

The Board of Governors acknowledges and respects the Algonquin First Nation, on whose traditional territory the Carleton University campus is located.

**Minutes of the 642nd Meeting of the Board of Governors
Thursday, June 6th, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.
Senate Room Pigiarnvik Room 608**

PRESENT:	G. Farrell (Chair)	D. Greenberg (Virtual)	J. Muthukumar
	B. Creary (Vice-Chair)	L. Grussani	J. Nelson
	H. Babb	A. Hamdani	L. Newton Miller
	A. Chan	N. Karhu	B. O’Connor (Virtual)
	J. Devoe	A. Keung	J. Ojangole
	P. Dion (Virtual)	M. Main	P. Smith
	K. von Finckenstein	D. Maseko	C. Tessier
	D. Fortin	S. Mingie	J. Tomberlin
	K. Furlong	G. Morris	P. Wolff
	M. Gillis		
REGRETS:	Y. Baltacioğlu	J. Taber	A. Tremblay
	J. Camelon		
STAFF:	N. Afouxenidou	A. Goth (R. Secretary)	G. Nower
	S. Blanchard	S. Levitt	S. Phillips
	J. Brenning	C. Khordoc	P. Rankin
	L. Dyke	A. Marcotte	K. Solomon
	T. Frost	K. McKinley (Virtual)	K. Tousignant

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER AND CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and welcomed governors and attendees to the meeting. The Chair acknowledged the Algonquin First Nation territory on which Carleton University is located, observing that June was National Indigenous History Month, celebrating the contributions that First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people, bring to the community and beyond. He also acknowledged that June marked Pride Month, a powerful testament to the resilience, diversity, and strength of the LGBTQ+ community. Lastly, he advised that green and purple ribbons would be available for Carleton community members to wear in remembrance and the need to tackle

Islamophobia and other forms of hate. He reviewed the meeting protocols for members in person and attending virtually.

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chair asked for any declarations of conflict of interest from the members. None were declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was circulated in advance.

It was moved by L. Grussani and seconded by J. Devoe that the open agenda of the 642nd meeting of the Board of Governors be approved, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were circulated in the open consent agenda for approval: Open Session Minutes from the 640th Board Meeting, Senior Executive Appointment Guidelines, and Academic Unit Name Change: Faculty of Public Affairs.

The following items were circulated for information: University Secretariat Annual Report – June 2024 and Cyclical Review Program Summary for 2024/2025.

It was moved by S. Mingie and seconded by N. Karhu that the items in the open consent agenda be approved, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

5.1 Academic Governance of the University

An executive summary was circulated in advance.

A. Goth, University Secretary, provided background information on the Academic Governance of the University (AGU) and the Amendment to the Carleton University General Operating By-Law No. 1. The major change was to reconceptualize the Faculty of Graduate and Post-Doctoral Affairs as an administrative unit with decisions to be made primarily by the line faculties.

Senate met and approved the changes and recommended the changes to the Board of Governors.

As a result of the policy changes, the following changes needed to be made to the Carleton University General Operating By-Laws:

- The FGPA Dean position has been removed from the Senate membership and the Grad Faculty Board was removed as FGPA would no longer exist;
- The Faculty of Public Affairs was changing their name to the Faculty of Public and Global Affairs and that change was pre-emptively included;
- Terms for contract instructors would run from October 1st to September 30th;
- Membership was amended to two Board of Governors representatives on Senate, with full voting privileges;
- The special appointment category was updated and the Clerk of Senate position was moved into an elected position; and
- Increase of total teaching staff on Senate to forty-one to maintain compliance with the *Carleton University Act*.

On the recommendation of the Senate and the Governance Committee, it was moved by P. Wolff and seconded by K. Furlong to approve the revised Academic Governance of the University Joint Policy effective July 1, 2024, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5.2 Amendment to Carleton University General Operating By-Laws No. 1

An executive summary and by-laws were circulated in advance.

A. Goth advised that after reviewing the changes to the AGU, updates to the General Operating By-Laws were also required including the following:

- Section 1.01 - defined terms subsection Teaching Staff to include teaching streams;
- Section 9.01 - Senate Membership, removal of the Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs, reduction of members of the Board from four to two (voting rights maintained), addition of an alumni association representative, the removal of the Clerk of Senate as ex officio, and the increase of total teaching staff on Senate to forty-one to maintain compliance with the *Carleton University Act*, and updates to titles as needed;
- Section 9.02 - Senate Terms of Office - updated to clarify start dates for students, contract instructors, and other members;
- Section 10.01 - update to the listing of Faculty Boards to the Faculty of Public and Global Affairs as per the Senate recommendation to the Board regarding the name change of the faculty; and
- Section 10.03 - removal of entire section since the Graduate Faculty Boards will be disbanded.

As recommended by the Governance Committee, it was moved by A. Hamdani and seconded by A. Keung to recommend to the members of the corporation to approve by special resolution the amendments to the General Operating By-law No.1 effective July 1, 2024, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 Student Mental Health Framework 2022/2026

An executive summary, presentation, and annual report were circulated in advance.

S. Blanchard, Vice-President (Students and Enrolment), introduced the item advising that after an extensive consultation process, the updated Student Mental Health Framework was launched in 2022. Since that time, progress was made on the framework's recommendations, led by the Office of the Associate Vice-President, Student Health and Wellness.

K. Tousignant, Associate Vice-President (Student Health and Wellness), provided a presentation, advising that over the previous two years, definitive action was made on all 30 recommendations to support student mental health and wellness across campus. She highlighted four areas of focus:

- **Student Engagement:** over 3,500 students engaged with the Health Promotion Team, the Centre for Indigenous Support and Community Engagement (CISCE) hosted an Arctic Exchange Program at the Piqqusilirivik Inuit Cultural Learning Facility designed for urban Inuit students to engage with land-based learning activities, Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) hosted their annual Pop the Stigma Campaign, focused on mental health awareness, and the Mental Health Fee Referendum successfully passed and was approved by the Board;
- **Building Skills and Strengthening Resilience:** the Paul Menton Centre hosted various support, social and study groups, 450+ Fall Orientation and First-Year Connections mentors were trained on how to support students in distress, 13 Naloxone training sessions were offered, with over 720 attendees, and Health and Counselling Services offered numerous support groups and workshops for students;
- **Coordinated Student Supports and Services:** 8,850+ Wellness Services Navigator users and was embedded into all training on campus, Wellness Desk and Carleton's Therapy Dogs partnered together to visit the dogs and access mental health support, over 3,000 students attended these sessions, and Counselling Services hired an additional counsellor for racialized students in the main clinic as well as in Residence; and
- **Campus Culture of Wellness:** Carleton University signed and adopted the Okanagan Charter, the Accessibility Institute explored student mental health and wellness in the context of campus space, Carleton's Postvention Strategy was developed, the Inaugural Therapy Dog Convocation recognized 17 therapy dogs and handlers for their significant training and the program's contributions to low-level mental health support.

Next steps for 2024/2025 included developing a staff and faculty toolkit for the community, continuing to implement and upload best practices from the Okanagan

Charter, creating a new model of care for Counselling services to support the demand for access, engaging in practices to support environmental wellness and creating a student mental health policy once Bill 166 requirements are communicated.

A member inquired about Naloxone availability and the level of opioid usage on campus. K. Tousignant responded that to date, the Naloxone kits had not been used on campus. The kits were available the same as the AEDs and an alarm was triggered to notify campus safety should the kit need to be replaced.

A member asked if the University had observed students attending health and counselling related to events in the Middle East. K. Tousignant responded that an increase related to the Middle East conflict had not been observed.

A member commented on the challenges in the post-secondary sector for student mental health and that Carleton's strategy was strong and well-regarded within the city.

6.2 Strategic Integrated Plan Progress Update 2024

J. Tomberlin, Interim President and Vice-Chancellor, provided a verbal update on the Strategic Integrated Plan (SIP) progress and reviewed its three pillars and the strategic directions of the institution. The implementation of the SIP had been during a challenging context of the COVID-19 pandemic, a difficult fiscal period, economic challenges, and social unrest. Despite those challenges, significant progress was made on the implementation of the SIP and its pathways.

He highlighted a number of the successes towards the SIP, under the three strategic directions:

Share Knowledge, Shape the Future

- Creation of new buildings and forward-thinking institutes such as the Future Learning Lab and Innovation Hub, and the completion of the Nicol Building;
- Academic success with 5,300 graduating students in June 2024, a one-year retention rate above 90%, two-year retention rate above 83%, and seven-year graduation rate at 73% (up from 68% in 2017);
- Building of the new student residence which would support student recruitment and expanding dining facilities to accommodate those students;
- Athletic success with the women's Nordic Ski Team and women's basketball national champions, and men's basketball national champions contributing to campus spirit;
- External research revenue had doubled over the past six years, and corporate funding quadrupled during the same period; and
- Canada Awards of Excellence recipients and being one of Canada's Top 100 employers.

Serve Ottawa, Serve the World

- Increasing Carleton's visibility in the community with new signage and new lighting on Bronson Avenue;
- Community engagement with the opening of the Carleton Dominion Chalmers Centre (CDCC) with over 216,000 guests since 2022 and the creation of CU at Kanata North engaging with corporations as part of the Holistic Integrated Partnerships (HIP);
- The launch of a new strategic plan for community engagement and engaging with the community through co-op learning programs;
- Successes in Advancement with a record year of gifts and the HIP; and
- International engagement continued with the creation of memorandums of understanding with institutions around the world, increasing student and scholar exchanges, and hosting through the Scholars at Risk Program.

Strive for Wellness, Strive for Sustainability

- Supporting sustainability with two Carleton Challenge Conferences;
- Implementing the calls to action under the Kinàmàgawin Report, including renaming three buildings under the New Names Initiative; and
- Leadership in the Canadian Accessibility Network, EDI Action Plan, Coordinated Accessibility Strategy, and the Student Mental Health Framework.

A member commented that they were impressed with the graduation and retention rates and asked how Carleton compared to other institutions. S. Blanchard responded that for the two-year retention rate, Carleton's rate of 85% was at the sector average. For the seven-year graduation rate, Carleton was slightly below but in the next two years expects to be at the sector average.

A member congratulated the team on the ambitious and visionary SIP. They asked about the changes to FGPA and if it would have an impact on research. J. Tomberlin responded that a study was conducted on the Office of the Provost and there were a number of recommendations made, including the change to FGPA and to move the graduate programs to the Faculties to allow for more synergy between research and graduate studies.

6.3 Report from the Chair

A written report was circulated in advance.

The Chair presented the annual report for the 2023/2024 academic year, marking a period of significant milestones, challenges, and strategic advancements for Carleton University. A highlight of the year was the successful conclusion of the presidential search with the announcement in April 2024 that Dr. Wisdom Tettey has been appointed as Carleton University's 17th President and Vice-Chancellor. He thanked J. Tomberlin for his leadership as Interim President.

Throughout the past year, the Board remained steadfast in its dedication to upholding Carleton's values while fostering a dynamic academic environment for its students, faculty, and staff. Despite the prevailing global challenges, Carleton demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability and the Board remained committed to advancing Carleton's mission and strategic priorities amid the evolving higher education landscape and dedicated to fostering a culture of excellence, innovation, and inclusivity that empowers all members of its community to thrive and succeed.

He thanked fellow Board members, university leadership, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and partners for their unwavering dedication and contributions to Carleton's ongoing success and congratulated B. Creary, who would begin her role as Board Chair for the 2024/2025 Board Year.

6.4 Report from the President

The President's Annual Report was circulated in advance.

J. Tomberlin began his report with the announcement that A. Bowker was appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective July 1, 2024, having served as Interim Dean since August 2023. Carleton University's Faculty of Engineering and Design was chosen to host the prestigious 2026 Ontario Engineering Competition, a cornerstone event in Canada's engineering community. Carleton was looking forward to welcoming the engineering community to its campus. He congratulated P. Rankin, Provost and Vice-President (Academic), on her first year in her new role and the success of the Budget Town Hall.

He highlighted a number of items from the Annual Presidential Report such as the significant progress towards the goals of the SIP, including research funding and innovation in teaching and the appointment of Dr. W. Tettey as the incoming President and Vice-Chancellor.

7. OPEN-OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was brought forward.

8. OPEN-QUESTION PERIOD

No additional questions were brought forward.

9. END OF OPEN SESSION AND BRIEF NETWORKING BREAK

There being no further business, the Open Session of the Board of Governors was adjourned at approximately 4:20 p.m.