

Statement of Candidacy – Dean Search Committee
Bruna Brito, PhD Candidate
August 6, 2025

Bruna Brito is a fourth-year PhD candidate at the Gustavson School of Business. She holds a Master of Arts in Sociology from Memorial University of Newfoundland. Before beginning her doctoral studies, she researched community sustainability in Newfoundland and collaborated on interdisciplinary projects focused on community resilience and social enterprise. Originally from Brazil, Bruna currently lives and studies on the territory of the Ləkʷəŋən peoples and the Songhees, Esquimalt, and WSÁNEĆ peoples, whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Her research examines how marginalized and stigmatized groups organize to foster resilience and drive social change, drawing on ethnographic fieldwork with Afro-Brazilian community organizations in the Brazilian Carnival. She has presented her work at international conferences such as the Academy of Management and the European Group for Organizational Studies, and was recently awarded a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship. Her academic contributions include peer-reviewed publications and book chapters on impact scholarship, social enterprise, and community organizing.

Bruna has served as the student representative on the Gustavson Faculty Council for the past two years, gaining experience in faculty governance and academic decision-making. As an immigrant and woman of color, she brings a global, equity-focused perspective to academic leadership. Serving on the Dean Search Committee would provide meaningful experience in university governance and aligns with her long-term academic career goals. She values inclusive and transparent leadership and is committed to strengthening Gustavson's academic and public reputation. On the committee, she would bring a student perspective grounded in support for impactful research, reconciliation, equity, and the wellbeing of both master's and doctoral students, as well as faculty.