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The Chair reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on December 4, 2023, at which the agenda and materials for today's meeting were approved, and the Committee welcomed its newly elected members.

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Dean Walker commenced her report by reflecting on her first year at OISE including several successful initiatives and many inspiring conversations with members of the community about the future of OISE and how to support the Institute's mission and advance its priorities. Some of these conversations informed the establishment of two working groups – one on pedagogical excellence, and the second one on doctoral student experience, as well as focus of the academic leadership retreat that took place in the summer of 2023. These conversations are ongoing and continue to inform the Dean's thinking about equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives, how this work intersects across constituencies and spaces, and provides context for innovation and change that OISE continues to advocate for within the University such as advancement goals and pedagogical innovation. In addition to engaging with the OISE community in multiple fora, the Dean highlighted that her involvement in creative problem-solving work addressing University-level structures and policies, such as participation in the University-wide working group on the Professional Doctorate, has been a highlight of her first year at OISE.

The Dean reported on the OISE-wide budget discussion held on November 7, 2023, which was well attended and provided a lively forum about academic priorities for the coming year's budget including faculty renewal, program innovation, diversifying recruitment, enhancing teaching opportunities for doctoral students, and improving student experience. It was highlighted that information about academic priorities and budget will continue to be shared at future meetings and through ongoing discussions.

The Dean further reflected on numerous community events and the many formal meetings and informal conversations she has had with members of the OISE Community, as well as on her own research in mathematics education and its emphasis on storytelling and how stories can motivate learning and engagement in mathematics especially of racialized and underrepresented learners. Related to the beginning of a new year, the Dean added that she believes that faculties of education, and OISE in particular, have a responsibility to share fuller, more expansive views of the role of education, its importance and centrality for lives and wellbeing of individuals and communities. She reiterated her broad vision for OISE that she shared at her first Council meeting in February 2023 emphasizing the Institute's commitment to conducting dynamic and innovative research, improving teaching and educational practice, and connecting in creative ways to communities, all in service to more equitable and just education. The Dean further noted that she looks forward to the beginning of a new academic planning cycle in the winter term of 2024 that will bring the community together in answering questions about OISE's vision, academic priorities, and paths forward so that the Institute's work resonates

Education – OADE’s Environmental Sustainability Roundtable. The Ontario College of Teachers’ updated Accreditation Resource Guide includes new requirements on environmental learning, eco justice, and climate action for accredited teacher education programs and OISE’s programs have been focusing on these issues for a long time. Dr. Inwood further noted that the University’s Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability has become a standing committee chaired by the President. During the fall term of 2023, the SCAN offered five webinars on Environmental and Sustainability Education, renewed its six-year collaboration with the Toronto District School Board for three more years, until 2026, and reopened its sustainability fund. The SCAN photobook and video are available on the SCAN website, and the work on amplifying sustainability research at OISE continues. The SCAN community hub updates were also shared including the installation of a mural featuring a photograph of plants from the OISE native plant garden, which will be installed in the fifth-floor student lounge. Dr. Inwood thanked OISE CAO, Helen Huang, and the facilities team for assistance with the mural installation. In closing, Dr. Inwood highlighted that OISE’s current Climate Action and Sustainability Plan (2021-2024) has been completed, and that the SCAN community will engage in a new planning cycle in conjunction with the academic planning process at OISE to commencing in the winter term of 2024.

9. Adjournment

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