

The Nova Scotia College of Art and Design is dedicated to providing the best possible conditions for the study, practice, research and teaching of art, craft and design.

A NSCAD education is distinguished by attention to diverse academic and practical concerns in the studio environment.

NSCAD fosters close creative relationships among artists, designers, academics and the public at large and assumes leadership responsibilities in the regional, national and international cultural community.

The Nova Scotia College of Art and Design awards diplomas and degrees in recognition of the achievements of its students.

GOAL #1:

Provide a unique and excellent education in fine art, craft, design, art history, art education and environmental planning.

Objectives:

- 1.1 Foster an understanding of and genuine commitment to the creative process through directed practice in the institutional environment.
- 1.2 Provide students with the best possible access to the visual arts community and to professional life as artists, communication designers, environmental planners, art educators and craftspeople.
- 1.3 Advance the process of discovery and exploration of fine arts, crafts, design, art education, art history and related scholarship.
- 1.4 Provide students with a strong foundation and curriculum of courses ranging from basic studies to advanced studio activity that offer a meaningful balance between theory, practice and research through the development of thinking, questioning and doing skills.
- 1.5 Develop new and existing programs that help NSCAD fulfill its role, vis-à-vis new technology, new opportunities for programs, student exchange/off-campus, and transferability of credits with other institutions.
- 1.6 Maintain a faculty with the best qualifications and commitment to their teaching.
- 1.7 Foster a vision that can be shared by all members of the institution.
- 1.8 Provide leadership and governance suitable to the mission of the university in its human resources, facilities and financial resources.

GOAL #2

Be a centre of excellence for research and development in the practice of fine art, craft, design, art history, art education and environmental planning.

Objectives:

- 2.1 Encourage students and faculty to pursue research from basic inquiry to applied and mission-oriented investigation.
- 2.2 Develop and maintain state-of-the-art research facilities.
- 2.3 Encourage and support faculty and graduate students in their research and professional practice.
- 2.4 Publish and exhibit the results of research and professional practice activities at NSCAD.

GOAL #3

As the Centre of Excellence for education and practice of the arts, to be a leader in Atlantic Canada and to play a leading role nationally and internationally.

Objectives:

- 3.1 Undertake initiatives, while participating in a coordinated system of higher education, that will reflect NSCAD's uniqueness and autonomy.
- 3.2 Be an advocate for the role of art, design and craft in society by undertaking initiatives provincially, nationally and internationally; by forming partnerships and liaisons with other organizations; by encouraging faculty to publish and exhibit their work.
- 3.3 Equip students to earn a living in their disciplines with new courses that respond to the economic realities of being a professional artist, craftsman, designer, art historian or art educator; and with professional training and development for related disciplines and careers.

GOAL #4

Be a partner with communities, organization, educational institutions and individuals who share NSCAD's interests.

Objectives:

- 4.1 Support and develop close links with the professional communities (practitioners, professional associations and corporate communities) associated with research and practice in the major areas of study in the College.
- 4.2 Coordinate and share resources with other universities for the mutual benefit of students and faculty, while maintaining maximum visibility for NSCAD through credit courses, research facilities, exhibition facilities and faculty resources.
- 4.3 Coordinate and share resources with other art, craft, design and community organizations for the benefit of the general public while maintaining maximum visibility for NSCAD.
- 4.4 Be an information/referral source for events, activities and programs.

GOAL #5

Provide a working and learning environment that addresses the needs of a wide and diverse community.

Objectives:

- 5.1 Encourage tolerance, responsibility and sensitivity within the College community.
- 5.2 Develop appropriate policies beneficial to all NSCAD departments and divisions and ensure that the College community is fully aware of these policies.
- 5.3 Encourage students to explore educational opportunities and experiences to enhance their education.
- 5.4 Plan and provide for improvements to student services and student aid (student scholarships, bursaries, etc.) and continually monitor needs and priorities.
- 5.5 Ensure that NSCAD is a workplace based on mutual respect.
- 5.6 Consult with diverse communities and make NSCAD educational services and opportunities more accessible to them.

GOAL #6

Attract students with creative promise and intellectual ability who are committed to their education.

Objectives:

- 6.1 Develop a recruitment strategy to attract students from different cultural, ethnic and demographic backgrounds.
- 6.2 Encourage collaboration between Continuing Education, Foundation and Admissions towards active recruitment of students throughout Nova Scotia.
- 6.3 Develop a strategy to attract and maintain faculty and staff from various backgrounds who are committed to their work and to the university.
- 6.4 Provide educational opportunities for all qualified students, including those facing social, economic or physical challenges.
- 6.5 Develop resources to provide student scholarships, financial assistance and resources which will enable NSCAD to attract and maintain a diverse mix of students, faculty and staff.
- 6.6 Determine suitable enrollment levels.

GOAL #7

Provide a high-quality, properly serviced facility that will meet the evolving needs of the College.

Objectives:

- 7.1 Continually monitor and assess the facility and its appropriateness for NSCAD's needs and explore new facilities as opportunities arise.
- 7.2 Ensure the campus is accessible to physically challenged persons, and that the facility conforms to current building fire and safety codes.
- 7.3 Develop the most efficient, cost-effective student services including housing, cafeteria and supply store.
- 7.4 Constantly improve College facilities for health and safety, convenience and efficiency.
- 7.5 Develop policies and procedures for college-wide allocation and use of physical space and facilities.
- 7.6 Expand the existing telecommunication and computer system to provide global communication to all members of the campus community.
- 7.7 Continue the program to enhance the identity and convey the autonomy of the College.

GOAL #8

Be accountable, as a self-governing university community.

Objectives:

- 8.1 Establish on-going planning that allows the involvement of all College constituencies, ensuring NSCAD has:
- a senate or similar structure with responsibility for academic programs;
 - short and long term financial plans;
 - representation of artists, designers and academics on the Board of Governors;
 - on-going College development and fundraising programs;
 - and,
 - an equitable staffing and funding formula for all departments
- 8.2 Make information about the College and its operations available for the planning process with standardized administrative procedures and effective channels of communication.
- 8.3 Review the contribution of the academic program, faculty and administration to the success of the College by:
- conducting regular formal performance evaluation of faculty and administrators
 - evaluation and assessment of the academic program in relation to the College's needs