

**CURA Annual General Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 9, 2024 12:00-13:00**

**1. Welcoming Remarks by Provost and VP (Academic)**

Susan Nesrallah introduced the Provost & V.P. (Academic), Pauline Rankin.

Pauline reported on the following matters:

Leadership

- Carleton's 17<sup>th</sup> President and Vice-Chancellor will be Dr. Wisdom Tettey, who is joining us from the University of Toronto, where he is currently Vice-President and Principal of the Scarborough campus since 2018. His 5-year appointment will begin on January 1, 2025, and succeeds Jerry Tomberlin, who will remain on until the new year to facilitate the transition.
- Effective April 11, Susan Phillips (School of Public Policy and Administration) has been appointed Interim Chief Advancement Officer. She brings to this position 30 years of experience researching and collaborating with foundations, charities, and non-profits. She replaces Jennifer Conley.
- An announcement will be made in the next week naming the new Dean of FASS. A search is also in process for a new Dean in the Faculty of Engineering and Design.
- Dr. Lorraine Dyke will be stepping down from her position as Vice-President (Finance & Administration).

Research

- Carleton's annual research funding continues to grow, reaching \$113.5M this year. That is an increase of 108% since 2016/2017.
- 85 Carleton researchers, past and present, have secured a coveted spot on the 2022 Stanford-Elsevier list of the world's most-cited scholars. This exceptional achievement places them in the world's top 2% most-cited scholars, highlighting the impact of Carleton's research.

Learning and Engagement

- Six new undergraduate programs are being introduced and will begin in September of 2025. This will include a nursing program in partnership with the Queensway-Carleton Hospital.
- Due to the new provincial legislation capping undergraduate International Students, intake from International applicants is down 25%. Intake is also down for international graduate applicants.

- City Studio – A collaboration with the City of Ottawa took place in the Winter term of 2024. Faculty and students worked on strategic initiatives with the City. This also included collaboration with the University of Ottawa and Algonquin College.

### Campus

- The P9 parking garage closed on April 26 in preparation for demolition. The site will be re-landscaped.
- Carleton’s 450 bed student residence is progressing and is scheduled to be completed in May 2025.
- The pedestrian bridge to Vincent-Massey park will open once the O-Train is in operation.
- It has been 5 years since the integration of Dominion-Chalmers with Carleton. The plan was a success with over 200K people coming through the numerous events that have taken place, including the state funeral for Ed Broadbent.

### Athletics & Wellness

- Congratulations to the women’s basketball team winning their 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive title and 3<sup>rd</sup> championship win in just 6 years. With this latest win, the Carleton Ravens’ legacy of basketball has grown to 20 national championship wins in the last 21 years.
- The women’s Nordic skiing team won the second 2024 Nordique Canada Championships. The team has won 7 of the last 8 Ontario University Athletic Women’s Championships.
- Carleton now has 17 Therapy dogs and has been a success with more than 5000 students taking advantage of this program over the last year.

Margaret Haines was pleased to announce that Jean Teron will be awarded the “Founders Award” by Carleton. The award is given annually and is the highest non-academic award presented to individuals who have made significant contributions toward the advancement of Carleton. Past winners include John ApSimon.

## **2. Introductions – Susan Nesrallah**

Susan introduced the members of the current CURA Executive.

President: Susan Nesrallah (& Webmaster) (*term ending*)  
 Vice-President: Andrew Brook (*term ending*)  
 Past President: Peter Watson  
 Treasurer: Irwin Reichstein

Secretary: Susan Jameson

Members at Large: Bruce Winer, Martien De Leeuw, Wendy Watkins (who is also the CURAC rep) and Zack Jacobson

Director of HR Operations: Mandy Hair, CURA liaison with the University

### **3. Updates on Issues / Activities – Susan Nesrallah**

There are two items that have been pending for the past few years:

- We requested that retiring staff should have the option of keeping their Carleton e-mail accounts same as retired faculty –they did, in fact, in 2016 and 17 but were denied after that, so we have been working on reinstating this. The University views it as a liability risk. We are not giving up.
- The second issue is for Carleton Retirees to be eligible for a 30% discount at GoodLife fitness. Mandy looked into this and unfortunately discovered that it is only for employees and not retirees. Mandy will look at possible options for retirees.

Activities:

- There are 2 General membership meetings: the Welcome Meeting in the Fall and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Spring
- 2 Tours or events – In the fall we went to the Mer Bleu Bog and recently a tour of the Diefenbunker Museum
- 2 Dinner-with-Speaker events in Fall and Spring
- President’s Holiday Reception in December
- Pension Plan Update Presentation in January or February (for ALL retirees)
- This makes 8 events a year, with a break in July and August. We always appreciate suggestions from the general membership

### **4. Treasurer’s Report - Irwin Reichstein**

- The updated bank balance was \$8,870, with the bulk of the funds coming from the CURAC conference that was held at Carleton several years ago
- The membership fees help offset the catering fees for the 2 Annual General Meetings
- We now have e-transfer set up for members to pay their annual fees

### **5. CURAC Update**

Wendy Watkins is our representative on CURAC (College and Universities Retiree Associations of Canada). David Holmes is Carleton’s rep on the Committee.

- CURAC’s Purpose is:

- to coordinate activities that promote communication among member associations,
  - to share information about activities of member organizations,
  - to provide mutual assistance, and
  - to speak publicly on issues of concern to the over fifteen thousand individual college and university retirees across Canada.
- Major benefits are health, travel, trip cancellation, and pet insurance.
  - The 2024 Annual Conference will be held in Waterloo from May 22 to 24, the theme is Thriving in Retirement. Susan Nesrallah will be receiving a CURAC Outstanding Achievement Award. Congratulations Susan.
  - More information about all of the above may be found on our website at [CURAC \(College and University Retiree Associations of Canada\) - Carleton University Retirees Association](#)

## **6. 2024 Elections / Acclamations – Andrew Brook**

Andrew conducted the elections for the period 2024 to 2027. Unfortunately, at this time replacements for the positions of President and Vice-President have not been filled. Peter Watson has kindly agreed to act as V.P. until the role is filled. The current members will act in the interim until the positions are filled. Irwin Reichstein and Susan Jameson will continue as Treasurer & Secretary. Susan Nesrallah will continue as Web Manager and Past-President.

## **7. Closing Remarks – Susan Nesrallah**

Many thanks to our outgoing “members at large” Martien De Leeuw, and Wendy Watkins for your service the past three years. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!!

- Wendy Wynne-Jones and Ela Kesik were acclaimed to serve as Members-at-Large. Bruce Winer will take over the role of CURAC representative
- Susan and Margaret Haines will attend the June 25<sup>th</sup> reception for retirees, handing out information and answering questions
- Please provide any suggestions for events or tours you would like to see. This can be sent to any member of the Executive Committee
- Under activities there are photos, information on upcoming events and other links that may be of interest (<https://carleton.ca/cura/>)

*Thank you everyone for attending and see you in September!*