

Dr. Fern Snart completed 11 years as Dean of the Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, June 2015. She has a PhD in Educational Psychology from the University of Alberta, a Master of Arts degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Saskatchewan, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Brandon University.

Fern has held several leadership positions within the Faculty of Education, including Associate Dean (Undergraduate Student Services) and Vice Dean. She has received the Faculty of Education Undergraduate Teaching Award, and the Alberta Teachers Association Research Award for a study involving reduced class size in inner city early childhood classes. Fern has had a key role in facilitating international initiatives within the Faculty, and developing off campus Bachelor of Education programs with provincial colleges. Her commitment to Indigenous programs, scholarship, and capacity building is evident through the successful Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP), the hiring of 9 Aboriginal faculty members, creation of a unique completion scholarship for Aboriginal PhD students, and changes to the BEd program ensuring that all graduates have coursework in Aboriginal history and knowledge systems. During Fern's Presidency of the Association of Canadian Deans of Education (ACDE) four years ago, the Deans' National Accord on Indigenous Education was launched in Montreal, with three national Aboriginal leaders in attendance as witnesses.

Under Fern's leadership, research funding within the Faculty has doubled and faculty members consistently achieve national and international recognition for research and teaching. The Faculty has approximately 2900 undergraduate students, the largest undergraduate program in Canada, and approximately 800 graduate students.