

MEMORANDUM

To: Staff of the Office of the Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy & Faculty) and Office of Faculty Relations, President's Leadership Team, UWOFA Executive, Senate, Campus Council, SOGS and USC Executive, Affiliate University College Presidents

From: Florentine Strzelczyk, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Date: May 16, 2024

Re: **Announcement of Acting Vice-Provost, Academic Planning, Policy and Faculty**

I am pleased to announce that **Nusha Keyghobadi** has accepted an invitation to serve as Acting Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy & Faculty) for a one-year period starting July 2, 2024.

Nusha's acting appointment will enable portfolio leadership coverage as Margaret McGlynn, Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy & Faculty) begins a year of study leave.

A molecular ecologist and Professor in the Department of Biology, Nusha joined Western in 2006. Her teaching and research integrate concepts and methods from population genetics, conservation biology and landscape ecology. She obtained her PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of Alberta and subsequently spent two years as the NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History & Academy of Natural Sciences Philadelphia.

Nusha has served as Associate Chair of Research in the Department of Biology since 2022. Her previous leadership roles include Acting Associate Dean, Faculty Relations and Infrastructure in the Faculty of Science (2021-22) and Acting Chair, Department of Biology (2020-21). A past Director of the Centre for Environment and Sustainability (2017-19), Nusha has a demonstrated record of university service with roles on several internal committees and is committed to inspiring the students of tomorrow through her science outreach workshops within the community.

I look forward to welcoming Nusha to the leadership team.

As Margaret enjoys a well-deserved study leave, I want to extend my sincere appreciation for her significant contributions to the portfolio to date. Since taking on the Vice-Provost position in 2020, she has negotiated several Collective Agreements, and her work was crucial during the Brescia-Western integration. She is a valued colleague and trusted source of knowledge regarding faculty policy and planning.