

# Senate Annual Report

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021



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**Carleton**  
University







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# Introduction

Senate is pleased to provide a report on its work for the 2020/21 academic year. Senate met 10 times throughout the year: Aug. 21, Sept. 25, Oct. 30, Nov. 27, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, Apr. 30, May 28 and June 18.

With the ongoing pandemic, Senate approved continued remote learning and compassionate grading options. Additionally, over the course of the academic year, Senate received 25 community presentations and approved:

- 6,729 graduates
- 451 medalists
- 7 honorary degrees
- 4 new programs
- 20 new minors, concentrations, streams & specializations
- 3 certificates
- 8 cyclical reviews
- 5 policies

## About Senate

Senate is the highest academic body in the university. With responsibility for academic governance, Senate makes decisions of significant importance to students and faculty. Regular work of Senate includes awarding degrees, approving medalists, developing scholarships, approving new programs and revising curricula, and establishing regulations concerning students' academic work. Additionally, Senators oversee and provide feedback on important university documents and strategies. To help exercise its powers, Senate has 10 standing committees and one appeals board.

Senate is composed of up to 86 members representing the Carleton community:

- 40 faculty members
- 2 contract instructors
- 10 elected undergraduate students
- 3 graduate students
- 23 ex-officio members
- 4 members of the Board of Governors
- up to 4 special appointments

An appointed faculty member serves as Clerk of Senate, a position that manages the affairs of Senate with the support of the University Secretariat.

The university's President and Vice-Chancellor serves as the Chair of Senate.

# Senate Membership 2020/21

## Ex Officio Members

- Benoit-Antoine Bacon, President and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of Senate
- Betina Appel Kuzmarov, Clerk of Senate
- Yaprak Baltacioğlu, Chancellor
- Suzanne Blanchard, Vice-President (Students and Enrolment) and University Registrar
- Rafik Goubbran, Vice-President (Research and International)
- Michel Piché, Vice-President (Finance and Administration)
- Jerry Tomberlin, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
- Dwight Deugo, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic)
- Dana Brown, Dean, Sprott School of Business
- Larry Kostiuik, Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Design
- Charles L. B. Macdonald, Dean, Faculty of Science
- Brenda O'Neil, Dean, Faculty of Public Affairs
- Pauline Rankin, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Patrice Smith, Dean, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs
- Amber Lannon, University Librarian
- Michel Barbeau, Director, School of Computer Science
- Bjarki Hallgrímsson, Director, School of Industrial Design
- Chris Joslin, Director, School of Information Technology
- Jill Stoner, Director, Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism
- Victoria Asi, Vice-President (Academic), GSA
- Matthew Gagne, President, CASG
- Namrata Tilokani, President, GSA
- Kathleen Weary, President, CUSA

## Board of Governors Representatives

- Gail Garland
- Jane Taber
- Ann Tremblay
- Konrad von Finckenstein

## Special Appointments to Senate

- Margaret Haines, Alumni Association
- Kim Hellemans, Academic Colleague

## Elected Faculty Senators

- Samuel Ajila, Engineering & Design
- Manuel Baez, Engineering & Design (Architecture)
- Olga Baysal, Science (Computer Science)
- Anne Bowker, Arts & Social Sciences
- Andrea Chandler, Public Affairs
- Tina Daniels, Arts & Social Sciences
- Jeff Dawson, Science
- Dana Dragunoiu, Arts & Social Sciences

- Paulo Garcia, Engineering & Design (Secretary of the Faculty Board)
- Dag Gillberg, Science
- Sonia Gulati, Science
- Farah Hosseinian, Science
- Jacob Kovalio, Arts & Social Sciences
- Ernest Kwan, Sprott School of Business (Secretary of the Faculty Board)
- Christine Laurendeau, Science (Computer Science)
- Katie Lucas (Contract Instructor)
- Alexis Luko, Arts & Social Sciences
- Marlene Lundy, Arts & Social Sciences
- Beth MacLeod, Arts & Social Sciences (Secretary of the Faculty Board)
- Ruth McKay, Sprott School of Business
- James Milner, Public Affairs
- Howard Nemiroff, Sprott School of Business
- Justin Paulson, Arts & Social Sciences
- Brett Popplewell, Public Affairs
- Morgan Rooney (Contract Instructor)
- Donald Russell, Engineering & Design
- Shazia Sadaf, Arts & Social Sciences
- Julia Sinclair-Palm, Arts & Social Science
- Siva Sivathayalan, Engineering and Design
- Elinor Sloan, Public Affairs (Senate Representative on Board of Governors)
- David Sprague, Engineering & Design (Information Technology)
- Karen Taylor, Engineering & Design
- Chantal Trudel, Engineering & Design (School of Industrial Design)
- Crina Viju, Public Affairs (Secretary of the Faculty Board)
- Johan Voordouw, Engineering & Design (Architecture)
- Julia Wallace, Science (Secretary of the Faculty Board)
- Paul Wilson, Public Affairs
- Johannes Wolfart, Arts & Social Sciences
- Pamela Wolff, Science
- Barry Wright, Public Affairs
- Winnie Ye, Engineering and Design

## Elected Graduate Students

- Nathaniel Bruni
- Donatus Edi
- Rufes Stephen John Sundarraj

## Elected Undergraduate Students

- Afreen Ahmad, Public Affairs
- Kareem AlWazir, Public Affairs
- Julia Bruno, Arts & Social Sciences
- Millie Close, Science
- Cameron Davis, Engineering & Design
- Olivia Hobbs, Arts & Social Sciences
- Sean Maguire, Arts & Social Sciences
- Jonathan Moore, Sprott School of Business
- Lisa Tsintsadze, Public Affairs

# Remote Learning & Compassionate Grading

Senate continues to prioritize the health and safety of the Carleton community. Throughout the academic year, Senate received five presentations from the Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group as well as several updates from various units in regards to remote learning, compassionate grading and the gradual return to campus.

## Remote Learning

In light of the ongoing pandemic, Senate formally approved that all Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021 and Summer 2021 courses were to be offered online or through other methods of distance learning. The motions allowed for the possibility of offering some optional on-campus academic program components should circumstances allow.

## Compassionate Grading

In keeping with Carleton's commitment to compassionate grading practices during the pandemic, Senate approved compassionate grading options to help support Carleton undergraduate students throughout the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 semesters. For undergraduate students, all F grades were automatically be converted to unsatisfactory (UNS) and would not affect the calculation of students' CGPA. Additionally, undergraduate students were given the ability to convert one 0.5 credit to a satisfactory grade (SAT) in each of the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 semesters, or a singular full year 1.0 credit course in the Winter 2021 term.

## Return to Campus

The Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group provided Senate with their final recommendations for the upcoming fall term. Like other Canadian universities, Carleton is planning for a safe and gradual return to campus in Fall 2021, and will continue to prioritize the health and wellbeing of students, staff and faculty. Senate confirmed that Carleton will adopt a mixed model of course delivery that will include both face-to-face and online courses for the Fall 2021 term. A flexible fall semester will serve the needs of all students, including those who are unable to travel to campus. It was emphasized that the situation remains fluid and in implementing this model, Carleton will continue to closely follow and adapt to evolving public health guidelines and regulations.

# Graduation & Convocation

Senate's role in convocation includes approving the convocation schedules, graduating students, approving recipients of medals and prizes, recommending potential recipients of honorary degrees and organizing the academic procession. The Clerk of Senate serves as the Marshal of Convocation.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, Carleton offered virtual graduation celebrations for the Class of 2020/2021 and convocation ceremonies will be rescheduled when it is safe to do so.

## **Class of 2021 over 6,700 strong**

Senate was pleased to approve the graduation of 5,152 undergraduate and 1,577 graduate students during the 2020/21 academic year.

## **Medals and Prizes**

Senate was pleased to approve 451 medalist nominations. The medals and prizes awarded includes:

- Senate Medal for Outstanding Academic Achievement (awarded to 22 graduate students and 379 undergraduate students)
- University Medals for Outstanding Graduate Work at the Doctoral Level (awarded to two students)
- University Medals for Outstanding Work at the Masters Level (awarded to two students)
- University Medals - Undergraduate (awarded to 36 undergraduate students)
- Governor General's Silver Medal (awarded to three undergraduate students)
- Governor General's Gold Medal (awarded to two graduate students)
- Chancellor's Medal (awarded to three students)
- President's Medal (awarded to two students)

## **Honorary Degree Recipients**

Seven honorary degrees were awarded to the following individuals:

- The Honourable Wanda Thomas Bernard, LL.D.
- Harriet Burdett-Moulton, LL.D.
- Chantal Hébert, LL.D.
- Stephen A. Jarislowsky, LL.D.
- Monique F. Leroux, LL.D.
- The Honourable Sheilah L. Martin, LL.D.
- June B. Pimm, LL.D.

# Academic Programs and Curricula

## Major Modifications

Major modifications are integral to the continuous improvement of the university's programs. Over the course of the academic year, Senate approved 46 curricula major modifications. The following are highlights of new programs, certificates, minors and concentrations:

## Graduate Programs

Building Engineering Program

- PhD
- Master of Applied Science
- Master of Engineering

Data Science and Analytics Program

- PhD
- Master of Engineering
- Master of Information Technology
- Master of Computer Science
- Master of Applied Science
- Master of Science

Master of Business Administration (Online)

## Undergraduate Programs

Bachelor of Commerce (non-honours, 20 credit program)

## Minors

- Minor in Environmental and Climate Humanities (Humanities and Social Science)
- Minor in Critical Race Studies (Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies)
- Minor in Community Engagement (Sociology and Anthropology)
- Minor in Health Sciences
- Thematic Minors in Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Health Psychology, Organizational Psychology and Social and Personality Psychology



## Concentrations and Specializations

- Concentration in Modelling and Simulation (Electrical and Computer Engineering programs)
- Concentration in Software Engineering (Electrical and Computer Engineering programs)
- Concentration in Geomatics (Environmental Science)
- Concentration in Building Performance (Building Engineering)
- Concentration in Fire Safety (Building Engineering)
- Concentration in Heritage Conservation (Building Engineering)
- Concentration in Public History (BA Honours, History)
- Specialization in Data Science (MA international Affairs)
- Collaborative Specialization in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (MA Sociology and Anthropology)
- Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change (all five faculties at Masters level)
- Stream in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (B.C.S. Honours)
- Stream in Animation & Visual Effects (Interactive Multimedia and Design)
- Stream in Game Design & Development (Interactive Multimedia and Design)
- Stream in Web & User Interfaces/Experience (Interactive Multimedia and Design)

## Certificates

- Multidisciplinary Certificate in Mental Health and Well-Being (Psychology)
- Certificate in Science and Policy
- Collaborative Certificate in Science Communication

## Minor Modifications

Senate approved 53 minor modifications and received an additional 23 as information. Minor modifications are the most common type of academic change. They involve a wide variety of modifications to existing programs such as calendar and regulation changes, the addition or deletion of courses, revisions to existing concentrations or minors, assigning course requirements, and course modifications.

## Cyclical Reviews

As part of Carleton University's Institutional Quality Assurance Process, all undergraduate and graduate programs are reviewed on a seven-year basis and the outcomes are brought to Senate for approval.

Senate approved eight final assessment reports and executive summaries arising from the cyclical reviews of the following programs:

- Childhood and Youth Studies (undergraduate)
- Computer Science (undergraduate)
- Human Computer Interaction (graduate)
- Industrial Design (undergraduate and graduate)
- International Affairs (graduate)
- Interactive Multimedia and Design (undergraduate)
- Law and Legal Studies (undergraduate and graduate)
- Network Technology (undergraduate)



# Strategic Integrated Plan Finalized

The final draft of the Strategic Integrated Plan (SIP) was circulated to Senators in August 2020. The SIP was previously approved by Senate at the May 29, 2020 meeting. Since then, the plan was graphically designed to better illustrate the university's vision for the next five years. This draft clearly outlines the three axes of Carleton's campus (the Western, Southern, and Eastern edges) and how these perimeters represent the university's three main aspirations: sharing knowledge and shaping the future, serving Ottawa and serving the world, and striving for wellness and sustainability.

## Community Presentations

Senate encourages consultations from the Carleton community. Throughout the academic year, Senate received 25 presentations:

- Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA-3) (Aug. 2020)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (Aug. 2020)
- Teaching and Learning Professional Development Sessions (Aug. 2020)
- Review of University Pivot to Online Learning (Sept. 2020)
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan (Sept. 2020)
- Update on Grading Policy (SCCASP) (Sept. 2020)
- Senate Survey Results (Sept. 2020)
- Report on Online Learning Pivot – Update 1 (SQAPC) (Oct. 2020)
- International Strategic Integrated Plan (Nov. 2020)
- Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement - Update 1 (Nov. 2020)
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan Final Report (Nov. 2020)
- Enrolment Report (Nov. 2020)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (Jan. 2021)
- Reputational Enhancement Project - Update 1 (Jan. 2021)
- Report on Online Learning Pivot – Update 2 (SQAPC) (Jan. 2021)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (Jan. 2021)
- Review of Online Learning Pivot – Update 3 (SQAPC) (Feb. 2021)
- Carnegie Classification of Community Engagement - Update 2 (March 2021)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (March 2021)
- Carleton Research Update (March 2021)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (April 2021)
- Operating Budget Presentation (April 2021)
- Reputational Enhancement - Project Update 2 (May 2021)
- Safe Return to Campus Presentation (May 2021)
- Digital Strategy Consultation (June 2021)

## Policies

Senate updated and approved the following five policies:

- Academic Integrity Policy
- Graduate Supervision Appointments Policy
- Medals Policy
- Policy on Accommodation of Days of Action
- Senate Policy on Hosting Student Elections

These policies, as well as the full listing of policies overseen by Senate, can be found on Senate's website: [carleton.ca/senate/senate-policies](https://carleton.ca/senate/senate-policies)

## Terms of Reference

Senate approved updates to the following Senate Committee Terms of Reference:

- Medals and Prizes Committee
- Senate Executive Committee
- Senate Academic Governance Committee
- Senate Review Committee

## Communications

### Inside Senate

Ten issues of Inside Senate summaries were distributed to the community through Carleton's Top5 newsletter and were posted on the Senate website. These high-level summaries ensure that Senate's key decisions are accessible to the Carleton community just days after each meeting.

### Senate and Committee Surveys

The annual Senate Survey was conducted from April 7 to April 30, 2021. The survey was designed to gather feedback and commentary from Senators on their experience in the last year. Findings will be shared with Senators in Fall 2021. This year's survey consisted of 11 questions, a general comments field and grossed a response rate of 52 per cent. In addition, the first ever Senate Committee Survey was distributed from May 5 to June 1, 2021 and received a 44 per cent response rate.

## Renewed Leadership

### New Clerk of Senate Approved

Prof. Elinor Sloan, from the Department of Political Science, was appointed as the new Clerk of Senate for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2021. Prof. Sloan succeeds Prof. Betina Appel Kuzmarov, from the Department of Law and Legal Studies, who has served in this role since 2018. Senate thanks Prof. Kuzmarov for her unparalleled service to the university.

### Advisory Committee on the President and Vice-Chancellor

On Feb. 17, Senate conducted an e-vote to elect three librarian/faculty members, one undergraduate and one graduate student to the President and Vice-Chancellor's Reappointment Advisory Committee. The election results were presented to Senate for information.