

Hi! My name is Dr. Jennifer Kong (but please call me Jen!!) and I am a candidate be the School of Computing and Academic Studies (SOCAS) representative at EDCO.

As BCIT experiences continuing challenges, I want to be part of EDCO to help navigate our Schools and Programs as they contemplate change, especially if those changes affect Equity Diversity & Inclusion, student rights, and the wellbeing of faculty, staff, and students.

Having been with BCIT since 2008 in the roles of full time and Flexible Learning faculty, I have taught thousands of students in both SOCAS and School of Health Sciences (SOHS). Since I am part of a service department (i.e., we teach into existing Programs), I have observed and participated in aspects of accreditation, curriculum renewal, Program changes, etc into multiple SOHS Programs. I have seen first hand the hard work our faculty put into major changes in their program, yet these changes appear seamless to students, thanks to the faculty's thoughtfulness. Thus, I'd like to be part of EDCO to help with this process.

Being faculty with both daytime Programs and Flexible Learning, I have also observed the many changes in our educational technology and learning – especially as we pivoted between face-to-face, online, and then back again (and everything in between). Our ability to be impactful virtual educators depends on how well we can use our ever-changing online educational tools for both teaching and assessment. Combined, my first hand experience and current interest in educational technology and learning inspires me to be part of EDCO.

I'm a big believer in sharing knowledge with anyone who wants to learn. I am a contributor to Open Education, a proponent for Teaching & Learning, an advocate for microcredentials for busy students, and champion for interprofessional collaboration (between Programs, Schools, and institutions). I'm curious about any Program I come across and ask instructors how they serve their students and profession. As an example of my passion, please check out my Open Education text for Pathology at <https://doi.org/10.14288/77r0-8833>. And yes, please feel free to use and share this text!

Thanks to the patient teachings of BCIT's own Elders in Residence, I have come to recognize that every person has a responsibility to act on Truth & Reconciliation. However, the challenge is 'how' to do that work: not only by my own personal actions but also in collaboration with communities inside and outside of BCIT. As I learn more and more about Truth & Reconciliation, I become more inspired to do something meaningful through EDCO.

Thank you for taking the time to read this statement. I look forward to serving you as the SOCAS representative for EDCO.

Yours gratefully,

**Jen**