

## New York Tech-Vancouver Response to Expert Review Panel Recommendations

**Recommendation:** Help students develop their networking skills; incentivize or sponsor students to attend local industry events.

**Response:** We continue to make efforts in this area. Additional Career Services support through the newly-created Experiential Learning Coordinator full-time staff position will help identify more opportunities and develop networking workshops. The new Talkmasters and Conversation clubs will help students build confidence and networking skills; and the new revamped Graduate Communications course is now required for everyone and will ensure everyone builds some skills.

**Recommendation:** Ensure part-time faculty have training and awareness of EDI and Indigenous topics; provide support for integrating EDI and Indigenous issues into their course content.

**Response:** New York Tech-Vancouver's Indigenization Committee has been made aware of this recommendation and is working to ensure this is implemented.

**Recommendation:** Hiring TAs for longer terms so that they can develop deeper knowledge of the material, teaching skills, and help maintain consistency across course sections.

**Response:** Recommending that students complete the program in four or five semesters will give students a longer amount of time to be TAs. New York Tech-Vancouver is also reviewing its student employee hiring process to explore hiring TAs as soon as they begin their studies, rather than waiting for them to complete one semester.

**Recommendation:** Teaching and applying systems-level thinking/integrated design such that students understand how to connect multiple course topics.

**Response:** New York Tech-Vancouver Energy Management faculty are exploring ways to demonstrate in the practicum that students are able to connect ideas and apply the knowledge they gained in earlier courses.

**Recommendation:** Having more opportunities for adjunct faculty to integrate into the program. Some reported feeling somewhat isolated.

**Response:** New York Tech-Vancouver has now instituted two Faculty Development Days per year where adjuncts are invited and encouraged to attend, in addition to other events such as the holiday party. New York Tech-Vancouver will change its processes to ensure all adjunct faculty members get invitations for other on-campus events.

**Recommendation:** Teaching about policies (e.g., incentives programs) so that students have practical knowledge that they can integrate early into their careers.

**Response:** Faculty members are already encouraged to do this; this will be reinforced during the next and subsequent Faculty Development Days.

**Recommendation:** Using a living lab approach to teaching, whereby the campus building(s) themselves are used to help provide experiential learning (e.g., energy bills, equipment, etc., can be studied).

**Response:** Dr. Bonakdarpour is developing a relationship with the Broadway Tech Centre landlord (Quadreal) so that we can get more access to building information, starting with a tour in November 2023. Dr. Keen is part of the Quadreal Sustainability Committee, which can also lead to student activities, such as the visit to our bee hives.

**Recommendation:** Include Capstone type group project with industry support in the curriculum.

**Response:** Dr. Storey has just been given release time to continue building relationships with industry partners to increase the number of industry projects we have. New York Tech-Vancouver is has renegotiated our contract with [Riipen](#), an experiential learning platform for educators, to provide additional industry-supported project opportunities for our students.

**Recommendation:** Provide more hands-on experience/activities for the students.

**Response:** We are now offering ENGY 615: Energy Equipment Assessment every semester, which is a lab-based course. Dr. Bonakdarpour is also working on obtaining new lab equipment that would be suitable for course labs in other courses as well.

**Recommendation:** Consider options to provide certificates/micro-credentials.

**Response:** Faculty are working on developing a presentation (for February 2024) to discuss the different certificates that could be of value to Energy Management students. Career Services has brought in industry partners to present on the Energy Advisor credential, and is planning on having EGBC in to present on P.Eng.

**Recommendation:** Providing more internship placements for students and/or more support to help them to find placements.

**Response:** More resources are being provided to Career Services in order to help find more internship placements for students. New York Tech-Vancouver is in the process of hiring an Experiential Learning Coordinator.

**Recommendation:** Increasing availability of courses so that students are able to choose from the full list of courses offered.

**Response:** We offer as many as nine energy management electives, plus as many MBA courses per semester that students can take; we don't offer every course every semester. Recommending that students complete the program in four or five semesters will increase the chances that students get the opportunity to take the elective they want during their program.

New York Tech-Vancouver agrees with every point in the "Continue" category and commits to continuing those activities.