



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

For well over 50 years, the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges in Canada (ARUCC) and the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services (CACUSS) have provided leadership in supporting the professional development needs to registrarial and student affairs professionals across Canada. In 2018, we are thrilled that ARUCC and CACUSS will come together for the first time and partner to Sea Change -- a four-day joint conference where we will have the opportunity to collaborate, learn and laugh together in our shared efforts to bolster student engagement and success.

This year's program presents a unique opportunity for members from both associations to blur the lines of their thinking and practice, and move beyond that which we know to explore the knowledge and experiences of our professional partners. Additionally, in a world where political battles are fought in 140 characters or less over social media, and where diverse communities mobilize and activate along and across the boundaries of identity, Sea Change 2018 sets aside four days to engage in critical self reflection ourselves and the world around us as a means to broaden our perspectives -- in order to better serve and support our students in an increasingly complex world.

As Co-Chairs of this first ever joint conference, we invite you to capitalize on this unique opportunity to bring your questions, your knowledge, your experience and your aspirations into the fabric of our conference program, and consider submitting a conference program proposals. At the same time, we invite you to do three things:

1. We invite you to consider the ways in which Sea Change will allow you to do exactly that -- **to see the possibility and potential for change** in our work; and in so doing to envision the role that each of us plays in affecting change in our world.
2. We encourage you to think about how, in and among the conference's beautiful balance of learning and laughter, program sessions afford opportunities **to critically reflect upon ourselves and the world around us** -- one in which political battles are fought in 140 characters or less over social media, and where diverse communities mobilize and activate along and across the boundaries of identity.
3. And finally we challenge you to create space for us **to explore our shared responsibility to address the historical injustices in our Indigenous communities** through truth and reconciliation. The use of education as a tool to colonize generations of Indigenous people in Canada represents one of the most significant injustices to human rights in our country today -- and as Justice Murray Sinclair said "*Education is what got us into this mess... but education is the key to reconciliation.*"

The Program Review Committee is excited about the possibilities for learning that will emerge from the breadth and depth of our associations' experiences -- and in reviewing proposals, they will consider not only how each program will address professional themes and competencies, but also how they will encourage delegates to (de)construct new ways of thinking and doing our work. Both ARUCC and CACUSS have identified a number of strategic content priorities for Sea Change 2018 -- and we look forward to sharing the knowledge of keynote speakers and invited presenters throughout the conference program. But remember, the learning that will occur between June 17-20, 2018 will be enriched only by the exchange of insights and perspectives of our conference delegates -- and the invitation for you to enliven that exchange as a program presenter is open until Friday, January 12, 2018.

We look forward to seeing you in Charlottetown,

Charmaine Hack & Chris McGrath
Conference Co-Chairs
Sea Change 2018