industry leaders in the private and public sectors.

## MARKETING & DIGITAL EXPERIENCE (MDX)

- » On September 16, CapU launched its 2024–25 recruitment campaign—*A space to be you*. This multi-channel marketing initiative showcases the University's distinct experience through the unfiltered stories of CapU students, capturing their individual personality and spirit. As the first outward expression of the University's new brand platform, the campaign forms part of an intentional shift to a long-term brand-building approach that articulates CapU's strategic advantage. The campaign includes a robust digital strategy targeted to key recruitment locations (including ads for Meta, Google, YouTube, Programmatic, Spotify, Reddit and TikTok and a dedicated landing page) along with SkyTrain, bus, billboard, movie theatre and high school screen



advertising. The campaign is a testament to the University's commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive community that celebrates individuality while nurturing personal growth. It runs until March 31, 2025.

a) Campaign Videos:

- [A space to thrive](#)
- [A space to find your path](#)
- [A space to find community](#)
- [A space to grow](#)
- [A space to feel supported](#)



- » In coordination with CIE, the MDX team redesigned content for the [international students landing page](#) to enhance the user experience for prospective international students. This resulted in improved access to essential information, compelling visuals and greater connection points with CapU employees and current students.
- » To support and uplift University initiatives, MDX published several stories on Capsule, CapU's digital storytelling platform, including: [CapU in photos](#), [Transforming Tragedy into Hope](#), and [A Self-Directed Learning Journey to Reconciliation](#).
- » MDX's ongoing support of the Squamish campus included photo coverage of The Great Squamish Field Trip and photos and drone video of the inaugural soccer games on the campus' new FIFA-grade turf field. CapU-branded street banners were designed, produced and installed.



- » MDX provided creative support for several University events. The team worked with philanthropy & alumni relations to create the [2023–24 Donor Impact Report](#) in time for distribution at their annual Momentum event for donors and students. The team also provided photography coverage. In October, the Outdoor Recreation Management program celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and MDX created event graphics, invitations, email and web banners, social media templates, table signage and centerpieces along with event photography.

## PHILANTHROPY & ALUMNI RELATIONS

- » Several generous gifts were made to create and sustain scholarship, bursary and award opportunities for CapU students during this period, including:
  - The Paul Dangerfield Business Award, created by the Y.P. Heung Foundation, honouring Paul’s service to CapU, with a \$50,000 commitment over five years.
  - The Susan Summers Music Therapy Award, supported by a \$25,000 gift to the endowment.
  - The Alexander Holburn Beaudin Lang LLP Legal Administrative Assistant Award, created with a \$3,000 commitment over three years.
  - An additional \$100,000 contribution to the endowment for the Bob Crone Motion Picture Arts Memorial Award significantly expanding the support available to students in the School of Motion Picture Arts.
- » Zoran Stjepanovic, philanthropy officer, individual giving, is this year’s recipient of the MoveUP Peter Corren Award. The award recognizes individuals who have dedicated their time and energy to ending discrimination against First Nations, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, persons living with disabilities and persons of colour. Zoran’s dedication to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, particularly through his involvement and volunteer work with Health Initiative for Men, Qmunity and Windsor-Essex Pride Fest, has been instrumental in creating safer, more inclusive spaces for queer, trans and gender-diverse individuals.
- » On October 3, the philanthropy team hosted the annual Momentum event, which connects Scholarship, Bursary and Award (SBA) donors with student award recipients. CapU Foundation Board Chair Mary-Ann Booth and Foundation Board member David Ayriss led a special presentation on the status of the CapU endowment. This year saw 87 attendees, including 25 student recipients, doubling student participation from the previous year.



- » On September 26, the alumni relations team hosted the Capilano University Alumni Association (CUAA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Shaping the Future event. The evening saw 125 registered attendees and began with a welcome reception, followed by the AGM, during which two new board members, Andrew Kopecki and Sina Moazzenizadeh, were elected. The event also included a tribute to outgoing board members Amina El Mantari, Joel Wollenberg and Jamil Kara. A tribute video, featuring CapU alumni and employees, honoured Paul Dangerfield's tremendous support for the alumni community. Paul then moderated an inspiring conversation with 2024





HDRs Debi Doucette and Raymond Heung on the theme “Transformative Moments: Lessons from Leaders”.

- » During the CUAA AGM, the CUAA Board announced the newly created CUAA Excellence Award aimed at supporting fourth-year students who demonstrate dedication, community engagement and academic achievement. Three awards totaling \$9,000 will be provided annually to one domestic, one international and one Indigenous student. This new award aligns with the CUAA’s commitment to fostering future leaders and promoting inclusivity within CapU’s diverse student body.



- » On October 26, the alumni relations team together with the Outdoor Recreation Management (OREC) program faculty hosted a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the program, which drew 300 attendees, including current and former OREC students. The event featured a silent auction to raise funds for the Outdoor Recreation Alumni Bursary which annually supports current OREC students. Before the event, current OREC students had the opportunity to network with alumni, offering a valuable chance for inspiration and mentorship.



- » Two new partners, Wildeye Brewing and Cirque du Soleil, were added to the [CapU Perks app](#) offering CapU alumni exclusive discounts on their services through these partnerships.

## UNIVERSITY EVENTS & CEREMONIES

- » We had a busy start to the Fall term producing several signature events and a new one at CapU’s Squamish campus. Kicking off with the CapU Street Party on September 5, we welcomed new and returning students to the main campus with fun activities and connections to programs, services and employees. This year, we were fortunate to have volunteer support from MP Terry Beach and MLA Suzie Chant, who served burgers with a smile to hungry students.



- » Friday, September 13 was lucky for close to 250 employees who travelled by bus to the Squamish campus for the The Great Squamish Field Trip. The event included a guided tour, catered lunch and a chance to meet AVP, Squamish Brian Storey and learn more about the exciting facilities and programs at CapU’s newest campus.



- » On September 29, the team supported the alumni relations in facilitating this year’s CUAA AGM and Shaping the Future presentation. Featuring two of CapU’s newest honorary degree recipients, Debi Doucette and Raymond Heung, and hosted by President Dangerfield, attendees enjoyed an evening filled with alumni networking and lived stories of transformation and success from these distinguished business leaders.

- » On October 3, the events team transformed Library Building, room LB322, into an elegant tearoom for the annual Momentum event which gives thanks to CapU's donors and provides an opportunity for them to meet student award recipients in person. The event was well-attended and the mini sandwiches were enjoyed by all.

