



# Executive Summary

Environmental Science Undergraduate  
Program Review (2022-23)



**External Reviewers:**

- Dr. Andrew MacDougall Coordinator Climate & Environment program and Associate Professor Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, St. Francis Xavier University)
- Dr. Marilyne Carrey (Acting Director and Associate Professor, Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, Brock University)

**Internal Chair:**

- William Kay, Manager, Academic Program Development and Review, Saint Mary's University

**Site-visit Dates:** April 25-26, 2024

**Report Date:** May 17, 2024

## Overview

Prior to the online SMU visit, reviewers were invited to a one-hour orientation session with the Coordinator, Graduation/Academic Program Development and Review Enrolment Services (Courtney Deveaux) and the Manager, Academic Program Development and Review (William Kay), who subsequently served as the internal reviewer of this program. Shortly thereafter, they were provided with access to the relevant Environmental Science review documents via Brightspace. A few days ahead of the visit, reviewers attended a pre-site visit with Courtney Deveaux and William Kay to confirm our itinerary, answer questions and ensure that they were prepared for the two-day site visit.

Day one of the site visit included a meeting with the Interim Vice-President, Academic and Research (Dr. VanderPlaat); Interim Dean of the Faculty of Science (Dr. Veres); the Director of the School of the Environment and Acting Chair of the Department of Environmental Science (Dr. Charles); and the Registrar and Associate Vice-President Enrolment Services (Dr. Seneker). The review committee also met with full-time, part-time, and adjunct faculty members involved in the program. Day two included meetings with the University Librarian and Library Liaison for Environmental Science; Science Academic Advisors, Administrative support personnel (including the Administrative Assistant, Technician, and Interpreters) involved in the program. While they were unable to meet with current undergraduate students, they were able to speak with two recent graduates (2023) and an alumnus from 2019. The reviewers noted in their report that "We came away from these meetings with appreciation, respect, and admiration for the collegial nature of the faculty, staff, and students in the program. This group openly

welcomed dialogue and constructive suggestions to enhance the student experience and reputation of SMU.”

The review team suggested six recommendations for the administration and the Environmental Science (ENVS) department in their summary statement under the following headings: Recommendations for Administration (4), and Recommendations for the ENVS Department (2).