



CBU Bachelor of Science Quality Assurance Review

Executive Summary

On April 1, 2022 a letter from the Vice-President Academic and Provost (VPA), Dr. Richard MacKinnon, was sent to the Dean of the School of Science and Technology (SST), Mr. Rick Pierrynowski, launching a review of the Bachelor of Science program. In response to this, Mr. Pierrynowski identified a Review Committee (RC) chair and submitted the composition of the RC to the Office of the VPA, followed by a meeting with the Quality Assurance Advisor to discuss the proposed timeline.

The RC began meeting in the fall of 2022 with an initial focus on the previous review of the School of Science and Technology and obtaining all of the information that would be required to review each discipline within the Bachelor of Science program.

The RC continued to work through the self-study for much of 2023. Mr. Pierrynowski's term as Dean was completed in December 2023 and the new SST Dean, Dr. Stephanie MacQuarrie, became involved in the self-study process.

The first full draft of the self-study report was submitted to the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) in January 2024. The QAC discussed the self-study draft at their February 8, 2024 meeting and provided feedback to the RC. The RC made edits to the document and resubmitted their final draft which was reviewed and accepted by the QAC for distribution to the external review committee.

Review team members were identified in January 2024 and the site visit was scheduled for April 22-23, 2024. The two external reviewers – **Dr. Robert Singer**, Saint Mary's University, and **Dr. James Currie**, University of Winnipeg - were assisted by senior CBU faculty member **Dr. Chris McDonald** from the School of Arts and Social Sciences. The visit, outlined in the site visit agenda found in this document at the end of the External Reviewers' Report, involved meetings with a broad cross-section of faculty, staff, and students along with an extensive tour of current and proposed BSc facilities on campus.

In their report, submitted to the VPA on June 20, 2024, the external reviewers were pleased with the program and quality of offerings. They spoke highly of the detailed self-study report that was provided to them and of recent improvements to campus facilities. The main focus of their report centered on the current limitations of the program and suggestions for improvement.

After receiving the RC response, VPA, Dr. Rod Nicholls presented an overview of the external recommendations to the CBU Executive at the November 17, 2025 meeting. The final report was submitted to Senate in March 2025 for approval at the March 21, 2025 meeting. The Office of the VPA and the Quality Assurance Advisor will conduct check-ins with the BSc QA Implementation Committee beginning in September 2025 on the progress of the recommendations.