

**Artifact Narrative Form – Last Updated April 9, 2024**

<b>Description of Artifact and Item Code – T4A1</b> St. Francis Xavier University <i>Strategic Plan</i>  <b>[Dr. Lace Marie Brogden, Dean of Education Faculty of Education at St. Francis Xavier University]</b>	<b>Competency Area</b> Professional and Collegial Competencies
<b>Competency Area Outcomes</b> [Broader Competency] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ To help prepare students for active professional engagement, they will demonstrate a range of professional competencies.</li></ul> [Specific] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Evidence of significant support to professional organization</li></ul>	
<b>Statement on how the artifact meets the five competency areas; is it individual or multiauthored?</b>  During the Inter-University Doctoral Program’s Summer Institute, I was approached by Dr. Lace Marie Brogden (Dean of Education) to take on a short-term Data Research Analyst role for the Faculty of Education at St. Francis Xavier University (StFX). This project was a major undertaking because earlier in the year, the faculty members and staff gathered in order to provide feedback for StFX’s future strategic action plan. During the gathering, Dr. Brogden provided broad statements that members could provide feedback on. Additionally, once all members had an opportunity to provide written feedback, each member had yellow and red sticky dots. If members wanted to emphasize certain feedback, they would place a yellow dot on the statement. If members felt that the feedback should not be prioritized, they placed a red dot on the statement. All of the raw data was written on at least twenty large sheets of chart paper which needed to be processed before any research could take place.  The process of developing the final product required several significant stages. The first stage was the processing of the raw data. Therefore, this required me to carefully remove each sheet so that nothing fell off. I also placed tagged markers on each page so that I can create a tracking system. I digitized each chart and then transferred the images into a PDF. That way, the originals are kept intact. Upon finishing the digitization process, my second stage was to hand type each string according to the original broad statements. I also provided my initial interpretation for each string and linked them to the five <i>Strategic Plan</i> themes. Any text that was unclear or utilized acronyms and terms that I was unfamiliar with was immediately relayed to Dr. Brogden for clarification. The third stage required the grouping of certain strings to form emerging themes. I also conducted a reinterpretation of each string according to the <i>Strategic Plan</i> . Eventually, after several back-and-forth meetings, feedback and revisions, a final product was completed by November of 2023. This work was very important to me because I wanted to have a deeper understanding of how the university and its people coexisted. I was also thrilled to be involved in this undertaking because it provided me with an opportunity to give back to an institution that supported me (and continues to) for so long.	

<p><b>Doctoral Student Outcome(s) Met</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>(K):</b> A substantive knowledge of a wide range of methodological approaches to research and attendant methods for data collection and analysis.</li> <li>• <b>(A):</b> Respect and appreciation for the scope of the area that they are exploring within the context of the limitations of their own work as well as the discipline of education, including an appreciation for the complexity of knowledge and the political contributions of other interpretations, methods and disciplines.</li> <li>• <b>(A):</b> A keen sense of self-awareness leading to engagement in meaningful reflection about their place in the discipline.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Apply advanced analytical and creative skills, particularly in relation to theory development, leadership and evaluation.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Demonstrate full expertise in one or more specific research methods.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Demonstrate excellent writing and research skills essential in contemporary scholarly contexts.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Communicate effectively, concisely and correctly in written, spoken and visual forms to a variety of audiences using a variety of media.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Employ interpersonal skills with advisors and fellow colleagues through one-on-one as well as network relationships, at the university and wider community.</li> <li>• <b>(S):</b> Manage research environments (manage finances, people, processes) and be able to report to appropriate officials.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Program Objective(s) Met</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Provide Nova Scotia-based Educational Leadership:</b> Promote a climate of education-related research and advanced study that will develop human resources in the Atlantic region, leading to advanced research base in educational studies in the province and beyond.</li> <li>• <b>Ensure Integrity and Academic Excellence:</b> Provide a rigorous learning context that develops the research and intellectual capacities of doctoral candidates to ensure academic excellence and program completion.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reflective statement about the process and how the item addresses the students' research and/or professional development goals.</b></p> <p>Working under Dr. Brogden was an absolute privilege because I came into this research position with very little experience utilizing grounded theory. Dr. Brogden was very open, welcoming and encouraging. Although I had many experiences sorting large sums of data and interpreting it, I also used this opportunity to familiarize myself with grounded approaches. It was helpful having an attitude of vulnerability as I conducted this research because it led me to ask clarifying questions that helped support my work.</p> <p>Throughout this entire project, I was the sole researcher. Consequently, I was also given responsibility to submit the hours I worked. While Dr. Brogden did not request any journal logs of my work, I kept detailed journals of what I did for the hours I put in. I also ensured that I worked during times of peak efficiency. That way, I can ensure the best quality of work. Finally, I have a good quality teleconferencing system at home. Therefore, every week, I provided video updates on the project and provided the relevant feedback to Dr. Brogden so I could showcase my progress.</p> <p>Overall, this project was one of the major highlights within my scholarly career. I learned a lot and thoroughly enjoyed the learning experiences afforded to me. Because of this opportunity, I am confident in taking on future research positions.</p>	
<p><b>References</b></p> <p>N/A</p>	