



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 April 24 2026 at 2:00 pm
PK608 + Zoom videoconference**

MINUTES

Present in person: I. Alma, D. Amundsen, S. Blanchard, A. Bordeleau, A. Bowker, J. Brunet, N. Bruni, I. Bumagin, S. Burges, A. Butler, R. Dansereau (Clerk), T. Davidson, M. DeRosa, J. Drake, M. Francoli, R. Goubran, E. Gray, H. Hefzy, A. Hurrelmann, J. Jiménez Garcia, I. Knezevic, B. MacLeod, J. Mason, D. McNair, D. Mendeloff, R. Miller, M. Mullally, H. Nemiroff, P. Rankin (Acting Chair), M. Rivers-Moore, C. Ruiz-Martin, A. Shotwell, B. Tackaberry, N. Tait, C. Trudel, T. Turbat, S. Viel, G. Wainer, P. Williams, W. Ye

Present on Zoom: A. Abdou, M. Agha, J. Armstrong, M. Bahran, F. Brouard, J. P. Corriveau, A. El-Roby, M. El Sayed, K. Graham, S. Hawkins, G. Lacroix, N. Laporte, G. Maracle, A. Masoumi, M. Papineau, E. Peirce, M. Rooney, S. Sadaf, R. Tfaily

Regrets: J. Debanné, S. Duncan, J. Greenberg, N. Hagigi, D. Hornsby, T. Lewis, L. Madokoro, K. Patel, R. Renfroe, P. Wilson

Absent: A. Arya, N. Giroux-Laplante, E. Harlan, X. Haziza, S. Joe-Ezigbo, A. Kocsis, G. Lachance, K. Nyediin Buoy, W. Tettey (Chair), M. Vatankhah

Recording Secretary: K. McKinley

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1. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm. Provost Pauline Rankin acted as Chair of Senate in President Tettey's absence.

The Chair noted that this meeting would be the final Senate meeting for these ex officio student members:

- Alison Kocsis – CASG President
- Sean Joe-Ezigbo – CUSA President
- Hadi Hefzy – GSA President
- Temuulen Turbat – GSA Vice President, Academic

The Chair thanked these student leaders for their service on Senate and wished them success in their future endeavours.

Following a review of the hybrid meeting protocols, the Chair introduced the meeting agenda for approval. The Clerk requested that item 7-c (Reports – SAGC) be struck from the agenda as the committee did not have a report for this meeting.

It was **MOVED** (H. Nemiroff, E. Gray) that Senate approve the agenda for the meeting of Senate on April 24 2026, as amended.

The motion **PASSED**.

2. Minutes: March 27, 2026

The Recording Secretary noted one typo to correct on Page 8 of the minutes.

It was **MOVED** (B. Tackaberry, M. Mullally) that Senate approve the minutes of the Senate meeting on March 27, 2026, as amended.

The motion **PASSED**.

3. Matters Arising

The Clerk presented Senate attendance statistics in response to a request from Senator Morgan Rooney, who had asked at the previous Senate meeting for a comparison of in-person vs online attendance figures for the past few years.

A chart summarizing attendance from 2018 to 2026 showed the percentage of Senators attending for each meeting. Colour was used to differentiate between meetings held in person, those with a hybrid component, and those totally online. Senate meetings were held in person in 2018 and 2019, then moved online during the pandemic (2020-2022). After students and faculty were welcomed back to campus in the fall of 2022, Senate meetings were mixed between hybrid and online formats from 2023 to 2025, and then returned to in person only for the 2025-26 academic year (to March 2026).

While the data demonstrates for the most part that attendance numbers are higher for hybrid and online meetings, the Clerk noted that attendance data alone does not measure quality of deliberation or engagement, informal interaction and collegial exchange, or broader governance objectives that may be associated with different meeting formats. Differences in attendance numbers also may reflect factors beyond the meeting format, including scheduling, academic calendar timing, and individual availability. The Clerk

concluded that the attendance figures alone provide an incomplete basis for assessing overall meeting effectiveness and do not imply a preferred approach.

There were no follow-up questions from Senators.

4. Chair's Remarks

The Chair began by congratulating the recipients of this year's Faculty Graduate Mentoring Awards: Sana Mohsni, Sreeraman Rajan, Mostafa Taha, Shireen Hassim and Christine Koggel. This award recognizes exceptional dedication to graduate student education through supervision and research mentoring.

The Chair also congratulated the 26 recipients of this year's Achievement Awards, recognizing the research and teaching distinction of Carleton's academic staff. Awards were presented in six categories including Research Achievement, Research Achievement Seed Funding, Teaching, Professional Achievement for Faculty in Teaching Stream, Librarian and Contract Instructor. Senators Emily Gray, Jennifer Drake and Winnie Ye were among the recipients. Senators congratulated them with a round of applause.

Five of Carleton's community members have been named in the Ottawa Business Journal and Ottawa Board of Trade's 2026 40 under 40 List, a most sought-after business award for young leaders in the Ottawa area. The Chair offered congratulations to:

- Danielle Manley, Associate Professor in Carleton's Faculty of Science, and the Director of the School of Nursing;
- Emma Brown, founder of Whimble Care, and graduate of Carleton's Diploma in Philanthropy & Non-Profit Leadership (2021);
- Samantha Leclair, production director at Snowed In Studios, Ottawa's largest game development studio, and graduate of Carleton's interactive media & design program (2009);
- Chris Tester, founder and CEO of Comercio (Nordic Sauna and Outdoor Direct), and graduate of Carleton's International Business program (2010); and
- Genevieve Walton, CEO and Owner of Flex Property Developments, and a graduate of Carleton's Commerce program in 2016.

The Chair then announced the appointment of Dr. Matthias Neufang as Deputy Provost for a five-year term effective July 1, 2026. The Chair thanked Dr. Catherine Khordoc,

whose term as Deputy Provost concludes June 30, for her dedication and leadership since 2022.

The Chair noted that in March, Carleton hosted a delegation of 19 university rectors from Sweden for an exchange on academic collaboration, research security and innovation in a new geopolitical context. The visit marked a significant step in strengthening the ties between Canadian and Swedish academic institutions through research, innovation and global collaboration.

Finally, the Chair reported on the recent visit to campus of Finland's President, Alexander Stubb, for an event entitled "Rebalancing the World Order in an Age of Fragmentation." Hosted by the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, the event was part of President Stubb's 2-day trip to Ottawa, and featured a public conversation on how democracies can navigate an increasingly fragmented world order.

There were no questions from Senators on these remarks.

5. Question Period

Two questions were submitted in advance by Senators.

Question from Alexis Shotwell

There seems to be a shift in policies coming from Graduate Studies - increased documentation requirements for Leaves of Absence, limits imposed on supervisory contact when students are on Leave, and a new requirement that if students withdraw in good standing they must pay three terms of tuition if they apply for re-admission . There also have been changes in the funding models at the MA level depending on whether students are in a thesis, Masters Research Paper/Essay, or coursework stream. All of these affect our academic supervisory practices. Students in my program report that they are experiencing all of these as punitive policies, and in some departments (Film Studies for example) the changes affect the structure of their admissions. What has been the process to arrive at these changes, what motivates them, and how will they be reviewed and altered if needed?

The Chair recognized Vice-Provost (Graduate Studies) Nadeem Siddiqi who responded to this question. Vice-Provost Siddiqi first provided a written response.

I really appreciate the question. I think it is quite appropriate given that there have been a lot of changes in Grad Studies in the last year, and there will be more in the next year as we roll out the changes approved here at Senate recently. Indeed, I think this question is important enough that I am providing this written version to be included in

the Senate minutes so that Senate can make reference again to it in the future.

This question seems to me to be about process and locality of review, so that is how I approached my response. I want to remind Senate that everything done at Grad Studies is subject to robust governance procedures.

The simple answer to the question about where these decisions are reviewed is generally 'Graduate Council', but there are specific workflows I detail here:

1. Regulation changes¹:

- GAF (Graduate Affairs) > Grad Council > SCCASP > Senate.
- Example: similar residency requirement for Masters Students

2. Policy changes²:

- GAF > Grad Council > VPARC > SMPC (Senior Management Policy Committee)
- Example: Graduate Supervision Appointments Policy

3. Procedural changes³:

- GAF > Grad Council

Note: Procedural review is for consultation, discussion, and information, but not approval.

Additionally, I also am always happy to answer questions and have fulsome discussion at Grad Council's Question Period where these questions typically come up.

The question refers to a student's status while on leave. This topic is recurrent at Grad Council. Importantly, we have had multiple presentations that touch on this topic in the last two years, including presentations about risk and graduate student status,

¹ The question refers to the 1-year (3-term) residency requirement for a PhD student. This regulation appears in the third paragraph Regulation 6.1. The wording of this residency requirement has been present for at least a decade. Senate recently passed a similar residency requirement for Masters students. This was passed at November 2025's Senate meeting.

² The question doesn't actually refer to a University Policy, but the closest such policy is the Graduate Supervision Appointments Policy, which is available here: <https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/sites/158/Grad-Supervision-Appts-Policy-2024.pdf>

³ The question refers to the procedures for gaining a Leave of Absence, which can be found here: <https://gradstudents.carleton.ca/leave-of-absence-procedures/>

international status, and employment status.

I'm happy to sum here for Senate:

- *A person who is on a leave of absence or has withdrawn from a program is not a student at Carleton and thus should receive no services from Carleton employees, including supervision, nor should they conduct any research activities without the affiliation, and thus the protection, of the university. This respects the concept of leave and protects the student in a wide variety of ways.*

Senators are likely noticing these changes now because, in the last two years, Grad Studies and Grad Council have made a massive and concerted effort to address 'time-to-completion' (which is a significant concern) and student flexibility in that regard—much of which has come to Senate in the form of new regulations, especially in the last few months. Here, Grad Studies and Grad Council have been responding to significant and ubiquitous demand from all stakeholders (predominantly students and faculty) to address these concerns.

In a follow-up to this response, Senator Shotwell remarked that when a graduate student takes a leave of absence they are not allowed to come to campus, visit the library, or participate in thesis group meetings, effectively cutting them off from their intellectual community. Additionally, she questioned why there is a limit to 3 Leaves of Absence now, which severely impacts disabled students who may need to take more of these. In response, the Vice-Provost noted first that students on leave should not be given work to do and should not be conducting research. Regarding the limit on the number of leaves he indicated that the limit can be discussed for exceptional cases.

Another question was raised regarding readmission procedures and residency requirements for Master's students who have withdrawn from their program. A Senator raised a Point of Order, noting that these questions are in the purview of Graduate Council, and should be discussed there, and not at Senate. The Chair allowed the response to this question to continue. Senators were reminded that these procedures were brought to Senate for approval several months ago. Vice-Provost Siddiqi suggested that the conversation on this issue be moved offline.

The Chair reminded Senators that Graduate Council still has two vacancies for faculty-member Senators and that Senators who wish to be more involved in these conversations on graduate regulations should consider joining the Council.

Question from Jody Mason

A plan to move the Institute of African Studies into the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies (IIS) was discussed at the most recent FASS Faculty Board, where it was indicated

that IIS will become a School because an Institute cannot house another Institute. Where is this regulation written? If this regulation exists, why not simply make ISS a Department?

FASS Dean Anne Bowker responded to this question. She noted that the Institute of African Studies (IAS) has always been a small unit and has shrunk further post-Covid to only 8 majors. Because IAS is active internationally, there was a desire to preserve it as an Institute, while also moving it under the Interdisciplinary Studies umbrella.

In Carleton's academic governance framework, Institutes are stand-alone academic units and do not function as umbrella units for other academic units. By contrast, Schools are explicitly designed to house multiple sub-units or programs. As such, to enable the governance of African Studies programs within Interdisciplinary Studies, a redesignation of the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies (IIS) as a School was required.

The Dean also noted that departments are typically organized around a single discipline (for example, Economics) with degree programs and curricula unified by a common disciplinary framework. Schools, by contrast, are commonly used to house multiple programs or sub-units, each retaining a distinct intellectual focus while benefitting from shared governance and administrative oversight. Given that IIS already governs multiple interdisciplinary sub-units, and that African Studies would become a fourth sub-unit, a School structure is the most appropriate and coherent fit.

In response to a follow-up question, Dean Bowker confirmed that it is not the intention to combine all small programs into Institutes or Schools, as several smaller units within FASS are robust enough to maintain their status as departments.

Senator Mason noted that the Director of a School is not a CUASA member, and asked if there was a way to preserve the union status of the head of Interdisciplinary Studies as it becomes a School. The Chair responded that the distinctions between Schools, Departments, Institutes and other units are laid out in the Collective Agreement, and any discussion of changes to those definitions should be held between the union and management, not at Senate.

There was no further discussion.

6. Administration

MINUTES – APRIL 24, 2026

a) Senate Membership Ratification

The Clerk presented a motion to ratify a faculty member from FPGA and one student member from FASS, for service beginning July 1, 2026.

- David Mendeloff – FPGA faculty member
- Nishtha Hurrydass – UG Student (FASS)

It was **MOVED** (R. Dansereau, A. Bowker) that Senate ratify the new Senate appointments, as presented, for service beginning July 1, 2026.

The motion **PASSED**.

7. Reports

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

Committee Chair David Mendeloff presented 2 items for approval and 1 item for information. The items for approval were combined into an omnibus motion for efficiency.

Items for approval – Omnibus motion

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, E. Gray) that Senate approve the revisions to the following as presented:

- R-ADM-Program-B.Co.M.S.
- R-ADM-Program-B.Eng.

The motion **PASSED**.

Individual motions from the Omnibus:

- Bachelor of Communication and Media Studies – THAT Senate approve the revisions to Regulations R-ADM-Program-B.Co.M.S. effective for the 2027/28 Undergraduate Calendar as presented. (modification to permit direct entry to both the Honours and non-Honours programs)
- Bachelor of Engineering - THAT Senate approve the revisions to Regulations R-GADM-Program-B.Eng. effective for the 2027/28 Undergraduate Calendar as presented. (admissions requirements modified to specify Calculus and Vectors as required prerequisite)

Item for Information:

- Minor Modifications to the Mechatronics Engineering program

There was no discussion of the items for information.

b) Senate Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (SQAPC)

In the SQAPC Chair's absence, SCCASP Chair David Mendeloff presented 3 motions for Senate approval related to governance changes in FASS, 4 major modifications including one program closure, and one cyclical program review for approval. There was also one memo for information.

Governance Changes in FASS:

Each proposal below was fully supported by the relevant unit and also by FASS Faculty Board.

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, A. Bowker) that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of the change in governance for the Institute of African Studies, as presented, with effect from July 1, 2026.

The motion **PASSED**.

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, A. Bowker) that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the name change of the Institute of Interdisciplinary Studies to the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, as presented with effect from July 1, 2026.

The motion **PASSED**.

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, A. Bowker) that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of the governance change for the courses and programs in Canadian Studies, as presented with effect from July 1, 2026.

It was noted that the School of Canadian Studies will be disestablished as a separate academic unit, and its faculty members will be appointed to the School for Studies in Art & Culture, where Canadian Studies will form a fourth sub-unit alongside Music, Film and Art/Architectural History. A Senator registered their regret and concern with the optics of the lack of a Canadian Studies department or institute at a university in the nation's capital. Another Senator noted that the documentation for this item should be corrected to indicate that there was one abstention in the vote at the departmental level.

The motion **PASSED**.

Major Modifications:

Program Closure

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, M. DeRosa) that Senate approve the closure of the BSc and BScH in Integrated Science as presented with effect from Fall 2027.

Discussion: A Senator asked for more context on the enrolment piece for this decision. In response it was noted that when the integrated science program was redesigned, the intention was to approximate enrolments in institutions with similar programs, which ranged from 50 – 100 students annually. When this did not occur, additional rebranding work was undertaken that also had no impact on enrolment. The unit has decided to refocus on Masters programs, for students to gain these extra skills once they have a foundation in Science via their undergraduate studies.

The motion **PASSED**.

Deletion of Minor

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, A. Bowker) that Senate approve deletion of the minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, as presented with effect from Fall 2027.

A Senator asked why the minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies is being deleted, when the enrolments in the courses for these minors remains large enough to offer them. Dean Bowker of FASS responded that there is no major in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and with the minor, the courses still need to be offered every year. Without the minor, the courses can still be offered, but Faculties will have more flexibility in deciding when to offer them. Dean Bowker added that most of the instructors for these courses are in FPGA, not FASS.

The motion **PASSED**.

Direct Entry to PhD in Linguistics

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, B. McLeod) that Senate approve the major modification to the PHD program in Linguistics as presented with effect from Fall 2026.

SCCASP Chair Mendeloff noted that the modification would allow a direct entry PhD option for exceptional students entering from a Bachelor's Degree, and also a Fast-Track option for a small number of MA students to transition to a PhD after completing the coursework component of the MA.

The motion **PASSED**.

Modification – Co-op Option

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, R. Miller) that Senate approve the major modification to the MENG Engineering Practice program as presented with effect from Fall 2026.

It was noted that this modification replaces the current practicum with a co-op option, along with regulations to govern the new co-op option.

A Senator asked if the co-op program is potentially suffering from a lack of administrative support. VPSE Suzanne Blanchard responded that the financial model for coop is to increase support as the number of students increase and as need arises. It is a self-funded model, and the situation is assessed each year.

The motion **PASSED**.

Cyclical Review

It was **MOVED** (D. Mendeloff, M. DeRosa) that Senate approve the Final Assessment Report and Executive Summary arising from the Cyclical Program Review of the Undergraduate Programs in Computer Science.

The motion **PASSED**.

Item for Information:

Senate was presented with a memo confirming the extension for one additional cycle of the suspended program admissions for the minors in German, Korean, Russian and Chinese. It was noted that the suspension began in 2025, not 2005 as was indicated in the memo. This item was provided for information and there was no discussion from Senators.

8. Update from Ad Hoc Committee on the Academic Integrity Policy

The Chair introduced Professor Donald Russell, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Academic Integrity Policy, who provided a summary of the committee's activities and an update on the current status of the policy.

The process of reviewing the policy began approximately two years ago in the Fall of 2024, and was triggered in part by the restructuring of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs. Senate approved the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Academic Integrity Policy to revise the policy as needed, to include new procedures related to academic integrity violations at the graduate level, and also to incorporate additional language related to the increased use of artificial intelligence.

Since the Fall of 2024, the committee has met twenty times, has thoroughly reviewed the policy twice, and has consulted with a number of stakeholders including student groups, Carleton's General Counsel, the University Registrar, Corporate Archivist, and others.

Some of the changes to the policy being proposed by the committee include:

- The creation of a new Senate Committee on Academic Integrity. This committee would have a number of responsibilities and would actively monitor the policy for future revisions.
- A number of steps to protect students from unacceptable delays in resolving their cases. These include a process to dismiss cases after 8 months, and for students to petition to dismiss a case due to unreasonable delay.
- Addition of language related to artificial intelligence
- Revision of procedures section for greater clarity
- Revision of petitions section and the addition of petition for removal of transcript notation, and petition to rescind expulsion
- Expansion of records section for more comprehensive discussion of types of records, and to ensure compliance with FIPPA and Carleton University retention policies.
- Addition of a clause related to professional programs at Carleton.
- A new numbering system and general edits throughout to clarify language.

The current draft policy has been reviewed by the initial stakeholder group, and will shortly be sent to the Provost and Deans for feedback. Once the committee receives this feedback and has made further edits, if needed, to the policy, it will be brought to Senate for review, discussion, and eventually approval.

The Chair thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for their work on the policy and invited questions from Senators.

A Senator asked if there would be an option for instructors to appeal decisions made by Deans on academic integrity cases. The Ad Hoc Committee Chair responded that the committee felt that academic integrity interactions should continue to be between the Dean and the student, and not between the faculty member and student.

Another Senator spoke against the automatic dismissal of cases due to delay. They challenged the assumption that the large volume of cases in some Faculties is due, in part, to professors submitting too many cases. They listed a number of instances in which students have cheated in exams with new technologies; the Senator asked if faculty members could have more power to advance cases like these in a streamlined fashion, particularly where the academic integrity violation is well known and documented. In response, it was noted that the long delay in resolving cases is a relatively recent phenomenon related to Covid, and that the changes in the policy should encourage Deans and Faculties to move forward more quickly on cases. It was also noted that Carleton has chosen to manage the academic integrity process centrally, rather than allowing individual faculty members to decide on cases, and that the committee did not see a need to change this approach.

In response to another question, the Ad Hoc Committee Chair confirmed that Carleton does currently implement an accelerated process in cases where the Dean feels the evidence is clear and strong that an academic integrity offence has occurred.

A Senator asked how the policy deals with the increased use of artificial intelligence and its large impact on academic integrity. In response it was noted that the ways in which artificial intelligence is used vary considerably from Faculty to Faculty and from program to program. The committee felt it was also important not to use language in the policy referring to specific technologies that would be out of date in a few years. Therefore the policy clarifies in general language that using artificial intelligence when you shouldn't is

a violation of the policy. The Ad Hoc Committee Chair added that this is not solely an academic integrity issue, but involves teaching and pedagogical approaches as well.

A Senator asked a question related to the Ontario Guidelines on Research and Artificial Intelligence informed by the Council on Graduate Studies considerations. The Ad Hoc Committee Chair responded that these issues are very broad and not in scope for the current policy.

In response to another question, the Ad Hoc Committee Chair clarified that Deans are free to consult within their faculty boards once they receive the policy, and Senators are welcome to engage with the policy when it comes to Senate in future meetings.

The Chair reminded Senators that there is not yet a “final” version of the policy, and the information provided in the current meeting was for information only. It was also noted that the Ad Hoc Committee will disband at the end of June, and Senate will need to determine who will be in charge of editing the policy further after that point.

The Chair thanked Senators for their engagement and input and the Ad Hoc Committee Chair for the report.

9. Reports for Information

The following reports were submitted for information:

- a) Senate Executive Committee minutes (March 17, 2026)

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

10. Other Business

No other business was identified.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned (E. Gray, G. Wainer) at 3:44 pm.