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Year in Review

Senate met eight times throughout the 2021/22 academic year: September 24, October 22, November 26, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, and June 3.

With the ongoing pandemic, Senate approved a mixed delivery model of learning for both the winter and spring terms as well as compassionate grading options for Fall 2021 and Winter 2022. In addition to these significant updates, Senate also received nine community presentations and approved:

- 6,664 graduates
- 260 medals and prizes
- 7 honorary degrees
- 2 new programs
- 11 new minors, concentrations, streams & specializations
- 12 cyclical reviews
- 1 policy

About Senate

Senate is the highest academic body at Carleton University. As steward over the university’s academic governance, Senate makes decisions of importance to students and faculty. Regular work of the 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 14 standing committees.

Senate is comprised 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

Carleton University’s President and Vice-Chancellor, Benoit-Antoine Bacon, serves as Chair of the Senate.

Elinor Sloan, a faculty member, serves as Clerk of Senate and manages the affairs of Senate with the support of the University Secretariat.
Senate Membership 2021/22

Ex Officio Members

- Yapprak Baltacioglu, Chancellor
- Benoit Antoine Bacon, President, Vice-Chancellor & Chair of Senate
- Elinor Sloan, Clerk of Senate
- Suzanne Blanchard, Vice-President (Students & Enrolment) & University Registrar
- Rafik Goubran, Vice-President (Research & International)
- Jerry Tomberlin, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
- Cindy Taylor, Interim Vice-President (Finance & Administration) (April 1 – June 30, 2022)
- Lorraine Dyke, Vice-President (Finance & Administration) (April 1 – June 30, 2022)
- Dwight Deugo, Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President (Academic)
- Maria DeRosa, Dean, Faculty of Science
- Larry Kostik, Dean, Faculty of Engineering & Design
- Pauline Rankin, Dean, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
- Brenda O’Neill, Dean, Faculty of Public Affairs
- Ahmad Hashimi, Acting CUSA President
- Anastasia Lettieri, President, CUSA, (May 1 – June 30, 2022)
- Jennifer Ramnarine, President, CASG, (to April 30, 2022)
- Dakota Livingston, President, CASG, (May 1 – June 30, 2022)

Board of Governors Representatives

- Gail Garland, Board Member
- Louise Hayes, Board Member
- Brenda O’Connor, Board Member
- Jane Taber, Board Member

Special Appointments to Senate

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

Elected Faculty Senators

- Samuel Ajila, Engineering & Design
- Peter Andreée, Public Affairs
- Manuel Baez, Engineering & Design - Architecture
- Olga Baysia, Science – Computer Science
- Vandna Bhatia, Public Affairs (Faculty Board Secretary)
- Bernadette Campbell, Arts & Social Sciences
- Andrea Chandler, Public Affairs
- Tina Daniels, Arts & Social Sciences
- Jeffrey Dawson, Science
- Chiara DelGaudio, Engineering & Design - Industrial Design
- Paulo Garcia, Engineering & Design (Faculty Board Secretary) (to December 31, 2021)
- Dag Gilberg, Science
- Sonia Gulati, Science
- Farah Hosseini, Science
- Jacob Kovallo, Arts & Social Sciences
- Ernest Kwan, Sprott (Faculty Board Secretary)
- Christine Launereaud, Science – Computer Science
- Marlene Lundy, Arts and Social Sciences
- Beth MacLeod, Arts and Social Sciences (Faculty Board Secretary)
- Jonathan Malloy, Public Affairs
- Ruth McKay, Sprott
- James Milner, Public Affairs
- Paul Mkandawire, Arts & Social Sciences
- Mike Murphy, Arts & Social Sciences
- Julie Murray, Arts & Social Sciences
- Howard Nemiroff, Sprott
- Augustine Park, Arts & Social Sciences
- Donald Russell, Engineering & Design
- Shazia Sadaf, Arts & Social Sciences
- Julia Sinclair-Palm, Arts & Social Sciences
- Siva Sivathayalan, Engineering & Design
- David Sprague, Engineering & Design – Information Technology
- Karen Taylor, Engineering and Design (Faculty Board Secretary) (Jan 1 – June 30 2022)
- John Voor douw, Engineering & Design – Architecture
- Julia Wallace, Science (Faculty Board Secretary)
- Paul Wilson, Public Affairs
- Pamela Wolff, Science
- Barry Wright, Public Affairs
- Winnie Ye, Engineering & Design
- Celia Young, Arts & Social Sciences

Elected Contract Instructors

- Morgan Rooney, Arts & Social Sciences
- Kathleen Moss, Arts & Social Sciences
Elected Student Senators

- Meghan Burns, Public Affairs
- Valentina Vera Gonzalez, Sprott School of Business
- Mackenzie Huckvale, Science
- Kimberley Keller, Arts & Social Sciences
- Cassandra Klein, Public Affairs
- Abigail MacGillivray, Engineering & Design
- Sean Maguire, Arts & Social Sciences
- Deborah Okoth, Business Analytics
- Gemma Patey, Public Affairs
- Mason Rodney, Public Affairs

A Mixed Model Approach & Compassionate Grading

In an effort to stay abreast of the latest COVID-19 pandemic developments and ensure the continued health and safety of the Carleton community, Senate received presentations from the Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group. These along with several updates from various other units covered topics such as the continuation of remote learning, compassionate grading, and the gradual return to campus.

Mixed Delivery Model Continues for Winter Term and Campus Return

In early fall, Senate confirmed that winter 2022 courses would be offered through a mix of face-to-face and online delivery to provide maximum flexibility for students in line with the recommendations of the Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group.

Building on the success of the fall term, along with a decrease in COVID cases, CUSP recommended that Carleton proceed with the ongoing safe and gradual return to campus – a decision which led to the re-incorporation of more in-person courses for winter 2022. Online options remained available as staff and faculty began their return to campus in February.

Compassionate Grading for the 2021/22 Academic Year

In light of the ongoing pandemic, Senate approved the extension of the flexible, compassionate grading options for the Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 terms. This allowed undergraduate students to designate 0.5 credit courses SAT if a passing grade was earned, and for all undergraduate F grades to be automatically converted to UNS.
Graduation & Convocation

Senate’s role in convocation includes approving convocation schedules, graduating students, and recipients of medals and prizes, as well as recommending potential recipients of honorary degrees and organizing the academic procession.

Class of 2022 over 6,000 strong
Senate was pleased to approve the graduation of 5,078 undergraduate and 1,586 graduate students during the 2021/2022 academic year.

Medals and Prizes
One of the core functions of the Senate is the approval of nominations for medals and prizes. In the 2021/22 academic year, Senate was pleased to approve 261 medalist nominations. The medals and prizes awarded include:

**Fall 2021**
- 1 Governor General Gold Medal at the PhD Level
- 1 University Medal at the PhD Level
- 5 Senate Medals at the PhD Level
- 1 University Medal at the Master’s Level
- 6 Senate Medals at Master’s Level
- 1 Governor General Silver Medal at the Undergraduate Level
- 1 Chancellor’s Medal at the Undergraduate Level
- 1 President’s Medal at the Undergraduate Level
- 10 University Medals at the Undergraduate Level
- 26 Senate Medals at the Undergraduate Levels

**Spring 2022**
- 1 Governor General Gold Medal at the PhD Level
- 1 University Medal at the PhD Level
- 5 Senate Medals at the PhD Level
- 1 University Medal at the Master’s Level
- 5 Senate Medals at the Master’s Level
- 2 Governor General Silver Medals at the Undergraduate Level
- 6 Chancellor’s Medals at the Undergraduate Level
- 1 President’s Medal at the Undergraduate Level
- 45 University Medals at the Undergraduate Level
- 140 Senate Medals at the Undergraduate Level
Honorary Degree Recipients
At the June 2022 convocation, honorary degrees were awarded to the following seven individuals:

- John ApSimon, L.L.D
- Helen Branswell, L.L.D
- The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, L.L.D
- Roger Greenberg, L.L.D
- Janice McDonald, L.L.D
- Claudette McGowan, L.L.D
- Bill Namagoose, L.L.D

Super Convocation

June 2022 saw the resumption of in-person convocation ceremonies at Carleton for the first time in two years.

Over the course of 40 ceremonies held between June 13th and June 24th, 6,736 students from the graduating classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 crossed the stage to the proud applause of family, friends, and faculty.

Thank you to the Carleton community for rallying together to make this year’s Super Convocation an unforgettable experience.
Major Modifications
Major modifications are integral to the continuous improvement of Carleton’s programs. Over the course of the academic year, Senate approved 33 major modifications. The following are highlights of new programs, certificates, minors, and concentrations:

New Graduate Programs
- GDIP in Social Statistics and Data Analysis

New Undergraduate Programs
- BSc program in Physics (15.0 credits)

New Minors
- Minor in Business (Sustainability)

New Concentrations and Specializations
- Collaborative Specialization in Data Science (MSC in Chemistry)
- Collaborative Specialization in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (MA in Communication, MA in Migration & Diaspora Studies)
- Collaborative Specialization in African Studies (MA in Migration & Diaspora Studies)
- Concentration in Business Analytics
- Stream in Business Analytics
- Stream in Entrepreneurship
- Stream in Business (Sustainability)
- Collaborative Specialization in Digital Humanities (MA in Religion and Public Life)
- Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change (Mas in Economics, Geography, Migration and Diaspora Studies, Political Economy, Psychology, and Sustainable Energy, MSc in Geography, Masters in Architecture, MASC, and MENG in Civil Engineering)
- Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change (MA in History)

Minor Modifications
Senate approved 42 minor modifications and received an additional 13 for information. Minor modifications are the most common type of academic change. They involve a wide variety of academic changes 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 12 final assessment reports and executive summaries arising from the cyclical reviews of the following programs:

- Graduate programs in Biology
- Graduate programs in Computer Science
- Undergraduate programs in Communication and Media Studies
- PhD program in Social Work
- Undergraduate programs in Environmental Science
- Undergraduate programs in Earth Sciences
- Undergraduate and Graduate programs in French
- Graduate programs in Cultural Mediations
- Undergraduate and Master’s Programs in Canadian Studies
- Undergraduate programs in Biochemistry
- Undergraduate program in Social Work
- Joint graduate programs in Earth Sciences

New Name for Pauline Jewett Institute

Senate approved the name change of the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women’s and Gender Studies to the Feminist Institute of Social Transformation. The new name reflects a desire to find an umbrella category that represents all of the institute’s programs and areas of study.
Community Presentations

Senate encourages consultations from the Carleton community. During the academic year, Senate received nine presentations:

- Digital Strategy Consultation (September 2021) and Update (June 2022)
- SIP Implementation Report (September 2021)
- Student Mental Health Framework 3.0 (November 2021, March 2022)
- Community Engagement Strategy (November 2021)
- Carleton University Scenario Planning (CUSP) Working Group (October 2021, January 2022)
- Research Update (March 2022)
- 2022-23 Operating Budget Presentation (April 2022)
- “Share Knowledge, Shape the Future”, Carleton Academic Plan (June 2022)
- Kinàmàgawin ‘Learning Together’ Implementation Report (June 2022)

Policies

Senate approved a new First-Year Grading Policy, presented by the Senate Committee on Curriculum Admissions and Studies Policy.

Drawing from the compassionate grading practices adopted as a result of the pandemic, the new grading policy applies to all students entering their first year of studies at Carleton with no previous postsecondary enrolment, for the first two terms of registration in a Carleton undergraduate program.

Under the new policy, any F or UNS grades earned in any course will be automatically converted to NR (No Record). Any passing grades earned in any course may be converted to CR (Credit), at the request of the student, to a maximum of 2.0 credits over the two terms.

This policy, as well as the full listing of policies overseen by Senate, can be found on Senate’s website: https://carleton.ca/senate/senate-policies/
Communications

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

Senate and Committee Surveys
In the spirit of transparency and continual improvement to incorporate best practices in university governance, the Senate Survey was circulated from April 6 to April 30, 2022, gathering feedback and commentary on members’ experiences. The survey consisted of several questions regarding Senate meetings, documentation, orientation, communication efforts, and service on standing committees.

The collated responses and summary will be presented to Senate in Fall 2022, without attribution, for information and serves as a key opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of current practices.

The second annual Senate Committee Survey was circulated to all committee members from May 11 to June 1, 2022, and received responses from constituents in all 10 committees. Data from this survey will be shared with committee Chairs and Secretaries to assess current practices and identify opportunities for improvement.