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Office of the Provost and  
Vice-Principal (Academic)

## Provost's Written Report to the Senate Meeting of April 30, 2013

### Queen's National Scholar (QNS)

The [QNS Advisory Committee](#) met on March 13, 2013, to review 29 expressions of interest (EOIs), and have selected three to advance to the second stage of the competition. The original intent was to recommend four proposals for the second stage, but only three were selected because there was significantly stronger support from the committee for these three proposals than for any of those contending for fourth place.

The three successful EOIs, all of which are from the Faculty of Arts and Science, are in the fields of African History, Biological Organic Chemistry, and Indigenous Literatures and Languages. Those responsible for the successful proposals have been invited to prepare and submit an expanded proposal. Each proposal will nominate an individual to be appointed and will include: the nominees' curriculum *vitae*, a statement of their current and prospective research interest, a statement regarding their teaching experience and interests together with a teaching portfolio, and a minimum of three letters of reference.

The Advisory Committee will reconvene to review the expanded proposals and make a recommendation to the Principal with respect to which two candidates should be offered QNS positions.

We will be initiating another round of the QNS competition in the fall of 2013, with the goal of having a two more QNS in place for 2014-15 academic year.

### Reappointment of the Dean, Faculty of Law

I am pleased to announce that Mr. William F. Flanagan has accepted reappointment as Dean of the Faculty of Law for a five-year term effective July 1, 2013. The full text of the [announcement](#) may be found on the Office of the Provost's website.

## The New Budget Model and the Budget for 2013-14

Since I last reported to Senate, I have had the opportunity to discuss the new budget model and development of the budget for 2013-14 with the AMS Assembly and the SGPS Assembly. I also made presentations to the Queen's community at two open sessions, which were held on April 11 and 16. My presentation, together with a voice overlay, will soon be posted on the Provost's Office website.

Further open sessions will be offered in May, after the Board of Trustees has met and considered the proposed budget for 2013-14. The Provost's Advisory Committee on the Budget will also release a communication on the budget to all members of the Queen's community.

## GPA

I want to thank the Senate Committee on Academic Procedures (SCAP) for their analysis of the report I submitted to the Senate on the GPA. We will be implementing the suggested recommendations in those areas where the recommended course of action is not already in place. The recommendation to add percentage grades to the transcript, when they are available, which has significant financial and resource implications, has been included on a list of modifications and improvements for the PeopleSoft system. The speed with which this particular modification is implemented will depend on the availability of funds and resources, and its priority with respect to all modifications and improvements under consideration.

## 3 Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition

The 3MT® is a university-wide competition for graduate students in which participants present their research and its wider relevance in three minutes or less to a panel of non-specialist judges, while using only one static slide. The Queen's University competition on March 18-21, 2013, yielded three winners, who then proceeded to the inaugural province-wide competition. Queen's was proud to host this event, which took place on April 18. Students from 16 Ontario Universities participated, and their three-minute thesis presentations were judged by Rob Baker (The Tragically Hip), Vicki Keith (a marathon swimmer), Hugh Christie (lawyer), Donald Drummond (economist), and Peter Gooch (Council of Ontario Universities).

The three winners were Jasdeep Saggar, a PhD student in Medical Biophysics from the University of Toronto, the title of whose presentation was *Hypoxia-activated pro-drugs: a novel approach for breast cancer*, Abraham Heifets, a PhD student in Computer Science from the University of Toronto (*How can we make better medicines? Computer tools for chemistry*), and Chau Minh Phan, a PhD student in Vision Science from Waterloo University (*Treatment of fungal eye infections using contact lenses and nanoparticles*).