Statement of Candidacy
Danu Anthony Stinson, PhD
Department of Psychology

I grew up on the west coast, and after completing my graduate and post-doctoral training in southern Ontario, I was happy to return home when I became a faculty member at UVic in 2010. I am currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. My research seeks to understand how aspects of self and identity can help, or hinder, people’s efforts to cope with the threat of interpersonal rejection, social stigma, and social marginalization. I teach undergraduate classes in our department’s Social Psychology stream, including popular classes on close relationships. I also supervise a vibrant lab of doctoral, master’s, and honour’s students, and offer experiential learning opportunities to dozens of undergraduate research assistants each year.

I have served on our department’s Undergraduate Executive Committee for nearly a decade and Chaired the committee for one year, an experience that sparked an unexpected passion for curriculum development. This led me to oversee the extensive undergraduate curriculum restructure that our department initiated in 2015. I have also Chaired a faculty search committee and was elected to our department’s Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure committee. I have a deep and abiding commitment to social justice, and I use that energy to support equity and diversity initiatives in our department. I also adopt a social justice lens in my teaching and research, and I engage in community-based advocacy aimed at eliminating weight stigma in healthcare settings.

I would like to serve on the senate because I am keen to learn more about University governance, particularly as it pertains to undergraduate curriculum development and issues of equity and diversity. I would also like the opportunity to use my administrative and lived experiences to support UVic’s goals of creating a scholarly community that reflects our shared values of excellence, integrity, and inclusivity.