



Carleton University acknowledges and respects the Algonquin people, traditional custodian of the land on which the Carleton University campus is situated.

**Carleton University Senate
Meeting of January 30, 2026 at 2:00 pm
PK608**

MINUTES

Present: A. Abdou, B. Appel Kuzmarov (acting for R. Goubran), D. Amundsen, M. Bahran, S. Blanchard, F. Brouard, J. Brunet, I. Bumagin, S. Burges, P. Corriveau, R. Dansereau (Clerk), M. DeRosa, J. Drake, S. Duncan, M. El Sayed, M. Francoli, N. Giroux-Laplante, K. Graham, E. Gray, J. Greenberg, E. Harlan, X. Haziza, D. Hornsby, J. Jiménez Garcia, I. Knezevic, G. Lachance, G. Lacroix, N. Laporte, J. Mason, A. Masoumi, D. McNair, D. Mendeloff, R. Miller, H. Nemiroff, K. Nyediin Buoy, M. Papineau, P. Rankin, R. Renfroe, M. Rooney, C. Ruiz-Martin, S. Sadaf, A. Shotwell, S. Simpkin (acting for A. Butler), B. Tackaberry, N. Tait, W. Tettey (Chair), C. Trudel, S. Viel, G. Wainer, P. Williams, P. Wilson, W. Ye

Regrets: Z. Al Attar, I. Alma, J. Armstrong, A. Bordeleau, A. Bowker, J. Debanné, A. El-Roby, N. Hagigi, A. Hurrelmann, A. Kocsis, T. Lewis, B. MacLeod L. Madokoro, G. Maracle, K. Patel, E. Peirce, M. Rivers-Moore, R. Tfaily, T. Turbat

Absent: M. Agha, A. Arya, N. Bruni, T. Davidson, S. Hawkins, S. Joe-Ezigbo, M. Mullally, M. Talebi Dastenaiei, M. Vatankhah

Recording Secretary: K. McKinley

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1. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm. The Chair welcomed all to the first Senate meeting of 2026. He thanked Senators and members of the Carleton community for the warm welcome he has received over the past year, since his tenure at Carleton began in January of 2025.

The Chair then acknowledged and welcomed the following new Senators:

- Mary Francoli, who has assumed the role of Interim Dean of the Faculty of Public & Global Affairs

- Paul Wilson, who is serving as the Interim COU Academic Colleague while Kim Hellemans is on sabbatical
- Nathalie Laporte who is rejoining Senate as a Board of Governors representative
- Ali Arya, who is the new Director of the School of Information Technology
- Jennifer Drake, the new Faculty Board Secretary for Engineering
- Juan Carlos Jiménez Garcia, representing the School of Industrial Design while Tim Haats is on parental leave.

The Chair acknowledged the passing of several Carleton community members:

- Professor Emerita Dr. Katherine Graham, a distinguished scholar, leader and mentor whose work profoundly influenced public policy, governance, community development and Indigenous affairs in Canada. Dr. Graham also served as Dean of the Faculty of Public Affairs, and held many key roles in Carleton community-university partnerships;
- Madeleine Kētēskwew Dion Stout, a nehiyaw / Cree registered nurse, scholar and Indspire Laureate; and
- Professor Glenn McRae from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

The Chair offered condolences to friends, family and colleagues of these departed members of the Carleton community.

Following a reminder on meeting procedures, the Chair turned to the proposed agenda for the meeting.

It was **MOVED** (E. Gray, F. Brouard) that Senate approve the agenda for the meeting of Senate on January 30, 2026, as presented.

The motion **PASSED**.

2. **Minutes:** November 28, 2025

It was **MOVED** (J. Greenberg, D. Hornsby) that Senate approve the minutes of the Senate meeting on November 28, 2025, as presented.

The following errors were noted in the minutes:

- Attendance Record: Senator I. Bumagin should be marked as present.

- Matters Arising: Response from VPSE should apply to scheduling issues moving forward, rather than just the 2026-27 dates.
- Page 10 (SCCASP) Discussion: Last sentence of the first paragraph should read “These are conditional on the approval of the Senate Quality Assurance and Planning Committee.”

With these corrections to the minutes, the motion **PASSED**.

3. Matters Arising

None were identified.

4. Chair’s Remarks

The Chair began his remarks by congratulating the following staff and faculty members on receiving Mitacs International Mobility Awards:

- **Jennifer Evans** from the Department of History for her work on tracing how LGBTQIA+ individuals, from past to present, have built liveable lives through community-building, mutual care, and political self-organization;
- **Mike Hildebrand** from the Department of Neuroscience, for advancing innovative human spinal cord tissue preclinical pain assays that support new treatment strategies and drug discovery; and
- **Amedeo D’Angiuli & Dr. Vivian Lee, Ph.D.** from the Department of Psychology, for their work towards a pan-Canadian and European study on the longitudinal effects of environmental exposure on autism and related neurodivergent conditions.

The Chair next reported on six members of the Carleton Community appointed to the Order of Canada:

- The Honorable **Rosalie Silberman Abella** who received an honorary doctorate from Carleton in 2005, was named a Companion of the Order. Abella was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada in 2004, and has been widely recognized as a voice for constitutional and human rights law.
- Former Carleton President **Roseann Runte** was promoted to Officer of the Order of Canada. President Runte is a visionary leader whose work at Carleton and the Canada Foundation for Innovation has strengthened institutional excellence and advanced Canada’s global research competitiveness.

- The Honourable **Janice Charette** was named an Officer of the Order. Charette is an alumna of the Sprott School of Business, recipient of an honorary doctorate from Carleton in 2023, and a highly distinguished former public service and diplomat.
- Professor Emerita **Susan Phillips** was named a member of the Order. Phillips is an alumna of Carleton, Professor Emerita in the School of Public Policy & Administration and founder of Carleton's Master of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, which is Canada's only graduate program in philanthropy.
- **Penny Dorothy Collenette**, alumna of the Faculty of Public and Global Affairs was named a member of the order. Collenette is a prominent Canadian lawyer, educator and public commentator, an expert in public policy and an advocate for women in leadership.
- **Reesa Greenberg**, former adjunct professor of art history at Carleton was named a member of the Order. Greenberg is known for her pioneering work in feminist and exhibition studies.

The Chair then announced that Carleton has become the first North American institutional member of the Sustainability Transitions Research Network (STRN), an international network of scholars and practitioners advancing the work toward a more sustainable society.

Finally, the Chair reminded Senators of the upcoming annual Service Excellence Awards Celebration on February 19, and encouraged all to attend.

5. Question Period

Three questions were submitted in advance by Senators.

Question from Senator Jody Mason

The draft AI framework uses the language of "framework" but the verbal mood of a policy. Could the following questions be clarified, please?

Since this is a framework and not a policy, its guidelines cannot be enforced. Is this correct? If these are guidelines only and this is not an enforceable policy, why are imperative statements such as the following employed? Under "teaching," instructors are told to "embed AI competencies in teaching activities and materials to prepare graduates for the use of AI beyond university."

Response: Vice-Provost David Hornsby noted that examples within the framework are provided as suggestions, not mandatory requirements. As the framework is currently

under consultation, feedback can be used to revise the language to be less imperative. In response to a follow-up question, Vice-Provost Hornsby acknowledged that the current draft has not captured the need for critical reflection on Artificial Intelligence and the need to integrate AI literacy into the classroom. He concluded by affirming that a revised Framework will be presented to Senate for further deliberation in the coming months.

Question from Azar Masoumi

Carleton University's previous Human Rights Policy (in effect May 2001-Jan 2025) included a robust definition of academic freedom. This definition has been removed from the policy since the 2025 revisions (see current policy [here](#)). As a result, the definition of academic freedom on our campus now fully and solely relies on negotiated clauses in various collective agreements. This situation has not only led to differential protections for CUASA and CUPE colleagues, but has also left students without any protected right to academic freedom.

Would you please clarify: 1) Why was the definition of academic freedom removed from the Human Rights policy? 2) How does the university intend to ensure consistent and equal access to academic freedom for all members of our campus?

The Provost responded to this question. She noted that because academic freedom is not a protected human right as defined by the Human Rights code, it was removed from the revised Human Rights Policy. Instead, the current Human Rights Policy refers the community to the collective agreements for CUASA, CUPE 4600 (units 1 and 2) and PSAC 77000 (for postdoctoral fellows). Student rights & responsibilities around these issues are addressed in the Student Rights & Responsibilities Policy and also in the Freedom of Speech Policy. In addition, to add clarity, a definition of academic freedom was added to the Carleton University website (<https://carleton.ca/about/history/commitments>). This definition from Universities Canada affirms that academic freedom is fundamental to our academic mission.

The Provost added that a benchmarking study demonstrated that Carleton's approach to communicating academic freedom is in line with other institutions. Only two other universities in Ontario include academic freedom in their Human Rights Policy (Algoma and Guelph). York, TMU, Windsor, and Laurier have the definition only embedded in collective agreements. University of Ottawa, like Carleton, has made a similar commitment to academic freedom on its website.

In a follow-up to the question a Senator noted that the definition of academic freedom differs from one collective agreement to another, and that there appears to be no protection of students' academic freedom. They asked whether a single unified definition or policy on academic freedom would address this issue. The Chair responded that as a member of Universities Canada, Carleton is required to meet certain obligations, including the guarantee of Academic Freedom and to demonstrate that obligation. The definition provided by Universities Canada that Carleton has adopted and posted on the website covers all communities, and the collective agreements show that these are demonstrable and binding. Students' rights are also covered by the Free Speech Policy which states that "faculty, students and staff may not prevent, obstruct or interfere with the freedom of others to express their views." It was noted that any policy would not override what is stated and provided in the collective agreement; the process for dealing with complaints is outlined in the collective agreements (for CUASA and CUPE) and in the Free Speech Policy (for students). Another Senator noted that the collective agreement would not necessarily prevent the development of a policy on academic freedom and that there are cases such as the Sexual Violence policy, where a university policy and process exist in addition to the process that is specific to union members and outlined in their collective agreement.

Senators continued to debate the usefulness of creating a policy and the process for developing, it before concluding the discussion.

Question from Laura Madokoro

Could Senate please have an update on the work of the Presidential & Provostial Task Force on Community Healing, Rebuilding and Belonging? In particular, I would like to know how invitations to participate will be organized? Will individuals have an opportunity to present or submit their views and share their experiences or is input being solicited on an organizational basis e.g. CUASA? Senate?

The Chair introduced AVP Indigenous Teaching, Learning and Research, Kahente Horn-Miller, Chair of the Task Force, to respond to this question. Chair Horn-Miller noted that the Task Force held their second meeting on January 21, 2026, to discuss implementing their mandate. The Elder Advisory Group was invited to join the meeting, and through a consensus decision making process it was agreed that:

- *The list of terms/definitions needs to be clarified and should be available online.*
- *The terms "healing" and "belonging" need to be included in the list of definitions.*

- *The consultation process should include multiple engagement mechanisms such as surveys, town halls, one-on-one and unit consultations plus online portals for community input.*
- *More time is needed for the Task Force to complete its mandate.*

It was suggested that the next steps for the Task Force should include clarifying the list of terms and defining the questions that will be used for the consultation process.

In response to a follow-up question, Horn-Miller noted that people on the Task Force are there as individuals and are not considered representatives of a particular group. Additionally, all those who have been invited to the meeting are free to contribute to the discussion.

The Chair thanked AVP Horn-Miller for the response and for the update.

6. Administration

a. Senate Membership Ratification

The Clerk presented a motion to ratify Jennifer Drake as the new Faculty Board Secretary from FED.

It was **MOVED** (R. Dansereau, G. Wainer) that Senate ratify the new Senate appointment, as presented, for service beginning immediately upon approval.
The motion **PASSED**.

b. Convocation Dates 2028-2030

The Clerk presented a motion for Senate to approve the following June Convocation dates:

- June 12 – 16, 2028
- June 11 – 15, 2029
- June 10 – 14, 2030

It was **MOVED** (R. Dansereau, S. Blanchard) that Senate approve the Convocation dates, as presented.
The motion **PASSED**.

The Clerk reminded Senators that Fall Convocation has been suspended as of 2025, and the June 2026 Convocation ceremonies will be expanded to accommodate the Fall 2025 graduates.

7. Reports

a. Senate Committee on Curriculum, Admissions and Studies Policy (SCCASP)

Committee Chair David Mendeloff presented 2 items for Senate approval and 4 items for information. The items for approval were combined into an omnibus motion.

Items for approval – Omnibus motion

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, D. Hornsby) that Senate approve the revisions to the following program regulations effective for the 2026/27 Undergraduate Calendar as presented.

- R-UG-3.2.7 Bachelor of Architectural Studies
- R-UG-Additional Regulations for B.Sc.

The motion **PASSED**.

Individual motions from the Omnibus:

- THAT Senate approve the revisions to Regulations R-UG-3.2.7 Bachelor of Architectural Studies effective for the 2026/27 Undergraduate Calendar as presented. (change to the ACE requirements)
- THAT Senate approve the revisions to Regulations R-UG-Additional Regulations for B.Sc. effective for the 2026/27 Undergraduate Calendar as presented. (addition of biochemistry and physics courses to experimental science requirements for the B.Sc.)

Items for Information:

- Undergraduate Minor Modifications (Dec 2, 2025; Dec 16, 2025; Jan 20, 2026)
- Graduate Minor Modifications (Jan 20, 2026)

b. Senate Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (SQAPC)

Committee Chair David Hornsby presented one new program and 34 major modifications for Senate approval, plus one memo on suspended program admissions for information.

New Program Approval: new B.Eng in Systems Security Engineering: This new undergraduate program focuses on the analysis, evaluation and design of secure computer communications and distributed systems. It will be a 4-year program (5 years with COOP).

It was **MOVED** (R. Miller, C. Trudel) that Senate approve the proposed B.Eng in Systems Security Engineering program as presented, to commence in Fall 2027.

A Senator asked for more clarity regarding resources (pending retirements, hiring of new faculty) mentioned in the documentation. The Committee Chair noted that resource requests are submitted as part of the normal process, and these projections are contingent upon enrolment.

The motion **PASSED**.

Major Modifications:

The committee Chair presented motions to close three programs:

It was **MOVED** (D. Hornsby, G. Lacroix) that Senate approve the closure of the Certificate in Multidisciplinary Studies in Mental Health and Well-Being as presented with effect from Fall 2027.

It was noted that the unit requested the deletion due to lack of resources, low enrolment and content overlap with the stream.

The motion **PASSED**.

It was **MOVED** (D. Hornsby, M. Papineau) that Senate approve the closure of the type 3 (stand-alone) Graduate Diploma in Work and Labour as presented with effect from Fall 2026.

The decision was taken to request this closure as it did not receive Ministry approval due to a perception that it did not have sufficient labour market value.

The motion **PASSED**.

It was **MOVED** (D. Hornsby, M. Papineau) that Senate approve the closure of the Graduate Diploma and concentration in Indigenous Policy and Administration as presented with effect from Fall 2026.

The unit has requested closure of the program due to low enrolment and loss of a faculty member.

The motion **PASSED**.

The committee Chair then presented an Omnibus Motion for the remaining 31 major modifications:

It was **MOVED** (D. Hornsby, R. Renfroe) that Senate approve the major modifications as presented.

The motion **PASSED**.

Individual motions from the Omnibus:

- THAT Senate approve the deletion of the minor and concentration in Drama Studies as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the Beng Environmental Engineering program as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the BSc Nursing program as presented with effect from Fall 2025
- THAT Senate approve the introduction of the Direct Entry option to the PhD program in Physics as presented, with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Physics as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MA program in Canadian Studies as presented with effect from Fall 2026.
- THAT Senate approve the introduction of the advanced completion option to the Master of Public Policy and Administration with Collaborative Specialization in Climate Change as presented with effect from Fall 2026.
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to NURS 3201 & 4200 as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MA program in Sociology with a concentration in Quantitative Methodology as presented with effect from Fall 2026.
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the Bachelor of Music program as presented with effect from Fall 2026

- THAT Senate approve the major modification to CRCJ 4908 as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the addition of the accelerated pathway to the MASc and MEng programs in Building Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Building Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Civil Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2026.
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Environmental Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MA program in International Affairs as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MA program in Migration and Diaspora Studies as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the addition of the collaborative specialization in Data Science to the MASc programs in Mechanical, Aerospace and Materials Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the B.Eng program in Communications Engineering as presented with effect from Fall 2027
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Biology as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Chemistry as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Earth Sciences as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the BJHum program as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Mathematics and Statistics as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MCS program as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the addition of BUSI 5993, 5994, and 5996 as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the introduction of the stream in Financial Planning to the B.Com. program as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the PhD program in Computer Science as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the MSc program in Physics – Stream in Modern Technology as presented with effect from Fall 2026

- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the master’s programs in Data Science, Analytics and Artificial Intelligence as presented with effect from Fall 2026
- THAT Senate approve the major modification to the Master of Human Computer Interaction and the introduction of HCIN 5903 as presented with effect from Fall 2026

Memo for Information: Suspended Program Admissions

Senate was informed of suspended admissions for the MBA weekday in-person program and the Graduate Diploma (Type 2 & 3) in Architectural Conservation. Requests were made by the units, approved by the Deans and Vice-Provost (Academic & Global Learning), and all appropriate administrative steps were taken by Admissions, the Registrar’s Office and Graduate Studies.

Admissions to programs will be suspended for 2 admission cycles. Any modifications relating to program reinstatement or closure will be brought to Senate for approval.

c. Senate Academic Governance Committee (SAGC)

Committee Chair Richard Dansereau presented a motion to ratify new Senate committee members.

It was **MOVED** (R. Dansereau, C. Ruiz-Martin) that Senate ratify the Senate committee nominees as presented, for service beginning immediately upon approval.

The Clerk requested an amendment to the memo to add a graduate student nominee for the Senate Student Academic Integrity Appeals Committee. SAGC voted to recommend the nomination at its meeting on January 27.

Proposed nominations:

- Hamza abo el Ella (Faculty member, FED) for Senate Committee on Student Awards
- Lisa Mills (Faculty member, FPGA) for Senate Committee on Student Awards
- Katelyn Vezina (Graduate Student) for Senate Student Academic Integrity Appeals Committee

The motion, with the amended memo, **PASSED**.

Engineering Faculty Board Constitution

SAGC Chair Richard Dansereau presented a motion to approve a new Engineering Faculty Board Constitution. The Constitution was created in accordance with the new Faculty Board Constitution template created by the Secretariat Office. SAGC undertook a thorough review of the EFB Constitution in 2025, and is recommending its approval by Senate.

It was **MOVED** (J. Drake, R. Miller) that Senate approve the Engineering Faculty Board Constitution, as presented.

The motion **PASSED**.

d. Senate Review Committee – Enrolment Update

The Chair of the Senate Review Committee, Gabriel Wainer, reported that the committee met on January 16 to review the Fall 2025 Enrolment Report. Committee members drafted a series of questions for the VP Students & Enrolment (VPSE) based on their review of the report. These questions were included with the Enrolment Report in the meeting binder, and will be addressed by the VPSE in her presentation.

The Chair then recognized VPSE Suzanne Blanchard, who presented the report to Senators.

Undergraduate Provincial Count: Domestic new undergraduate enrolment has seen an increase of 1% and international enrolment has decreased by 23% since 2024; in both cases, this represents a better scenario than had been projected last year. Continuing enrolment is flat for domestic and decreasing in international.

SRC Question: Is our domestic enrolment still within the corridor set by the government? Generally, what is the projection for domestic enrolment growth moving forward? Is the corridor model sustainable?

In our previous Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA3), Carleton remained either at or above the corridor ceiling every year. As a result, Carleton renegotiated the corridor to be higher in SMA4. Currently, Carleton is above the funding midpoint but not yet at the ceiling of the corridor. However, the level of grant per student

is low in Ontario compared to other provinces. This combined with frozen tuition creates significant challenges for the budget.

SRC Question: Although monetary figures are not generally included in the enrolment report, it is understood that international students bring in more revenue per student (vs domestic). Is it possible to express this difference as a ratio, and if so what would that ratio be? (e.g. 1 international student to 3 domestic students)

For domestic student numbers within the corridor, Carleton receives both the tuition from the student and a grant from the province. In these cases, the revenue from an international student would be approximately 2 times that of the domestic student. In cases where we do not receive the grant for the student (if, for example, we are above the corridor), the revenue ratio is closer to 4 to 1.

SRC Question: For longer term planning is the model of continued growth in enrolment sustainable, given recent data showing declining population growth in Canada and unreliable funding from the provincial government?

Based on the latest Ontario Ministry of Finance population projections, the Ontario 18-year-old population is stable overall, with a projected increase in Ottawa over the next 3 – 5 years. Additionally, the proportion of Ontario high-school students who attend university continues to increase. The data demonstrates that demographics in Ontario and Ottawa will support cautious growth in enrolment of at least 1% per year.

New First-Year Students per Faculty:

Business enrolment is stable. The decline in Science continues to be driven by decreased enrolment in Computer Science. It was noted that fluctuations in the technology sector are common, and Carleton's new programs in Data Science, Cyber Security and Nursing are drawing more attention.

Engineering's growth has been limited by capacity issues in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, but there are additional opportunities for growth in the new Mechatronics program.

FASS and FPGA enrolment has declined, but early data for BA admissions for Fall 2026 are positive compared to 2025.

SRC Question: Can you provide comparisons with other universities for this data? For example, are the declines in Arts & Social Sciences and Public Affairs and increases in Engineering being experienced generally in Ontario universities?

Although programs in other universities are not completely matched, Carleton is following the general trends in enrolment seen in Ontario universities, with some small differences.

SRC Question: Can you provide an update on the progress of last year's revamped recruitment plan?

The recruitment team is constantly evaluating approaches and revamping strategies in response to changing circumstances. Some of the initiatives Recruitment has implemented this year include the following:

- Offering a “Tech Day” to respond to interest in that sector
- Providing more virtual recruitment options and opportunities
- Adjusting recruitment events for attendees from different age groups (e.g. including events for grades 9 and 10)
- Working with agent partners for international recruitment
- Expanding recruitment in West Africa, China, India and the Middle East as of February 2026. The impact for this will be felt more significantly in Fall of 2027.
- A new 12-month, 4-year housing guarantee for international students
- New undergraduate international tuition structure that includes a 3—year freeze to provide clear expectations
- Sending out offers early, for domestic and international students, which has demonstrated impact.

Graduate Enrolment:

One of the main drivers in growth is the MBA online. International Masters enrolment has decreased, while PhD enrolment is stable.

New Graduate Enrolment:

The introduction of early rolling admissions has had a positive impact on domestic graduate enrolment overall, but international enrolment has declined by an additional 30% with some decreases in new PhD student enrolment (both domestic and international). Returning enrolment is lower than last year for international students due to decreased enrolment from the previous year.

Undergraduate enrolment trends per Faculty show growth in Engineering & Design in first-year enrolment. The Recruitment Office is continuing to work with individual departments on initiatives and strategies to further boost undergraduate enrolment within certain programs.

SRC Question: What is the reason for the continued decline in FPGA enrolment (UG)?

Public & Global Affairs enrolment has experienced waves of increases and declines over the years as interest in these programs has shifted. The decline is driven largely by a decrease in enrolment in the Social Sciences, Journalism and Communications in our sector. However, some programs such as Political Affairs and Public Affairs and Policy Management have seen growth since last year, likely due to current global affairs.

Master's Enrolment Trends: Increases in Master's enrolment over the past few years have been driven primarily by the online MBA, which has been very successful. Enrolment in this program is now stabilizing. Engineering intake has decreased while Science and FPGA have seen enrolment increases for Master's students this year.

SRC Question: How many of the Sprott Masters students in this graph are online MBAs?

Out of 978 new enrolments, 784 are online MBAs. For returning students, the number of students pursuing the online MBA is 907 out of a total of 1035.

PhD Enrolments: show normal variations from year to year.

10-year Analysis - Programs:

Enrolment in Health, Nursing and Engineering is increasing. Computer Science and Social Science enrolments have previously increased but have decreased over the

past few years and are now approaching 2017 levels. Arts and Science programs have seen decreases in enrolment, while Business is stable.

SRC Question: From this graph, can it be assumed that the best-case scenario that 20% of applicants choose Carleton as their first choice?

While the graph shows the OUAC application numbers, additional data clarifies that 25% of all of students who apply to Carleton indicate that Carleton is their first choice.

Applications by Faculty: FPGA applications are continuing to decrease more than the system, Engineering & Design are increasing at the same rate as last year and Computer Science is decreasing at the same rate. In response to a question from the Senate Review Committee, it was noted that even if a student applies to 2 different programs within one Faculty, the student is only counted once according to the program they have ranked the highest.

Regional Comparisons (Undergraduate): Applications from eastern Ontario and Ottawa have seen positive growth. Applications from GTA have been slowly recovering since Covid while those from other Canadian provinces remain stable. International enrolment continues to decline. Comparative data show that most enrolments are from Ottawa and Eastern Ontario with slight increases from GTA and other Canadian provinces.

Ottawa and Eastern Ontario:

SRC Questions: Why is enrolment not increasing even though the number of applicants and approvals are? Why is the gap between applicants and approvals increasing over time?

Even though Carleton receives a large number of applications, this does not always translate into admissions, largely due to the highly competitive nature of university enrolment in Ontario. The Enrolment team at Carleton is planning a new survey and has implemented a LEAN process to determine what barriers may have been preventing a stronger enrolment percentage.

GTA: Enrolment numbers from GTA are slowly improving.

SRC Question: Can you provide an update on plans for increased enrolment from the GTA?

Carleton had a strong showing in the 2025 Ontario Universities Fair (OUF), collecting more prospective student leads than any other year, and the team has followed up with personal invitations. Carleton has also increased recruitment efforts with 42 weeks of visits to Toronto high schools, hybrid family information evenings, applicant evenings in the GTA, and virtual events with increased attendance. The team is also attending grade 10 Toronto high school career classes and expanding the information evenings for grade 9 – 11 students.

Applications from other Ontario areas have decreased but registration for those students remains stable, and there have been slight increases in applications and enrolments from other Canadian provinces.

Proportion of International Enrolment for First Year Students

International applications and admissions continue to decline but the gap between those applying and those enrolled has decreased significantly. Strategies for increasing international enrolment include the residence guarantee, a stable 3-year tuition structure, and tuition deposit. Rankings also have become an important factor in attracting international students.

SRC Question: Why is Carleton's international enrolment so much lower than the rest of Ontario universities?

Some other universities in Ontario have international in-country representatives as a common practice, while Carleton has only recently implemented this strategy. Carleton's market mix has been more diverse, which became detrimental when some of those areas declined due to impacts from the IRCC. More competition among universities for students has been a factor as well. Carleton is responding by sending out offers earlier, updating options on the ESL requirements, adding in-country representatives, and addressing value for money indicators in rankings.

A Senator noted that it is a common assumption that the delay in international graduate student conversions (from application to admission) creates a corresponding delay in graduate TA allocations, making it very difficult to assign TAs in a timely manner. The Chair recognized Vice-Provost Dan Siddiqi, who

was in attendance, to respond to this question. Vice-Provost Siddiqi noted that the premise is problematic in that only a small number of TAs are international students. He noted that the challenge in TA allocations likely stems from the fact that graduate students are admitted continually throughout the year.

A Senator asked if the current political unrest in the United States could create opportunities for Carleton to increase recruitment from that country. In response, VPSE Blanchard noted that the United States population generally does not consider Canadian universities to be attractive options for their students' higher education goals. Carleton does recruit in the United States but there has been no increased interest from potential students over the past year. However, the international recruitment team is working to demonstrate that Canada is a more attractive option for international students than the USA.

Vice-Provost (Academic & Global Learning) David Hornsby added that this report demonstrates that Carleton needs to explore new communities of students, and that online programs could be an opportunity for enrolment growth in a new direction. He encouraged Senators to think creatively about some targeted opportunities in this area.

The Chair thanked VPSE Blanchard for the thorough and informative report and Senators for their engagement.

8. Reports for Information

The following reports were submitted for information:

- a) Senate Executive Committee minutes (November 28, 2025)
- b) Summary of Meeting of the Carleton University General Faculty Board (GFB)

There were no questions and there was no discussion of these reports.

9. Other Business

The VPSE reminded Senators of the wine & cheese event sponsored by Dining Services, from 4pm to 6pm, at the Riverbank Social.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned (E. Gray, M. Papineau) at 4:04 p.m.