

Brief Bio's for the ugFA Unit 1 Faculty Nominees Assistant Vice-President (Graduate Studies) Search Selection Committee

Alana Saulnier – Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of Social and Applied Human Sciences

Dr. Alana Saulnier is Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in SOAN in CSAHS. Dr. Saulnier has held an administrative leadership position, serving as the Criminology Program Director at Lakehead University (LU) from 2018 – 2021. This experience provides her with some understanding of the qualities needed in an academic administrator. Other relevant service roles that Dr. Saulnier has participated in include serving on the Undergraduate Studies Committee at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC, 2016–17) and at Queen's University (QU, 2022–23). Dr. Saulnier has also served as a committee member on assistant professor hiring committees at UIC (2017) and LU (2018), as well as the Interdisciplinary Studies Chair Nomination Committee at LU (2019) and the Department of Sociology's Headship Committee at QU (2022). Beyond these positions, Dr. Saulnier has held additional service roles that she performed reliably and collegially. Dr. Saulnier has an interest in administration and would value the opportunity to be involved in the selection process for the University of Guelph's new Assistant Vice President (Graduate Studies).

David Walters Department of Sociology and Anthropology, College of Social and Applied Human Sciences

Dr. David Walters is Professor of Sociology at the University of Guelph. His primary area of research focuses on school-to-work transitions, where he provides robust research program for graduate students interested in high-impact policy research. He currently leads a SSHRC partnership project centred on labour market outcomes of postsecondary graduates in Ontario, drawing on large-scale administrative datasets and national research networks. As a dedicated supervisor and advisor to MA and PhD students, Dr. Walters emphasizes the development of professional competencies and applied skills in qualitative and quantitative data analysis to ensure his students are well-prepared for careers in both academia and beyond. Since starting at the University of Guelph in 2005, Dr. Walters has served on more than 60 committees and has taken on several leadership roles including being Associate Chair, Acting Chair, Undergraduate Coordinator, and Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

Roberta Hawkins – Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics,
College of Social and Applied Human Sciences

Dr. Roberta Hawkins is a Professor in the Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics. Her research examines sustainability, care and digital technologies, exploring how everyday practices can lead to wider societal and environmental change. Her recently published book: *Higher Expectations: How to survive academia, make it better for others, and transform the university*, offers evidence-based advice for students and faculty working in post-secondary institutions. At the University of Guelph, Roberta has supervised or served on committees for over 40 graduate students/post docs and has taught multiple courses at the master's and doctoral levels. She has extensive experience in graduate curriculum design and program administration and is the former Director of the interdisciplinary Social Practice PhD program in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS).