

Dean's Message

Published 12/19/2023 by [Elaine Simionato Hayashi](#)

Dear Faculty of Arts,

While the Faculty of Arts has formally existed for only less than four years now, in many ways I feel I have been a part of a 'faculty of arts' family for all my 22 years at Seneca. What connects us in the FOA – beyond this formal structure – has always been something less tangible. Even when the now consolidated FOA existed as separate schools/departments spanning various faculties, there has always been a core function, purpose and mission bonding us within the larger scope of the institution's mission. While contributing to the collective purpose of preparing our Seneca graduates to be career-ready, we have also always carried the mantle of preparing these same graduates to be critically engaged citizens. Although this responsibility does not fall solely on the shoulders of FOA, we have always relished our part towards this end.

Now, after over 22 years as faculty member, coordinator, chair and currently dean in both the School of Arts & Science and Faculty of Arts, I am changing my roles within the institution. As of February 5, 2024, I will be serving as the Registrar for Seneca Polytechnic. I have been honoured to serve as Dean of FOA and am very proud of all the wonderful things we have achieved collectively to serve our students – both within our programs and across the institution. I am honoured and look forward to continuing serving the needs and interests of our students in my new role as Registrar, as well as continuing to work with the wonderful faculty and staff that comprise the FOA, in this new capacity.

Thank you and congratulations on another successful term. Wishing you and your loved ones a happy holiday, and all the best for the new year!

With deepest respect and gratitude,

Riaz