

Dr. Lori Francis

Vice-President Academic and Provost, effective August 1, 2023



Originally from rural Newfoundland, Dr. Lori Francis is a first-generation university graduate. She holds degrees in Psychology, including a Bachelor of Science from St. Francis Xavier University, a Master of Science from McMaster University, and a PhD in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from the University of Guelph.

Dr. Francis joined the Saint Mary's University Department of Psychology as an Assistant Professor in 2002. Over the course of her career at Saint Mary's University she actively engaged in research, teaching, and service, being promoted to Full Professor in 2014. Her successful student-focused teaching career has been rooted in high impact teaching practices, and has included teaching at all levels, as well as student researcher supervision. She also served as Graduate Program Coordinator for the MSc and PhD programs in Psychology at SMU for five years.

Dr. Francis' scholarly interests are predominantly in Occupational Health Psychology, particularly focused on questions related to employee well-being at work. As Principal and Co-Investigator, she is the recipient of numerous research grants totaling more than \$1 million. She has published and presented her research in numerous peer-reviewed venues, and is co-author on multiple editions of a well-respected textbook in Occupational Health and Safety.

In 2017, she joined the Saint Mary's University Dean of Science team as Acting Associate Dean of Science: Student Affairs. Dr. Francis served as Acting Dean of Science from 2018 to 2021 and was appointed Dean of Science in September 2021. She has a depth of experience across a number of university-wide committees such as Budget Committee, University Senate, University Review Committee, and President's Academic Cabinet, and is the co-chair of the Saint Mary's University Accessibility Plan Steering Committee.

Dr. Francis spent three years as Chair Elect/Chair/Past Chair of the Canadian Society of Industrial/Organizational Psychology. She served two terms on the Board of the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation. And is currently a member of the Advisory Board for the Canadian Accessibility Network.

Lori lives in Halifax with her husband Brian and their two sons. She spends a good deal of time cheering on her kids in hockey rinks and at basketball courts and never goes anywhere without a book or audiobook at the ready.