

ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY



FALL 2026 OACUHO CONFERENCE

**SMALL COMMUNITIES,
BIG IMPACT**



Federated with the University of Waterloo

WELCOME TO OACUHO AT ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY!

We are thrilled to welcome you to St. Jerome's University for the Fall 2026 Ontario Association of College and University Housing Officers (OACUHO) Conference!

As Residence and Student Affairs professionals, your dedication shapes the core of the student experience—fostering safe, welcoming, and vibrant communities where students can truly belong and succeed.



We hope gathering today gives you a well-deserved opportunity to pause, connect with colleagues, and collaborate.

Sincerely,
The Residence and Community Life Team at
St. Jerome's University



CAMPUS MAP

St. Jerome's University Campus Map



United Accommodations

Delta Hotel to SJU



or Parking to SJU



Renison Parking to SJU



SCHEDULE

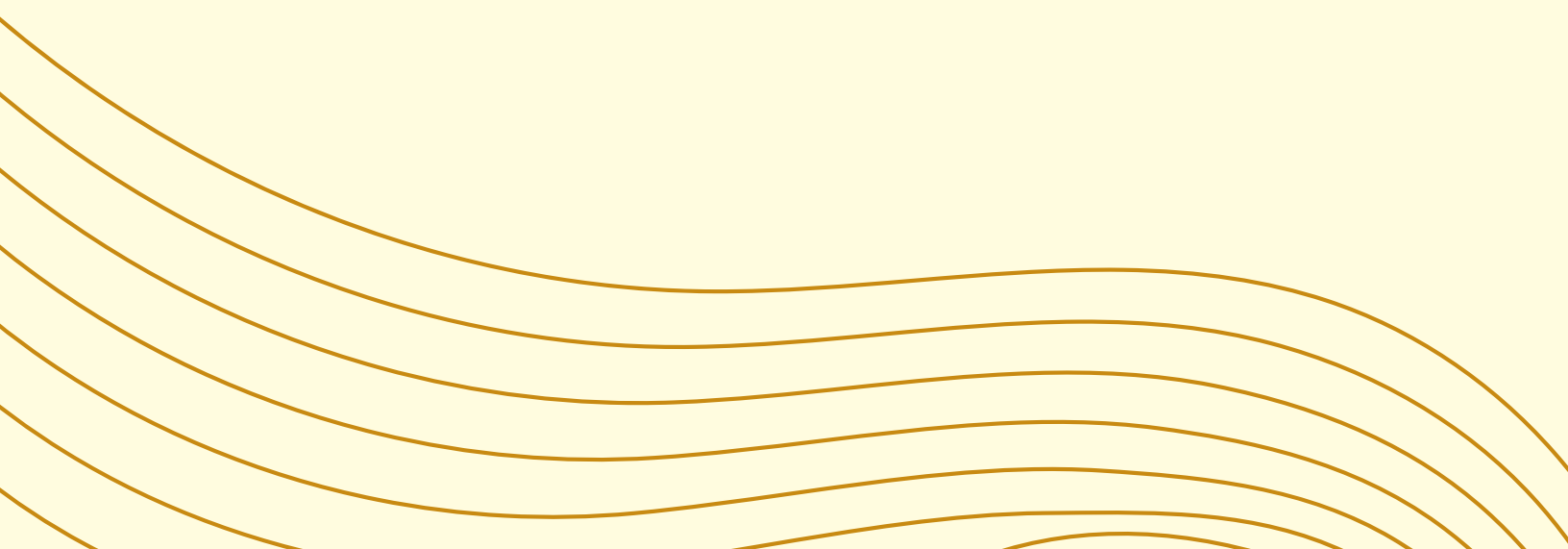
Thursday, October 15							
Time	Experience						
8:00 AM	Check-In, Refreshments, and Coffee 8:00a.m. - 9:00a.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium						
8:15 AM							
8:30 AM							
8:45 AM							
9:00 AM	Introductions & Welcome to St. Jerome's University 9:00a.m. - 9:30a.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone Lecture Hall (1004)						
9:15 AM	Keynote Address: Bruce Rodrigues 9:30a.m. - 10:30a.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone Lecture Hall (1004)						
9:30 AM							
9:45 AM							
10:00 AM							
10:15 AM	Refreshment Break & Quorum Sign-In 10:30a.m. - 11:00a.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium						
10:30 AM							
10:45 AM							
11:00 AM							
11:15 AM	Fall Business Meeting 11:00a.m. - 12:30p.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone Lecture Hall (1004)						
11:30 AM							
11:45 AM							
12:00 PM							
12:15 PM							
12:30 PM							
12:45 PM	Lunch 12:30p.m. - 2:00p.m. D.R. Letson Community Centre						
1:00 PM		Senior Housing Officers 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. Sweeney Hall, Room 1012	Advanced Members 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. Ryan-Siegfried, Room 1010	BIPOC Network 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. SJ2, Room 2001	Beyond the Binary Network 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. SJ2, Room 2002	Neurodivergent Network 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. SJ2, Room 2003	Plus-Size Inclusion Network 12:45p.m. - 1:45p.m. SJ2, Room 2007
1:15 PM							
1:30 PM							
1:45 PM							
2:00 PM	Concurrent Block 1: Keeping What Matters: A Housing Case Study in Data Governance, Retention, and Deletion	Concurrent Block 1: Excel-erating Community: Creating Systems for Programming Initiatives in Excel		Concurrent Block 1: Beautiful belonging: leveraging art installations in residence to help beautify the spaces and reinforce a sense of belonging for all residents		Concurrent Block 1: Leading Through The Learning Curve: Lessons From The First Two Years of Senior Leadership	
2:15 PM	2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. SJ2, Room 2001	2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. SJ2, Room 2002	2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. SJ2, Room 2003	2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. SJ2, Room 2007			
2:30 PM							
2:45 PM							
3:00 PM	Coffee & Refreshments Break Guided Residence Tours 3:00p.m. - 3:50p.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium						
3:15 PM							
3:30 PM							
3:45 PM							
3:50 PM	Concurrent Block 2: Crisis Leadership in Action: Navigating the Grey Area Between Behaviour and Crisis	Concurrent Block 2: Teaching Labs and Effort Statements		Concurrent Block 2: What Walking 1,000 km Taught Me About Housing: Creating Holistic Spaces for Students to Live and Thrive		Concurrent Block 2: Oh, Bother: Lessons Learned as a Senior Leader Navigating Complex and Constant Institutional Disruption	
4:00 PM	3:50p.m. - 4:50p.m. SJ2, Room 2001	3:50p.m. - 4:50p.m. SJ2, Room 2002	3:50p.m. - 4:50p.m. SJ2, Room 2003	3:50p.m. - 4:50p.m. SJ2, Room 2007			
4:15 PM							
4:30 PM							
4:45 PM	Closing Remarks 4:50p.m. - 5:20p.m. SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone (1004)						
4:50 PM							
5:00 PM							
5:20 PM							
5:30 PM	Fall Conference Mixer (Optional Social) 5:30p.m. - 6:30p.m. Funcken Café						
5:45 PM							
6:00 PM							
6:15 PM							

CHECK IN, REFRESHMENTS, AND COFFEE

TIME: 8:00a.m. to 9:00a.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium

Check-in at the North entrance of the SJ2 Academic Centre, enjoy some light breakfast, and connect with your peers over coffee and tea.

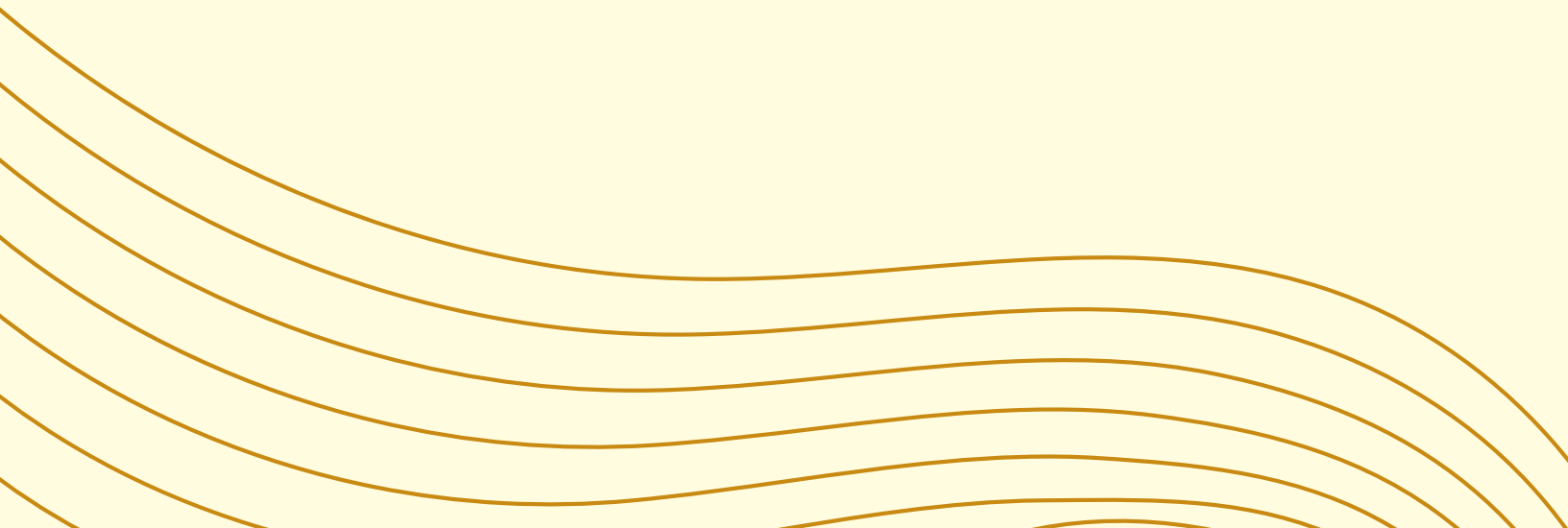
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INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME TO ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

TIME: 9:00a.m. to 9:30a.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone, Room 1004

Join us for some opening remarks from Dr. Carol Ann MacGregor, VPAD and Michael Seymour, Indigenous Advisory Circle as we welcome you to an exciting day of connection, conversation, and learning from one another.

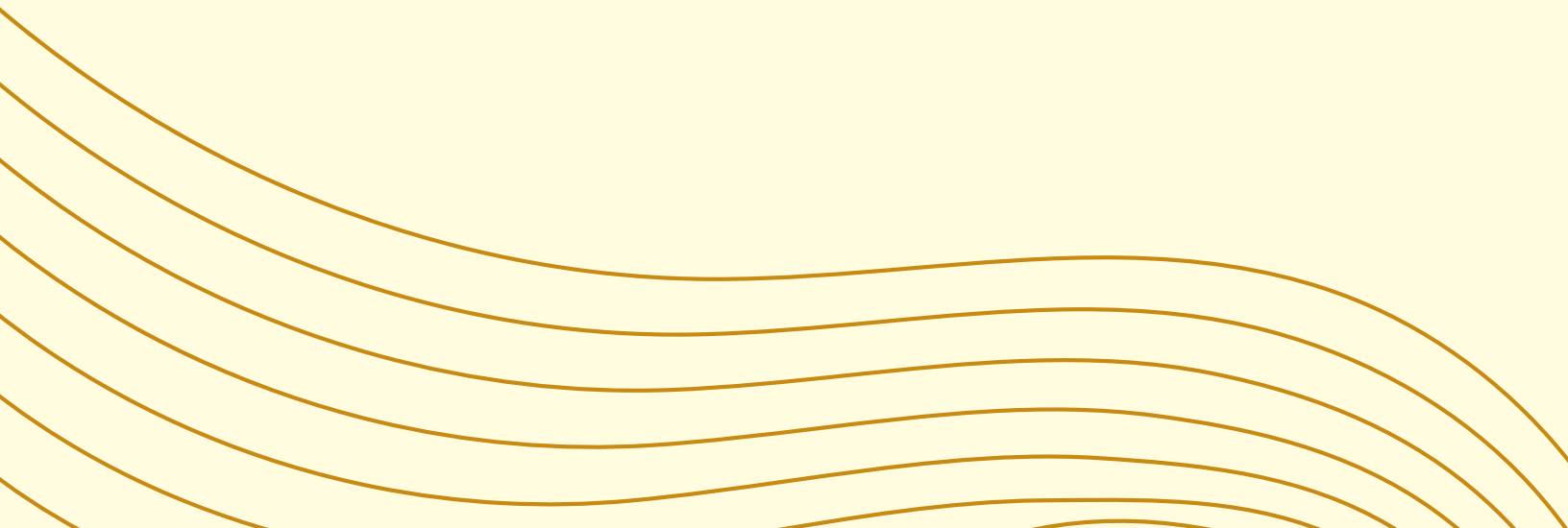
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KEYNOTE ADDRESS - BRUCE RODRIGUES

TIME: 9:30a.m. to 10:30a.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone, Room 1004

Join Chancellor of St. Jerome's University, Bruce Rodrigues for an inspiring keynote address as he draws on his extensive experience—including his role as Ontario's former Deputy Minister of Education—to share insights on community, vision, and the future of educational leadership.

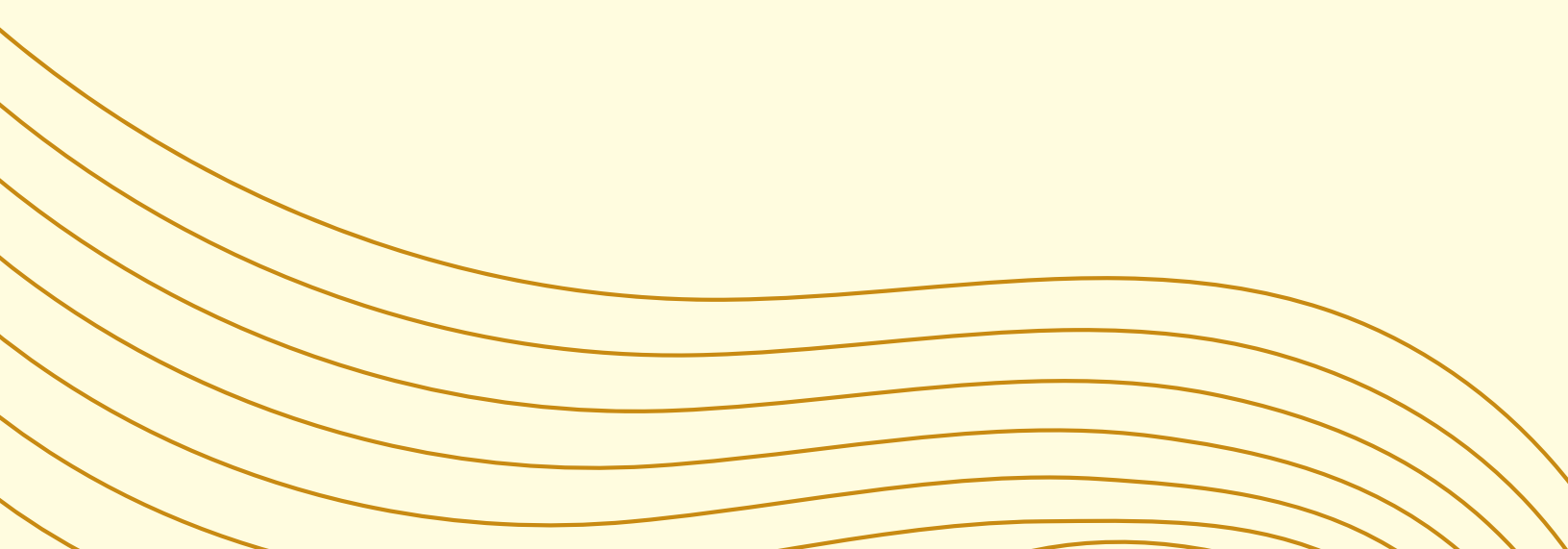
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REFRESHMENT BREAK AND QUORUM SIGN-IN

TIME: 10:30a.m. to 11:00a.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium

**Please stop by the Quorum Sign-In table to attend the
Fall Business Meeting.**

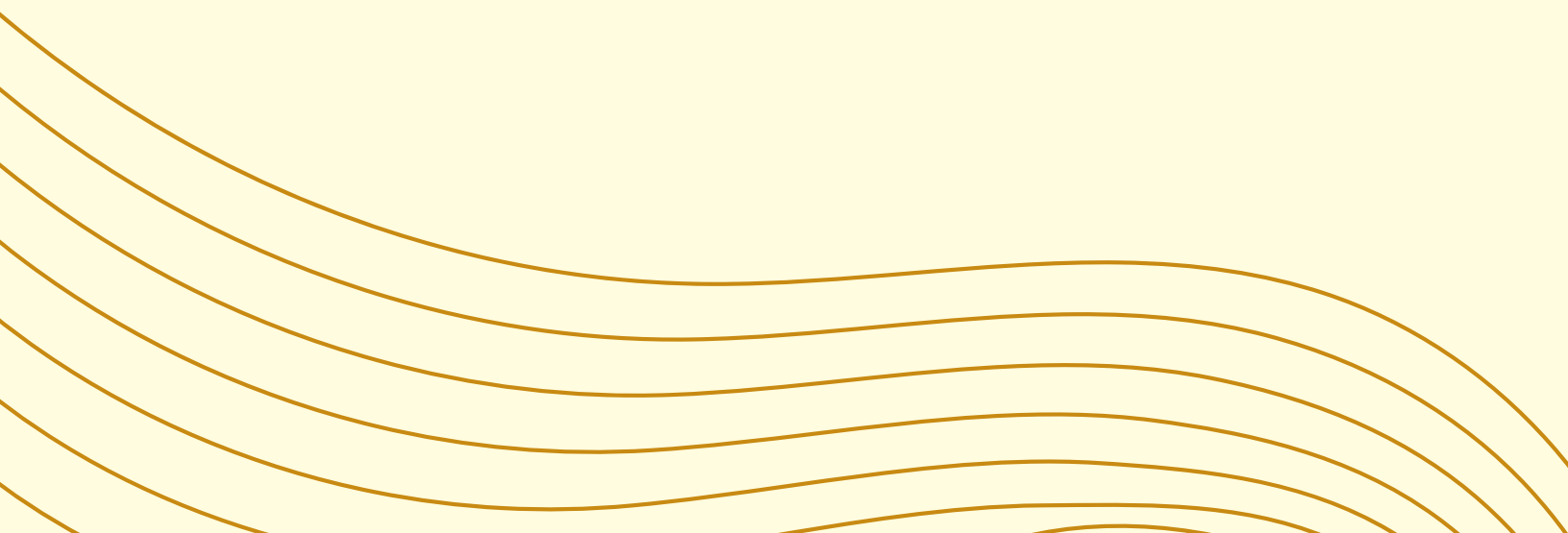


FALL BUSINESS MEETING

TIME: 11:00a.m. to 12:30p.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone, Room 1004

Fall Business Meeting hosted by OACUHO Board of Directors.



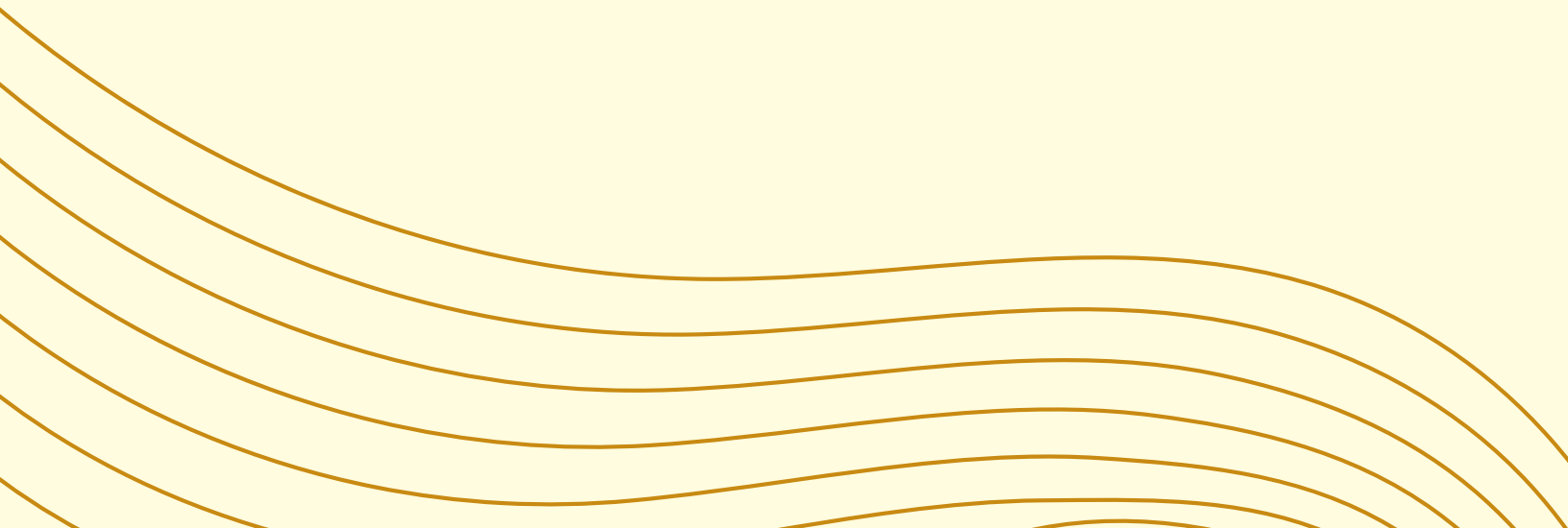
LUNCH

TIME: 12:30p.m. to 2:00p.m.

LOCATION: Douglas R. Letson Community Centre

Take a break and join us for a fresh and delicious lunch in the D.R. Letson Community Centre provided by Dexterra Group.

Affinity Networks, Advanced Members, and Senior Housing Officers will take your lunch to different locations to have conversations over your meal.

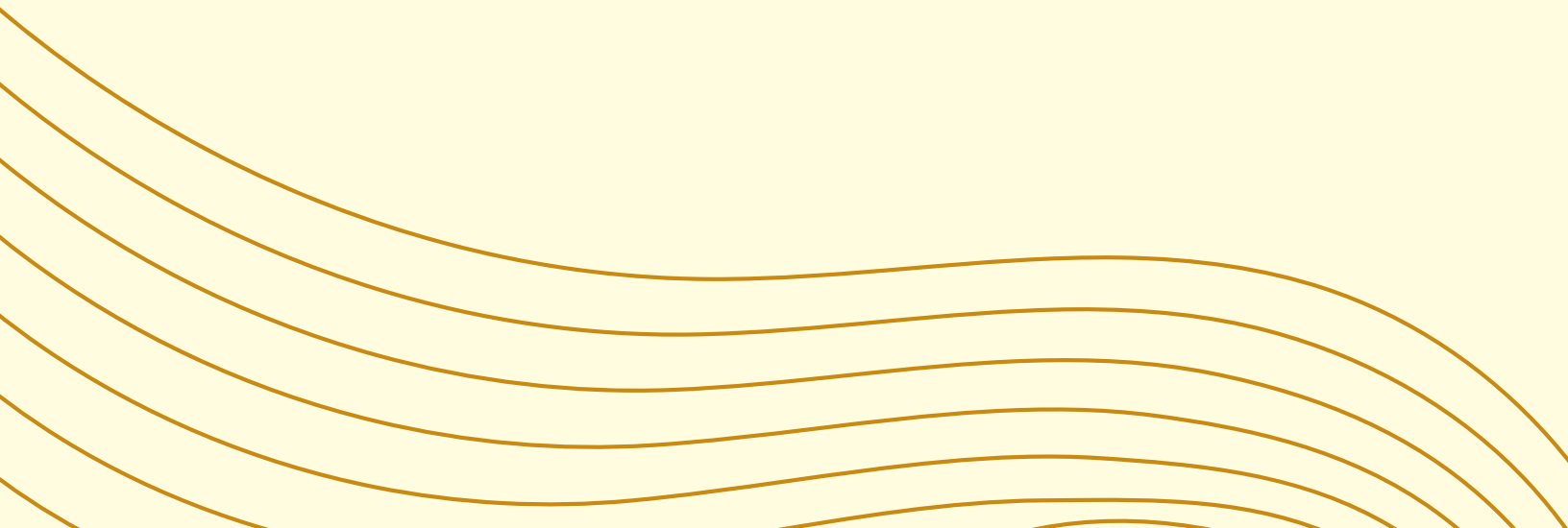
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SENIOR HOUSING OFFICERS MEETING WITH LUNCH

TIME: 12:45p.m. to 1:45p.m.

LOCATION: Sweeney Hall, Room 1012

Senior Housing Officers will go through the Servery in the Community Centre before meeting in Sweeney Hall 1012. A volunteer will gather SHOs in the Community Centre to guide you to the meeting room.

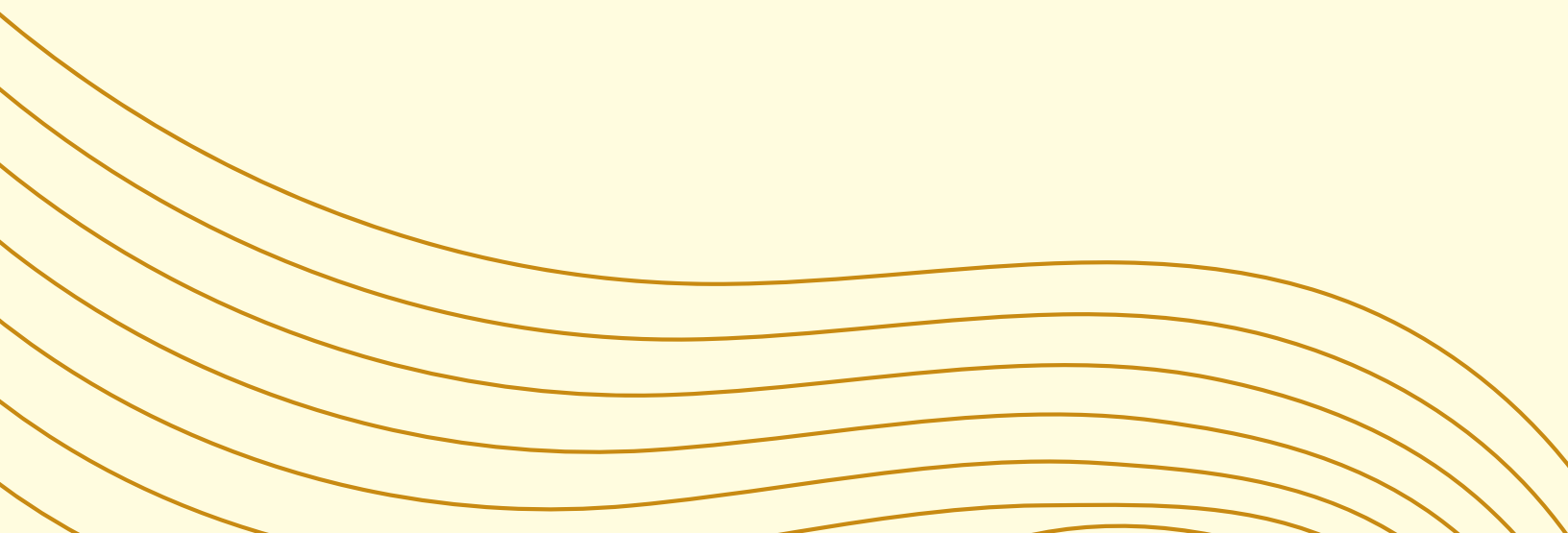
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ADVANCED MEMBERS MEETING WITH LUNCH

TIME: 12:45p.m. to 1:45p.m.

LOCATION: Ryan-Siegfried Conference Room, Room 1010

Advanced Members will go through the Servery in the Community Centre before meeting in Ryan-Siegfried Residence Conference Room - RB 1010. A volunteer will gather Advanced Members in the Community Centre to guide you to the meeting room.



AFFINITY NETWORK MEETINGS WITH LUNCH

TIME: 12:45p.m. to 1:45p.m.

BIPOC Network Meeting

Location: SJ2 Academic Centre - Room 2001

The Black, Indigenous, and Racialized Staff Network was established to provide self-identified housing professionals with an opportunity to discuss issues of identity and social location that intersect with their work. These are designed as community gatherings that develop connections among members who may feel isolated at their home institutions and provide them an opportunity for dialogue, understanding, and solidarity. Participation is open to any association member that self-identifies as a Black, Indigenous, and/or Racialized person, including those who are multi-racial.

Beyond the Binary Network Meeting

Location: SJ2 Academic Centre - Room 2002

The Beyond the Binary Network aims to gather together people who are, Transgender, Non-Binary, 2-Spirit, questioning their gender, or any other Genderqueer identities, to connect with each other and share in gender based dialogue about; decolonization, community building, sharing knowledge, and celebrating identity.



AFFINITY NETWORK MEETINGS WITH LUNCH

TIME: 12:45p.m. to 1:45p.m.

Neurodivergent Network Meeting

Location: SJ2 Academic Centre - Room 2003

The Neurodivergent Staff Network is a dedicated space for neurodivergent staff in student housing (formally diagnosed or self-diagnosed). Here, members can connect with peers, share experiences, form a supportive, inclusive, and engaging community, and learn from each other in a safe and affirming environment. The network values neurodivergent perspectives being heard.

Plus-Size Inclusion Group Network Meeting

Location: SJ2 Academic Centre - Room 2007

The Plus Size Inclusion Affinity Group brings together housing and residence life professionals who identify as plus-size, fat, or larger-bodied (size XL and above), committed to advancing body diversity and size inclusion in higher education. The group creates space to share experiences, build community, and engage in meaningful dialogue about body size, weight bias, and belonging in our profession. It recognizes body size as an often-overlooked dimension of equity, diversity, and inclusion.



CONCURRENT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

BLOCK 1

2:00p.m. to 3:00p.m.



Keeping What Matters: A Housing Case Study in Data Governance, Retention, and Deletion

PRESENTERS: Kylie Wood and Jack Kostecki, Western University

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2001

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Intermediate, Leading

COMPETENCIES:

- Strategic Planning & Project Management
- Ancillary Services & Partnerships
- Policy & Ethical Foundations
- Leadership

How do housing departments balance growing data needs with responsible data stewardship? This case study examines Western University's approach to developing a data retention and deletion framework, from data discovery and retention schedule development to the creation of an API-driven deletion tool. Participants will gain practical insights into stakeholder engagement, governance, and the operationalization of large-scale data management initiatives.



Excel-erating Community: Creating Systems for Programming Initiatives in Excel

PRESENTERS: Charlie Dunsmuir and Jacob Fournier,
Wilfrid Laurier University

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2002

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Emerging, Beginner, Intermediate

COMPETENCIES:

- Strategic Planning & Project Management
- Organizational & Human Resources

This session explores how the WLU Residence Life Team revitalized Don community programming following its formal reintroduction in 2024. Learn about year-over-year improvements, including enhancements of systems built in Excel. Attendees will gain practical Excel tips, key formulas, and an introduction to using Power Query to streamline program management. This is ideal for attendees who are seeking ideas for program management in lieu of access to a programming software license.



Beautiful Belonging: Leveraging Art Installations in Residence to Help Beautify the Spaces and Reinforce a Sense of Belonging for All Residents

PRESENTERS: Pamela Hurvid, University of Waterloo

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2003

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Intermediate, Leading

COMPETENCIES:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusions & Indigeneity
- Strategic Planning & Project Management
- Marketing & Communications

This learning experience explores how University of Waterloo Campus Housing undertook a multi-year, student-centred project that uses commissioned artwork to beautify residences while advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism by fostering connection, representation, and a stronger sense of belonging for all residents. The presenter will share the projects' goals, stakeholders, and process, providing tips for other institutions who may want to introduce similar initiatives.



Leading Through The Learning Curve: Lessons From The First Two Years of Senior Leadership

PRESENTERS: Kristen Leal, University of Toronto Mississauga

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2007

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Beginner, Intermediate

COMPETENCIES:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusions & Indigeneity
- Strategic Planning & Project Management
- Organizational & Human Resources
- Leadership

Transitioning into senior leadership means more than a new title. It requires growth, accountability, strategic thinking, and the courage to lead authentically. Through reflections from the first two years in a senior role, this session explores building trust, shaping culture, navigating change, and learning to balance day-to-day realities with long-term vision. Participants will leave with practical insights for their own leadership journeys.



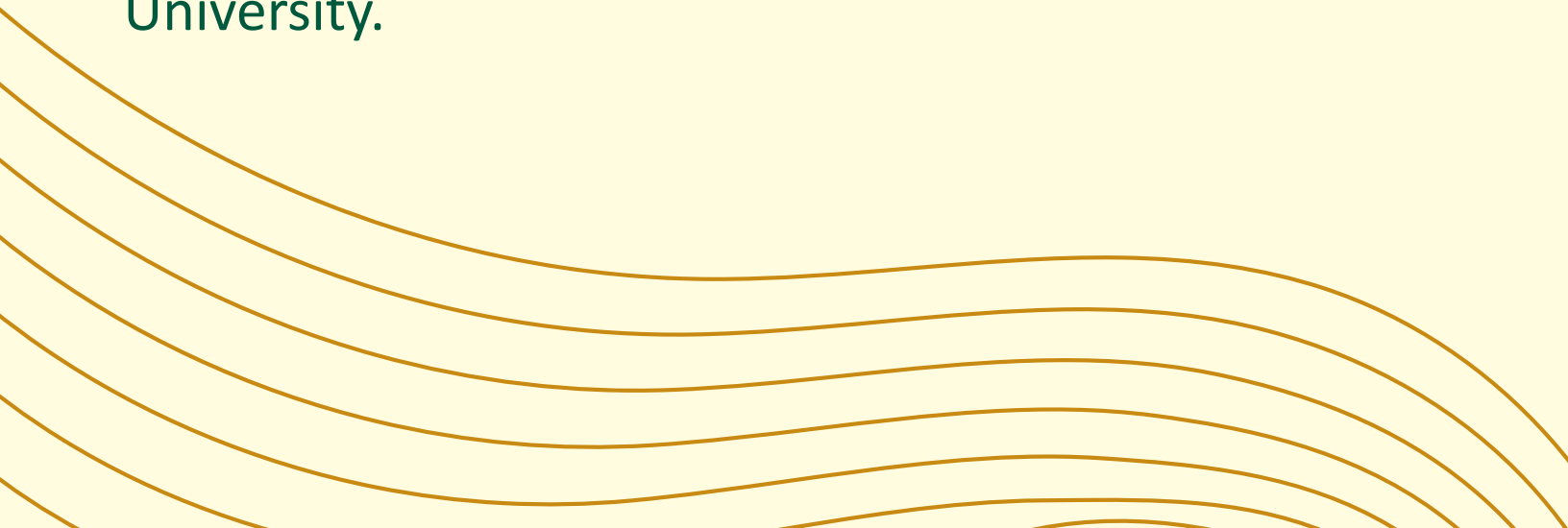
REFRESHMENT BREAK AND RESIDENCE TOURS

TIME: 3:00p.m. to 3:50p.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Atrium

Take a moment to recharge and connect with colleagues in the Atrium with light snacks and beverages.

You are invited to take an optional residence tour to explore the student living spaces at St. Jerome's University.

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CONCURRENT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

BLOCK 2

3:50p.m. to 4:50p.m.



Crisis Leadership in Action: Navigating the Grey Area Between Behaviour and Crisis

PRESENTERS: Zeke Schneider, St. Jerome's University

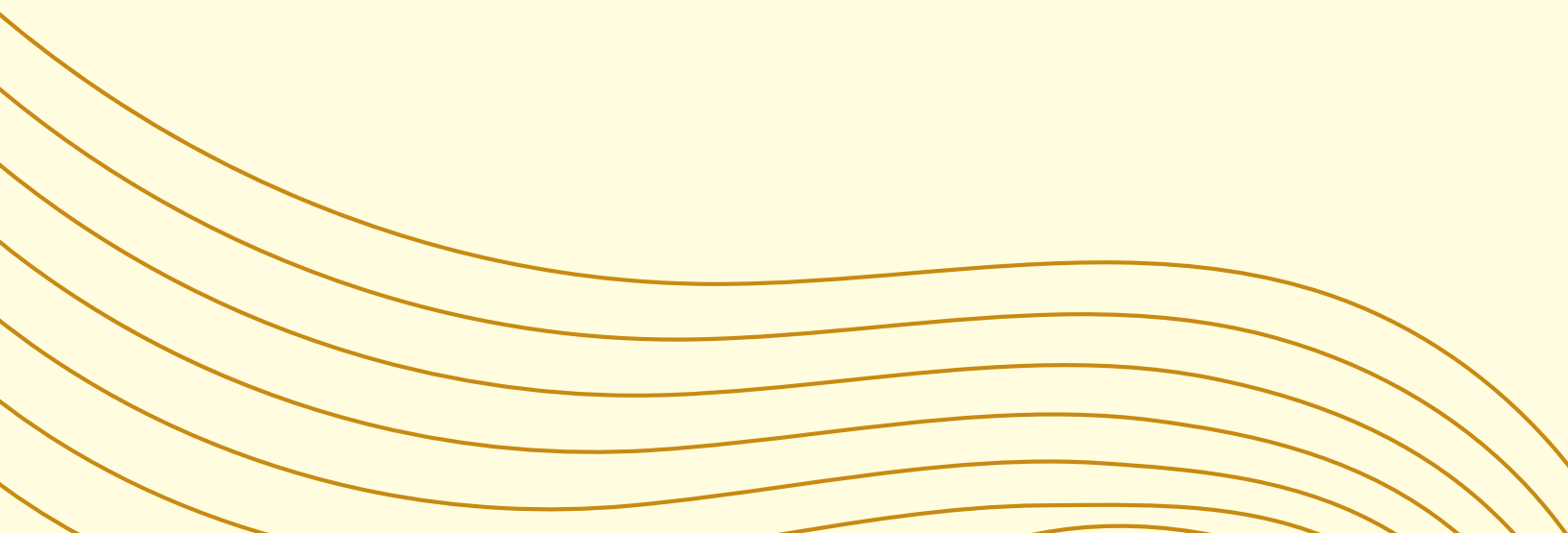
LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2001

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Beginner, Intermediate

COMPETENCIES:

- Student Behaviour & Crisis Management
- Leadership

As residence life professionals, we often navigate the grey area between concerning behaviour and emerging crisis, often making decisions with incomplete and evolving information. In this interactive session, participants will work through case studies where information is revealed in stages, deciding how to respond, when a situation shifts to a crisis, and who needs to be involved. Participants will explore how to balance safety, support, and accountability through uncertainty.



Teaching Labs and Effort Statements

PRESENTERS: Lindsay Core, University of Guelph

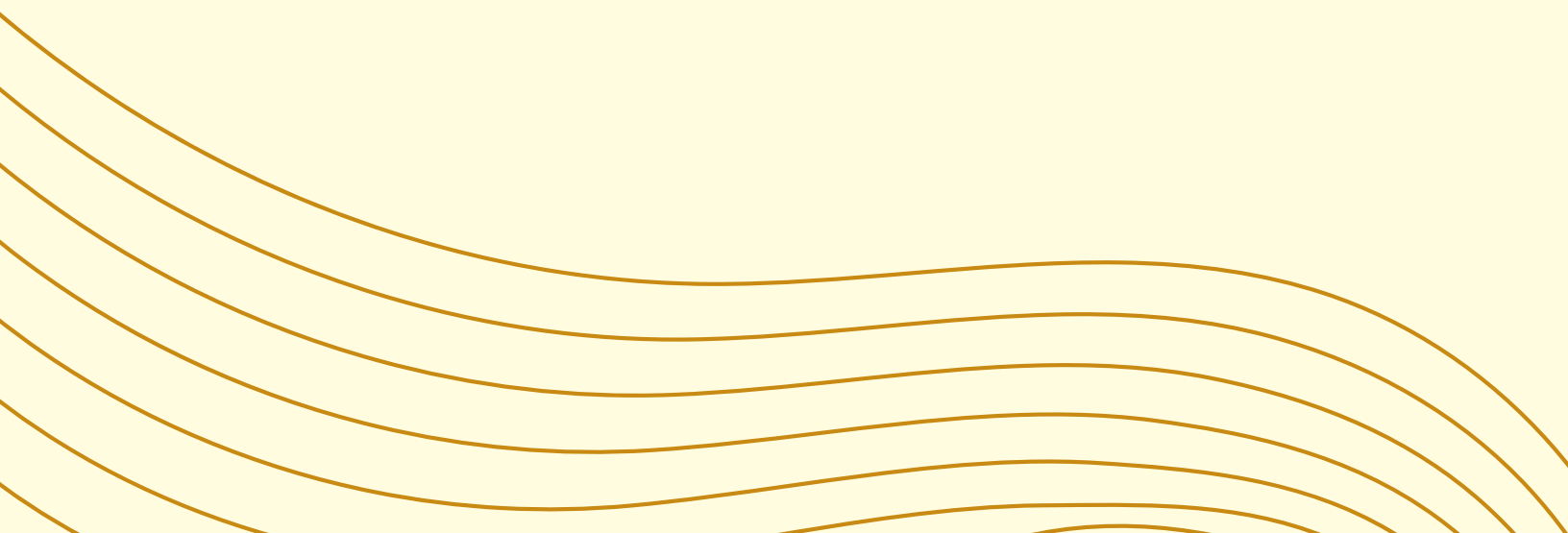
LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2002

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Intermediate

COMPETENCIES:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Indigenuity
- Leadership

Discover two initiatives that revitalized our student staff training. Teaching Labs provide structured peer coaching, helping managers strengthen facilitation skills, build confidence, and prepare for training. Effort Statements outline the physical, cognitive, and emotional demands of a session so participants know what to expect, prepare accordingly, and access supports when needed.



What Walking 1,000 km Taught Me About Housing: Creating Holistic Spaces for Students to Live and Thrive

PRESENTERS: Delores Lanni, University of Waterloo

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2003

LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Emerging, Beginner, Intermediate, Leading

COMPETENCIES:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusions & Indigeneity
- Facilities & Infrastructure Management
- Student Behaviour & Crisis Management
- Leadership

What can walking 1,000 km and staying in 38 different housing operations teach us about residence life? In March of 2026 I walked the Camino de Santiago, during my pilgrimage I experienced how spaces can foster isolation or belonging, and how meeting foundational needs changes our capacity to face the road ahead. Through stories of community, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and the unique housing experience of donativos, this session explores what makes a residential environment truly nourishing—and how we can create spaces where students feel equipped to thrive.



Oh, Bother: Lessons Learned as a Senior Leader Navigating Complex and Constant Institutional Disruption

PRESENTERS: Becky Shillington, Loyalist College

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre, Room 2007

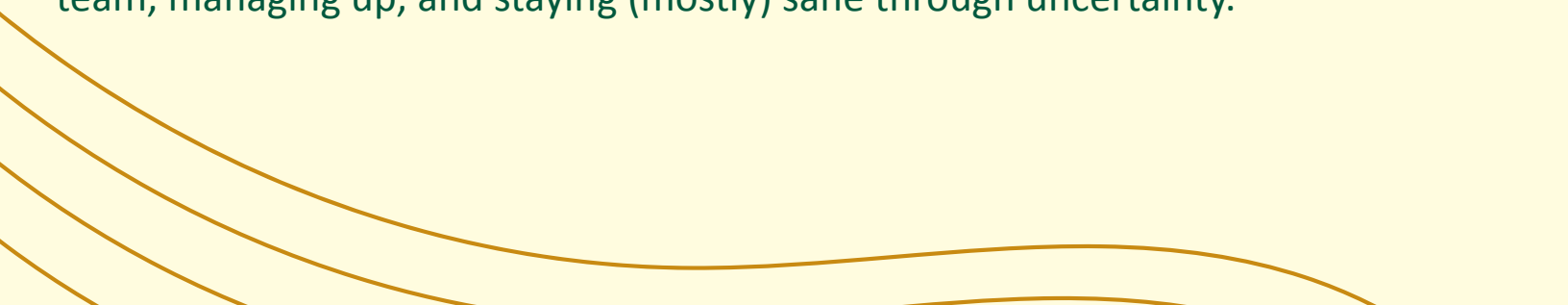
LEVEL OF COMPETENCY: Intermediate, Leading

COMPETENCIES:

- Strategic Planning & Project Management
- Ancillary Services & Partnerships
- Organizational & Human Resources
- Marketing & Communications
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Leadership

Financial crisis. Labour disruption. College-wide layoffs. Budget reductions. Then a cyber attack, for some spice.

Institutional change is challenging to navigate, especially when the hits keep coming. How do we protect the student experience and service delivery when trust is fragile, morale is low, and the picture keeps changing? I don't have many answers, but am happy to share some lessons learned (so far) about leading a team, managing up, and staying (mostly) sane through uncertainty.

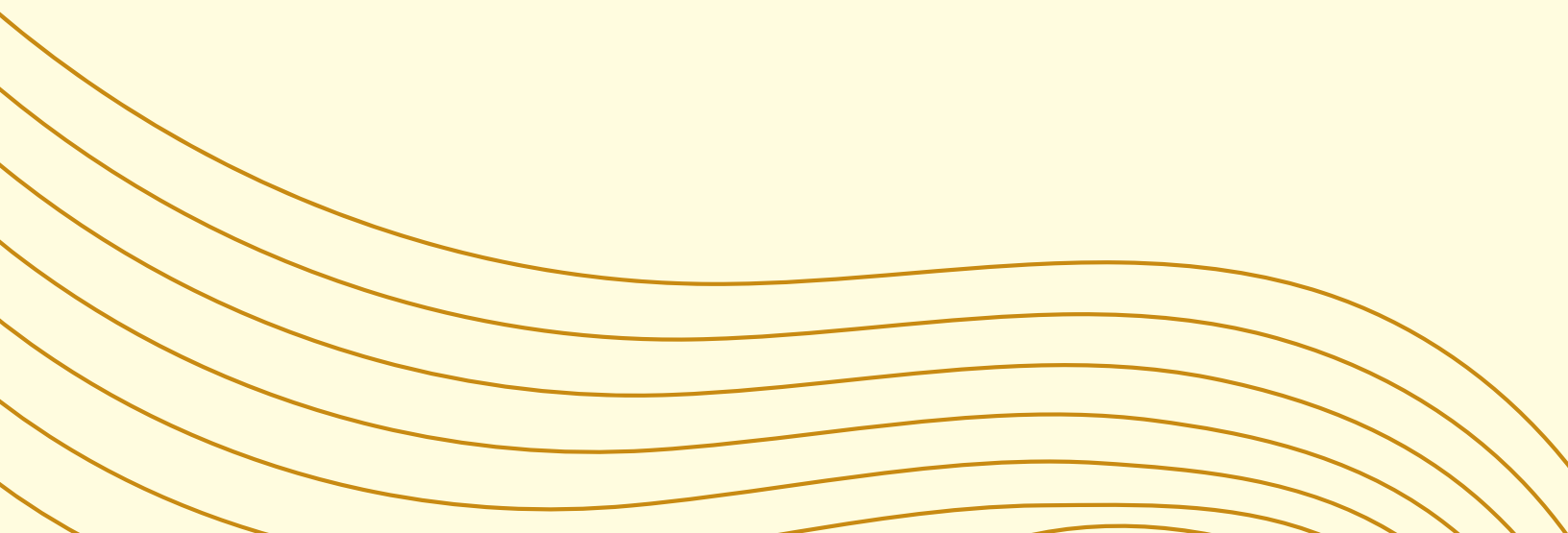


CLOSING REMARKS

TIME: 4:50p.m. to 5:20p.m.

LOCATION: SJ2 Academic Centre - Vanstone, Room 1004

Gather together in the SJ2 Academic Centre Vanstone Lecture Hall (room 1004) to wrap up the conference!

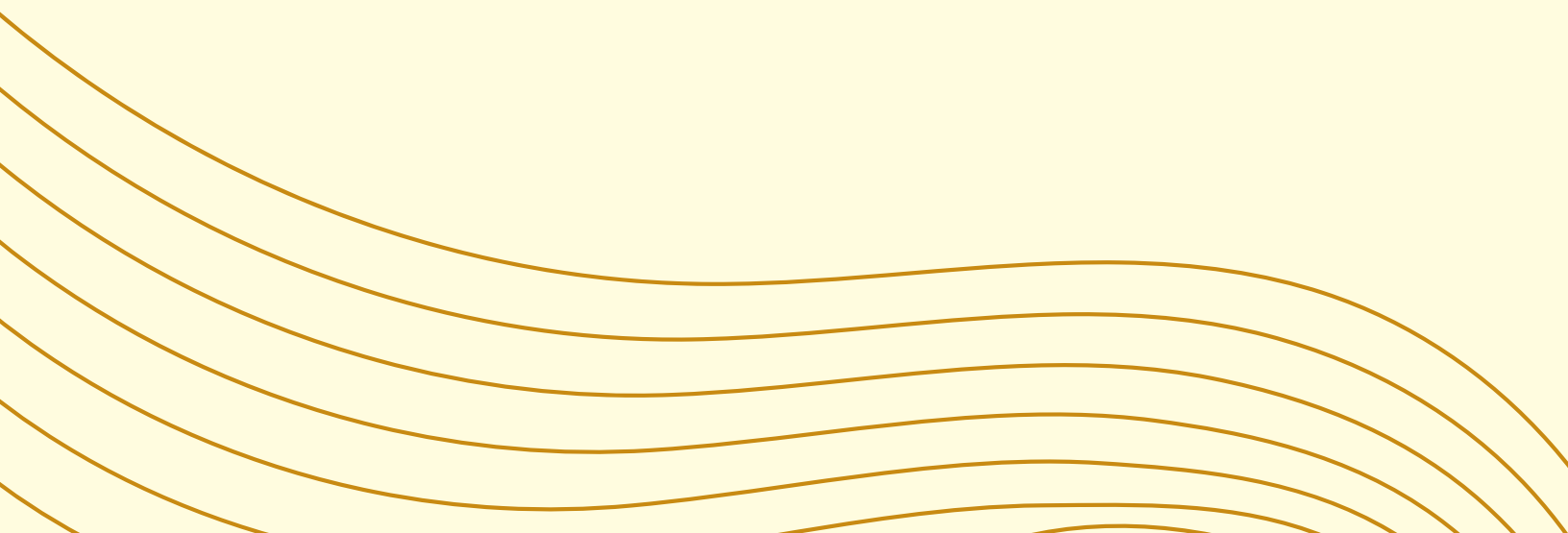


FALL CONFERENCE MIXER

TIME: 5:30p.m. to 6:30p.m.

LOCATION: Funcken Café

Celebrate the end of the conference by mixing and mingling with colleagues at our on-campus café turned into a pub. Food, drinks, and great conversation are on the menu!



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

OACUHO
FALL CONFERENCE
SMALL COMMUNITIES,
BIG IMPACT



Federated with the University of Waterloo

WE WOULD LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK!

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SHORT
SURVEY.**

