

Christopher P. Yendt, ICD.D, OCT, OAMHP

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Resume

ADDRESS

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TELEPHONE

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CITIZENSHIP

Canadian

LANGUAGES

English

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

A seasoned executive leader within the not-for-profit sector, with experience leading and reporting to boards of directors, facilitating and supporting committees across small, and large (10-100) member groups. A strategic visionary with a track record of delivering significant transformation and change to different organizations, helping to achieve growth and delivering on mandates through commitments to mission, vision, and values. Adept systems navigator with significant experience within post-secondary education, specifically advocacy for organizations with large memberships at the institutional, municipal, provincial and federal levels. Consensus minded team builder, focused on inclusion of diverse perspectives in multi-stakeholder environments while providing leadership to small and mid-sized teams.

WORK EXPERIENCE

President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) | May 2023-Apr 2025 (*term ending*)

University of Manitoba Graduate Students' Association, Inc (UMGSA)

- Represent the interests of approximately 4000 graduate students across the university. Responsible for leading organizational succession planning, budgeting and strategic decision making while ensuring that voices of graduate students are uplifted, and concerns addressed. Major initiatives have included assessing staff compliment and need, creation of an organizational strategic plan and improved engagement and accountability with organizational members and partners.

Deputy Chairperson | May 2022-Apr 2023

National Graduate Caucus (OGC) | Canadian Federation of Students-National

- Act as a member of the executive team, and as alternate chair for any meetings of the executive or the National Graduate Caucus. Take the lead on budget related items and strategic planning for the NGC while supporting the facilitation of the Chair and other member associations across the country. Support and lead efforts, when required, around reengagement strategies and initiatives aimed at bringing together ideas and approaches from different GSA's.

Treasurer | Sep 2021-Apr 2022

National Graduate Caucus (NGC) | Canadian Federation of Students-National

- Manage all finances and prepare an annual budget for the National Graduate Caucus of the Canadian Federation Students. Participate and support executive initiatives around natural lobbying campaigns for issues relevant to graduate students, this includes leading the strategic planning process for the Caucus utilizing past experiences in stakeholder engagement and negotiation. Elected to the position of Deputy Caucus Chair for a term beginning in May 2022.

President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) | Jul 2019-Apr 2022

Brock University Graduate Students' Association, Inc (GSA)

- Act as the primary spokesperson for the concerns of over 2000 graduate students at Brock University. This includes facilitating contract negotiations and engagement with campus partners to ensure graduate student voices are heard. Some major initiatives included: a restructured Board of Directors, hiring for vacant student executive positions, succession planning, renewal of three major contracts for graduate student services, developed a strategy to mitigate the potential effects of the student choice initiative, architect for forthcoming referendums on mental health and graduate student gym access as well as created the organizations first Strategic Plan.

Deputy Chairperson | Sep 2020-Sep 2021

Ontario Graduate Caucus (OGC) | Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario

- Act as the alternate to chair all meetings of the Ontario Graduate Caucus, a space to develop resources and bring together perspectives from other graduate students' associations across Ontario, the Caucus has representation from most graduate schools in the province. Significant initiatives include a campaign to re-engage associations and develop a comprehensive understanding of the concerns each association is facing and creating datasets to support local advocacy efforts.

Vice-President, Finance | May 2017-Jul 2019

Brock University Graduate Students' Association, Inc (GSA)

- CFO of approximately \$1 million dollar not-for-profit, tasked with providing monthly reports to the board tracking year-to-date revenues and expenses of the GSA operating budget. As signing authority for the organization, the position works closely with the GSA Executive Director to monitor Health/Dental Plan usage as well as providing ongoing oversight of the Universal Bus Pass. Additionally, participate as a member of the Planning, Priorities & Budget Advisory Committee of the Brock University Senate.

Chief Returning Officer | Feb 2019-Apr 2019

Brock University Graduate Students' Association, Inc (GSA)

- Responsible for managing the 2019 GSA Executive Elections in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures. Reviewing and approving candidate eligibility to contest the elections for seven different executive positions. Assessing potential infractions against relevant policies and historical precedent, and applying suitable approaches to remedy any advantages or disadvantages experienced. Responsible for preparing certifying draft results and preparing a final report for consideration by the GSA.

Vice-President, Finance and Administration | May 2013-Apr 2014

Brock University Students' Union, Inc (BUSU)

- CFO of a 10 million dollar not-for-profit. Direct responsibility for main operating budget of over 1.6 million dollars. Responsible for managing all transit contracts on an ongoing basis. Spearheaded a new transit proposal for St. Catharines, which addressed major gaps in service. Compiled old legislation to build a new archive database to legitimize all Ancillary Fees. Redeveloped the Emergency Student Loan Program (ESLP), partnering with the university to administer a new payback system, addressing substantial amounts of bad debt.

SKILLS

Organizational Governance
Meeting Facilitation

Policy Development and Implementation
Strategic Visioning

Risk Management
Member Engagement

Relationship Building
Partnerships and Advocacy

VOLUNTEER GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Member, Board of Directors**
FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre (PAC)
 - Chair, Governance & Nominations Committee Jan '25-Present
 - Vice-Chair, Strategic Oversight Committee Jan '25-Present
 - Member, Executive Committee Jan '25-Present
 - Member, Governance & Nominations Committee Jan '24-Present
- **Member, Board of Directors**
CJUM-FM (101.5 FM | UMFM) **Jan 2024-Present**
- **Member, Board of Governors**
University of Manitoba **Sep 2023-Present**
 - Vice-Chair, Governance and Development Committee Sep '24-Present
 - Member, Governance and Development Committee May '23-Present
 - Member, Executive Committee May '24-Aug '24
- **Member, Board of Directors**
University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) **May 2023-Present**
 - Interim Chair, Board of Directors May '24, Feb '24,
- **Trustee, Joint Board of Governors**
St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) **Jun 2022-Present**
 - Vice-Chair, Governance, Mission, & Values Committee Jun '23-Present
 - Member, Governance, Mission, & Values Committee Jun '20-Present
 - Member, Strategic Planning Committee Mar '21-Aug '21
 - Member, Quality Committee Jun '18-Jun '20
- **Member, Board of Directors**
[Brock University Alumni Association \(BUAA\)](#) **Jun 2022-Present**
 - Vice-President, Board of Directors Jun '23-Present
- **Member, University Senate**
Brock University (previously 2012-15 & 2018-21) **Jul 2022-Present**
- **Member, Board of Directors**
Compass Community Health (CCH) **Sep 2016-Present**
 - Past Chair, Board of Directors Jul '24-Present
 - Chair, Board of Directors Jul '22-Jul '24
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Directors Jul '20-Jun '22
- **Member, University Senate**
University of Manitoba **May 2023-Apr 2025**
- **Member, Founding Board of Directors**
Manitoba Students' Advocacy Network (MSAN) **May 2024-Apr 2025**
 - Founding Chair, Board of Directors May '24-Oct '24
- **Member, Board of Directors**
Manitoba Alliance of Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS) **May 2023-April 2024**
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Directors Jul '23-Apr '24
- **Member, Board of Directors**
[Canadian Mental Health Association \(CMHA\)–Niagara Branch](#) **Mar 2015-Jun 2024**
 - Past-President, Board of Directors Jun '22-Jun '24
 - Chair, Quality Committee Jun '22-Jun '23
 - President, Board of Directors Jun '19-Jun '22
 - Vice-President, Board of Directors Jun '17-Jun '19
 - Treasurer, Board of Directors Dec '15-Jun '16
- **Member, Board of Directors** **Sep 2021-Aug 2023**

- Leadership Niagara
- **Member, Board of Directors** **Sep 2015-Apr 2023**
[Brock University Graduate Students' Association \(GSA\)](#)
 - Past-Chair, Board of Directors Jan '21-Apr '21
 - Chair, Board of Directors Jul '19-Jan '21
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Directors May '19-Jul '19
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Sep 2015-Oct 2022**
[Rainbows End Community Development Corporation \(RECDC\)](#)
 - Past-Chair, Board of Directors Oct '21-Oct '22
 - Chair, Board of Directors Oct '18-Oct '21
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Directors Dec '16-Oct '18
 - **Member, Board of Governors** **Jul 2019-Jun 2022**
 Brock University
 - **Board Liaison and Committee Member** **Feb 2019-Sep 2021**
[The Alliance for Healthier Communities](#)
 - Member, 2SLGBTQ+ Committee Jun '19-Oct '21
 - **Member, General Council** **Jan 2016-Dec 2019**
[NEXTNiagara](#)
 - Past-Chair, Council Jan-Dec '19
 - Chair, Council Jun-Dec '18
 - Vice-Chair, Council Jun '17-Jun '18
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Sep 2017-Dec 2018**
[Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce \(GNCC\)](#)
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Jun 2017-Jun 2018**
[Brock University Alumni Association \(BUAA\)](#)
 - **Member, Advisory Council of Students** **Sep 2017-Apr 2018**
 Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD)
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Dec 2016-Nov 2017**
[Young Professionals Network of Ontario \(YPNO\)](#)
 - Board Secretary Dec '16-Nov '17
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Sep 2015-Aug 2016**
[The Brock Press](#)
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Oct 2012-Sep 2015**
 Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)-Brock Chapter
 - Treasurer, Board of Directors Oct '12-Sep '15
 - President/Chair, Board of Directors Oct '13-Apr '14
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **May 2012-Feb 2015**
[Brock University Students' Union \(BUSU\)](#)
 - Chair, Board of Directors May '14-Feb '15
 - Vice-Chair, Board of Directors May '12-Apr '13
 - **Member, Board of Directors** **Jul 2011-Jun 2012**
 Brock University Student Radio/BUSR (CFBU 103.7FM)
 - President/Chair, Board of Directors Jul '11-Jun '12

EDUCATION

2021-present	Doctor of Philosophy in Education , University of Manitoba
2024	Directors Education Program (DEP) , Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD),
2021	Master of Education , Brock University
2021	Accelerate Civic Leadership Program , Leadership Niagara
2020	Non-Profit Leadership Certificate , Brock University
2020	Bachelor of Education with Distinction , Brock University
2015	Bachelor of Education with First Class Standing , Brock University
2015	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) with First Class Standing , Brock University

