

2017 Jon Thompson Lecture on Academic Freedom

Collegial Governance In The 21st Century: Serving A Curious Collegium Or An Obedience Machine?

A Lecture by Len Findlay

Shared governance has served the Canadian academy well, especially when entered into in good faith by all parties. However, that model has come under regular attack in recent years from managerialunilateralism. Academic staff must not allow such incursions, dilutions, and disfigurements from 'above.' Shared governance is about much more than the fashionable "Shared resource" initiatives of the hour.

It is about appropriate control of the university's core academic mission and appropriate attentiveness to the public interest in a publicly funded post-secondary system. How, then, can we best protect and enhance shared governance today?

November 13, 2017 at 5:30 pm, 104 Oland Hall, UNB Saint John

November 14, 2017 at 5:30 pm, 102 Tilley Hall, UNB Fredericton

Admission free/open to the public For further information please contact the Association of University of New Brunswick Teachers (AUNBT) aunbt.ca

Len Findlay is Distinguished University Professor, Director of the Humanities Research Unit and founding member of the Indigenous Humanities Group at the University of Saskatchewan, and Past President of Academy One(Arts and Humanities) of the Royal Society of Canada. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Free Expression at Ryerson University and a member of the Board of Directors of the Harry Crowe Foundation.

Trained in nineteenth-century European elite and radical cultural theory and production, his more recent Canadianist work engages with the Indigenous/settler interface, historically and currently, the distinctiveness and endangerment of the humanities in Canada, and with connections between academic freedom and Canadian politics. He served for almost a decade on the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, including two terms as Chair, and he is past Chair of the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association.