



GFC Standing Committee Report

Committee: Convocation Ceremony Committee

For the Period of July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Members: Richelle Marynowski (Committee Chair), Miranda MacKenzie (Convocation Coordinator), Jodie Gallais, Terry Whitehead, Kathy Greenwood, Kathleen Massey, Natasha Buis Deering, Kali McKay, Romany Craig, Maurice Needham, Wayne Lippa, Maleeka Thomas, Jaxon Reiter, Lisa Neufeld, Armin Escher

Meeting Overview: This committee is responsible for overseeing all Convocation Ceremonies. This year the committee oversaw the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 convocation ceremonies. Highlights of the past year include the graduation of **1675** students, implementing StageClip as a way to commemorate graduates onstage experience & presenting 5 honorary degrees.

September 10, 2024 – The committee focused on planning for Fall Convocation. It was decided that PhD thesis titles would no longer be read aloud but instead displayed on-screen with the graduate's photo. The committee also reviewed ceremonial protocols related to honouring a Blackfoot Elder with an honorary degree.

December 16, 2024 – The committee welcomed new member Armin Escher, representing the University of Lethbridge Alumni Association. The meeting included a debrief of the Fall Convocation. Key decisions included the selection of the hood colour for the new Master of Management program and adjusting the Spring Convocation ceremony start times by 30 minutes to allow smoother transitions between ceremonies as attendance continues to grow.

April 23, 2025 – The committee turned its attention to Spring 2025 Convocation. Discussions included planning appropriate recognition for Dean Gallimore at the upcoming ceremonies. Initial conversations also began regarding potential relocation of convocation ceremonies during the University Hall renovation project, though any changes are not anticipated until Fall 2026 or later.).

Richelle Marynowski

Richelle Marynowski, Chief Marshal & Committee Chair

Miranda MacKenzie

Miranda MacKenzie, Convocation Coordinator