Fall 2026

NEWS AND VIEWS

College Executive Leadership & Climate Survey 2026

How are you experiencing executive leadership and the climate at Bow Valley College?

Our second annual survey is open. It is confidential and includes 10 rating questions, followed by an optional opportunity to provide written feedback. The rating questions take just a few minutes; you can spend more time if you choose to add comments.

Your input helps BVCFA understand faculty sentiment and guides how we represent and advocate for members with College executive leadership. It helps us bring concerns forward and hold leadership accountable.

Complete the survey by October 5 at 11:45 p.m.

Check your email inbox for your direct link to complete the survey.

Our Website:
https://bvcfa.com

President's Message - Matt Kriz

Digital Disruption

I have taught writing, both here at Bow Valley and at other institutions around the city and beyond, for more years than I care to count. One of the first things that any writing instructor will tell you is that you can't write a strong paper if you don't have a strong argument, or, as it's normally called, a strong thesis. You might guess where I'm going with this...

Wherever blame might be laid, there is no good argument that TheSIS, our new student information system, has met expectations. While I think everyone expected some hiccups, what we've been faced with is more like a series of full-body convulsions (it's at this point where a writing instructor might advise the student to stop being so cute, so I'll dispense with the metaphors). Put plainly, almost nothing has worked as it was supposed to. Grades didn't transfer from D2L, waitlists ceased to exist, registrations vanished, students were taking paper forms to the reg office and the poor folks at ORES and Records are probably now planning for early retirement. What's perhaps worse is that winter registration starts next week and it is unclear if any of these issues have been resolved.

I am pointing this out again not to lay blame, but to first commend us all, really and truly, for making things work almost as normal despite nothing really working. It's been stressful for students and staff alike and we've largely succeeded in minimizing that stress, from Chairs manually ensuring grades were entered to instructors taking students into classes well beyond the add/drop deadline. We all do our part and while we might complain, I think we all try to put education first and it's why we will just make it work no matter what constraints we're faced with. Let us all take a moment to admire our own perseverance.

However, I don't think that means we should just continue to persevere, which brings me to my second point. While it really is unclear why TheSIS has been so disastrous thus far, what we haven't been told is when and how this will be addressed. Will registration work as planned next week? Will grades be transferred properly? Is there a proposed solution? These are questions that college leadership needs to be answering and we at the BVCFA, so far without success, have been asking them to do just that. Even if the current solution is "hope for the best and prepare for the worst" it would be good to know just what we need to be prepared for.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Faculty Engagement Sessions

BVCFA is hosting sessions for specific faculty groups this fall. Join colleagues to share what is happening in your area, raise questions and ideas, and build stronger connections with one another and the Faculty Association. We also hope to find faculty members in each area who are interested in staying connected and helping colleagues communicate with BVCFA.

Registration Link (https://forms.gle/Y9DrsAUfCFyfhbZ9A)

- Friday, October 9, 12:00 p.m. — Academic Innovation (CAI), online
- Wednesday, October 14, 12:00 p.m. — Program Chairs
- Wednesday, October 14, 3:00 p.m. — Arts and Sciences
- Thursday, October 15, 3:00 p.m. — Business, CSB
- Monday, October 19, 12:00 p.m. — Business, Administration
- Monday, October 19, 3:00 p.m. — Justice, Social Work, Disability, CYC, and Addiction
- Wednesday, October 21, 12:00 p.m. — Community Studies, ECED
- Wednesday, October 21, 3:00 p.m. — Community Studies, Education Assistants
- Wednesday, October 28, 12:00 p.m. — Health and Wellness, Nursing
- Wednesday, October 28, 3:00 p.m. — Health and Wellness, HCA
- Monday, November 2, 12:00 p.m. — Health and Wellness, Allied Health
- Wednesday, November 4, 3:00 p.m. — Technology
- Monday, November 23, 3:00 p.m. — Non-instructional faculty
- Monday, November 30, 12:00 p.m. — Extended Education
- Wednesday, December 2, 3:00 p.m. — Upgrading and English Language Learning (SFL)

Except for the online CAI session, sessions are hybrid in N306 and on Zoom. Register for the group most relevant to you, or choose another session if its time works better. You may register for more than one. After each registration deadline, registrants will receive a calendar invitation with the session details and Zoom link.

FACULTY CONNECTION

Faculty Chair Meetings

An optional monthly meeting for Faculty Chairs to connect and support one another.

- Build relationships across the college
- Share ideas, challenges and successes
- Strengthen collaboration in leadership roles

UPCOMING DATES

Mon, Oct. 26 · 3-4 p.m.
Mon, Nov. 30 · 3-4 p.m.

LOCATION
S1090, Student Services Meeting Room

FACULTY SUPPORT

Navigating Difficult Student Situations

Join Counselling Services for a confidential, facilitated conversation.

- Discuss challenging situations in a supportive space
- Explore referrals and college resources
- Share strategies and maintain healthy boundaries

UPCOMING DATES

Thu, Oct. 22 · 12-1 p.m.
Thu, Nov. 19 · 12-1 p.m.
Thu, Dec. 10 · 12-1 p.m.

LOCATION
S1090, Student Services or join online