


MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff and Students, Department of Sociology

From: Professor William Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & Dean 

Date: 21 January 2021

Re: **Academic Administrative Appointment – Chair, Department of Sociology**

I am pleased to inform you that the Agenda Committee of Academic Board has approved the appointment of Professor Joseph Hermer as Chair of the Department of Sociology for a five-year term, from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2026.

Professor Hermer leads the Graduate Comprehensive Committee for Qualitative Methods in Sociology and was Co-Chair of the 2019 Strategic Planning, *Inspiring Inclusive Excellence*, Indigeneity Working Group. The committee highlighted Professor Hermer's strong communication skills, open leadership and consultative approach. In all instances, his respect for equity and fairness, and the ability to engage and bridge different perspectives was admired.

I am very pleased that Professor Hermer is willing to take on the responsibilities of the Chair and continue to lead important departmental initiatives. I look forward to working with him.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the search committee for its service in this critical process. The participation of members of the committee and the input of faculty, staff and students is greatly appreciated.