



Position Profile

Dean, Trent University Durham GTA

updated April 15, 2026

The Dean, Trent University Durham GTA provides strategic academic leadership for the Durham campus, fostering a positive, inclusive, and student-centered academic environment that supports excellence in teaching, learning, and scholarship. As the senior academic officer at the Durham campus, the Dean is accountable for the quality, integrity, and sustainability of academic programming and operations.

Reporting to the Provost & Vice President Academic, the Dean leads academic planning, program delivery, and faculty affairs at Trent Durham. The Dean works collegially with the decanal leadership team; Associate Deans; Chairs, Directors, and Coordinators at Trent Durham; and Peterborough-based academic units delivering programs and courses on the Durham campus. The Dean collaborates with the Vice President & Head, Trent Durham Campus in support of external relations, partnerships, and community engagement.

Academic Leadership

The Dean provides leadership in advancing academic excellence and institutional priorities, including:

- Leading strategic academic planning and implementation under the direction of the Provost, ensuring alignment with the University's vision and priorities
- Ensuring high standards in academic programming, curriculum, and instructional effectiveness in collaboration with the Provost's Office and academic departments, and at the same time respecting Durham's distinctive academic identity
- Exercising stewardship over academic budgets and resources through data-informed decision-making to support sustainable, high-quality programming
- Supporting enrolment, retention, and student success through academic initiatives that enhance engagement and graduate outcomes
- Promoting excellence in teaching and research while fostering an inclusive, collegial academic culture

Academic Operations and Management

The Dean oversees all academic functions and day-to-day academic operations at Trent Durham, including:

- Development and oversight of the academic budget and allocation of resources supporting academic priorities

- Leadership of academic program development, delivery, and quality assurance, working closely with Peterborough-based deans and academic units on staffing, curriculum alignment, and teaching support
- Oversight of new program development, cyclical program review, accreditation, and academic planning processes
- Ensuring compliance with academic policies, regulations, and collective agreements (TUFA, CUPE, OPSEU)
- Managing academic-related student issues, including academic integrity matters
- Hiring and supervision of non-academic staff within the decanal office
- Chairing the Trent University Durham Decanal and contributing to key academic governance bodies, including Senate and Provost-led committees

Faculty Leadership and Development

The Dean provides leadership in faculty engagement and development by:

- Supporting faculty recruitment, performance review, and personnel processes in accordance with the TUFA Collective Agreement
- Fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, instructional innovation, professional development, and scholarly activity
- Overseeing the appointment and development of Chairs, Associate Chairs, and Program Coordinators
- Working in collaboration with Human Resources on faculty relations and personnel matters

Student Engagement, Enrolment, and Success

The Dean supports student success and institutional enrolment goals by:

- Championing academic initiatives that enhance recruitment, retention, and graduation outcomes
- Collaborating with Recruitment, Marketing, and Admissions on enrolment planning and growth strategies, in consultation with the Provost
- Using data and evidence to inform academic and student success strategies
- Promoting a student-centered, inclusive academic environment that supports wellness, belonging, and achievement

Community and External Engagement

In collaboration with the Vice President & Head, Trent Durham Campus, the Dean supports the:

- Advancement of external partnerships to enhance experiential learning, employment pathways, and academic relevance
- Strengthening of relationships with government, industry, community organizations, and educational partners
- Development of articulation and transfer pathways, and
- Represents the Durham campus in external forums and contributes to advancement and fundraising initiatives

Qualifications

The successful candidate will have:

- An earned doctorate or terminal degree, with eligibility for appointment at the rank of Associate or Professor
- Demonstrated and progressively responsible experience in academic leadership, including participation in strategic planning, budgeting, academic administration, or governance within a university setting
- Experience in faculty leadership, including recruitment, mentorship, performance review, and support for faculty career development
- Experience with program development, quality assurance, academic policy implementation, and academic governance processes
- Experience supporting enrolment planning, student success initiatives, and multi-campus or cross-campus academic delivery
- A demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and collegial decision-making
- Strong communication, collaboration, and relationship-building skills