

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-PROVOST ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

2023 - 2024

Annual Report

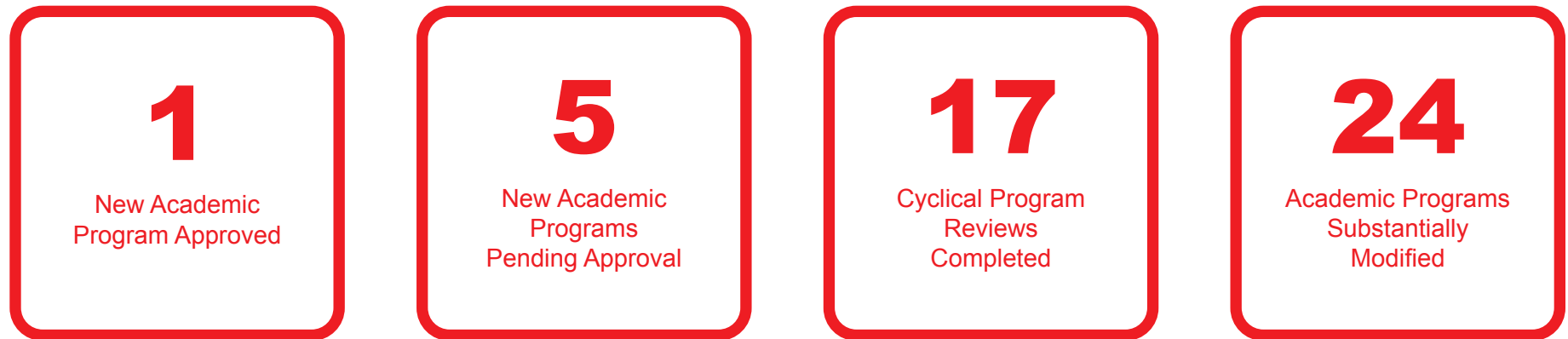




The Office of the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic) provides leadership and oversight for two units: Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives, and Teaching and Learning Services. The office prioritizes student success by fostering a culture of pedagogical innovation and excellence, and continuous improvement of Carleton's academic programs.

I. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

The Office of the Vice-Provost is responsible for the academic quality assurance process of the university. The Office works closely with academic units in preparing proposals for new program development, modifications to existing programs, changes to program governance, and supporting the cyclical review of academic offerings.



The university's Institutional Quality Assurance Process fosters a culture of continuous improvement of our academic offerings. All academic programs are reviewed on a seven-year basis. The review is an opportunity for faculty, students, and staff to come together and identify program strengths and areas for improvement.

Major modifications to academic programs are usually undertaken to reflect the ongoing evolution of the discipline, implement the outcomes of a cyclical program review, facilitate enhancement in teaching and learning strategies, or respond to the changing needs of students, society and industry.

In addition to supporting these processes, Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives is engaged in ongoing orientation sessions and learning outcome and assessment workshops for academic units, reporting to the Quality Council of Ontario, and reviewing and processing of Dominican University College program modifications.

The Office recently completed its Quality Assurance audit site visit, conducted by the Quality Council.

The team was successful in obtaining a \$75,000 grant from the Ontario Council and Transfer (ONCAT) for the development of an institutional microcredentials' framework and guidelines.

I. TEACHING AND LEARNING SERVICES (TLS) BY THE NUMBERS

TLS strives to create an institutional culture that values, rewards and sustains engagement, innovation and excellence in teaching and learning. Our office promotes outcomes-oriented, experiential learning and high-impact teaching practices that foster deep, lifelong learning and student success.

In 2023-24 three TLS' units – Teaching Excellence & Innovation, Digital Learning, and Learning Spaces – worked to further advance faculty and TA development through workshops, communities of practices, individual consultations, digital learning, experiential learning, and multimedia and educational technology support.

Various initiatives, programs, and services – some of which are highlighted below – support TLS priorities:



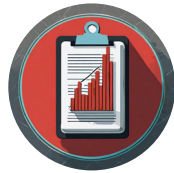
HIGHLIGHTS OF TLS ACTIVITIES

1. SELECTED INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

Carleton continues to be a leader in fostering collaboration between educators and students through its many programs. We offer opportunities to undergraduate students in teaching innovation, research, transferable skills development, and experiential learning. Student partnerships help build meaningful academic relationships that promote trust and engagement.

209

NEW SaPP
& I-CUREUS
PROJECTS



537

STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED IN
FUSION



293

EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING HUB
CREATION SUITES
(XR) BOOKINGS

FUSION Skills Development

The FUSION Skills Development initiative is a self-directed online learning experience that bridges academic and employability skills to educate the next generation of citizen scholars. The program enhances student skill development in several areas critical to 21st-century success and leadership: metacognition, communication, problem-solving, collaboration, inclusivity, adaptability, and self-management.

TLS was successful in obtaining \$2.8M through the competitive process from Economic and Social Development Canada (ESDC), which will be used to implement six new FUSION modules, and also introduce new partnerships with industry leaders IBM, Ericsson, and Ross Video.

Experiential Learning: SaPP & I-CUREUS

209 students participated in the I-CUREUS and Students as Partners (SaPP) programs. I-CUREUS provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to conduct hands-on, faculty-supervised research, while SaPP fosters greater collaboration between instructors and students in developing and designing courses.

Experiential Learning Hub (ELH)

Carleton's Experiential Learning Hub (ELH), launched in October 2023, is a state-of-the-art facility located in Southam Hall that brings students

and instructors together to engage and experiment with extended reality (XR) educational technologies. The creation of this space was possible in part to a \$2 million investment from the province's Training Equipment and Renewal Fund (TERF 2), matched by the university. The Hub includes three new studios to support experiential learning through the use and development of XR media with tools and support provided in part by the Future Skills XR Grant in partnership with EON Reality.

Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund (CUELF)

\$87,931 in funding was distributed through the Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund (CUELF) to create and enhance 27 course- and program-level projects in 2023-24. The projects will provide Carleton students with real-world experiences and range from replacing traditional biochemistry teaching labs with a semester-long course-based undergraduate research experience, using arts-based methods to navigate difficult topics in the Race and Ethnicity course, converting vision-based data collected in situ in the aftermath of Turkey's earthquakes to a virtual reality environment for structural, conservation, and architectural engineering students, bringing journalism students to First Nations communities to examine restorative justice initiatives, and developing students' leadership skills through a social enterprise activity that provides free clothing and household items to students to help their transition to Ottawa.

Pathy Foundation Fellowship Partnership

In September 2023 Carleton University joined the Pathy Foundation Fellowship, a yearlong community-focused experiential learning opportunity aimed to develop active and effective change-makers while creating positive social change in communities around the world. In the first year of the partnership between the university and the Pathy Foundation, two exceptional graduates, **Ravia Dhaliwal** from the Faculty of Arts and Social Science, and **Chidera Onyegbule**, from the Faculty of Science, joined a national network of leaders and changemakers as recipients of this prestigious community-development fellowship program.

CityStudio Ottawa

TLS supports the CityStudio Ottawa initiative that brings together students, faculty, city staff, and community members to co-create innovative solutions for urban challenges. By working on real projects that address the City of Ottawa's Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan, students gain hands-on experience while contributing to the community's health, safety, and inclusiveness. During the reporting period, instructors from six courses were matched with city projects to

meaningfully engage students in civic issues directly relevant to where they live and study.

Collaborative Indigenous Bundles

The Bundles have been designed as both a resource for instructors and a learning tool for students to use in the classroom. This year, 9,487 students learned from Indigenous academics and Knowledge Keepers through the Bundles incorporated in their coursework.

In collaboration with the Associate Vice-President, Indigenous Teaching, Learning, and Research, we were successful in obtaining \$250,000 from the Ontario Ministry of Colleges and Universities for a project that will create a virtual Indigenous Learning Place using immersive digital media and XR.



HIGHLIGHTS OF TLS ACTIVITIES

2. SELECTED INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT **TEACHING INNOVATION**

838

UNIQUE
FACULTY AND
CIs ENGAGED
WITH TLS



1,797

TAs ATTENDED
PEDAGOGICAL
WORKSHOPS



104

EDUCATIONAL
WORKSHOPS
HOSTED

220

COURSES
REDESIGNED

Professional Development & Support

TLS continues to support the professional development of Carleton's teaching community through workshops, individual consultations, and community of practices. In 2023-24, 559 unique faculty members and 279 unique contract instructors participated in 104 teaching events.

TLS organized several university-wide, symposium-like events that were open to educators from peer institutions. They were attended by 626 participants, including educators from CarletonU, NipissingU, UGuelph, UViC, WesternU, Fanshawe and Algonquin colleges, and federal government.

TLS also offered pedagogical training for teaching assistants. 1,797 TAs attended synchronous training sessions, while 1,987 TAs enrolled in TA Central Hub, our Brightspace learning portal for TAs to watch pre-recorded training videos, access resource materials and share resources related to teaching.

Future Learning Innovation Fellowship

Future Learning Innovation Fellowship supports faculty members and instructors in the exploration and implementation of new and innovative teaching and learning practices. In 2023-24, there were 10 recipients of the Fellowship, who will develop and pilot their innovative teaching and learning projects. All the selected projects highlight the use of emerging technologies to solve teaching and learning challenges. They include the use of virtual and augmented reality-aided instruction, the introduction of artificial intelligence tools in teaching and learning, and the applications of learning analytics to enhance students' academic success.

Course Re-Design and Transformation Projects

TLS provides support for instructors and academic units interested in re-designing courses in which students and instructors may face significant challenges. During the reporting period, there were 220 projects aimed at improving student engagement through the enhancement of course teaching and assessment activities, as well as the development of university-wide modules on Human Rights, Responsible Conduct in Research, Accessible Design Pedagogy, and Academic Integrity Modules.

Supporting Digital Needs

During the year, 2,821 unique clients (instructors, TAs, staff, students) contacted the Digital Learning team to get help with educational technology tools. The tools supported include Brightspace learning management system, cuPortfolio, Wooclap and Poll Everywhere student response systems, and Kaltura for recording and publishing of videos.

Technology Loan Program

TLS continues to offer a technology-lending program, to help faculty members and TAs with their teaching tasks and pedagogical experimentation with various tools, such as tablets, webcams, headsets, and document cameras. 850 faculty members, contract instructors and teaching assistants borrowed various pieces of equipment during 2023-24.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TLS ACTIVITIES

3. SELECTED INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Teaching Awards

TLS continues to engage the university community in promoting teaching excellence by providing advice and support to instructors applying for various teaching awards, maintaining an online database of Carleton University's teaching award recipients, administering the Outstanding TA Award, and working closely with instructors who were awarded the Carleton University Chair in Teaching Innovation.

Recipients of Carleton University's Teaching Awards:

- Provost's Fellowship in Teaching Award: **Aaron Doyle** (Department of Sociology and Anthropology), and **Katie Lucas** (Institute of Environmental and Interdisciplinary Science)
- New Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award: **Matthew Pearson** (School of Journalism and Communication), **Laura Pickell** (Department of Health Sciences), and **Fateme Rajabiyazdi** (Department of Systems and Computer Engineering)
- Excellence in Learning Support Award: **Larry Thompson** (MacOdrum Library).

Carleton University Chairs in Teaching Innovation

The Carleton University Chair in Teaching Innovation was established to assist in achieving our institutional commitment to teaching, learning and innovation. Professor **Brian Greenspan** (Department of English Language and Literature and the College of the Humanities) has been named 2024 CU Chair in Teaching Innovation for his commitment to student success and novel approach to digital storytelling.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

TLS encourages instructors to engage with the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), as the practice of reflection and research-led approaches to teaching are integral to a quality educational experience for both instructors and students.

Seven Carleton's instructors were awarded the TLS SoTL and Teaching Development Grant for diverse projects that include the explorations of the extended reality course in journalism, students' experiences with the AI tools, and assessing students' co-op experiences. Several grant recipients, as well as other educators and TLS staff members disseminated their scholarly work and authored two books, and nine peer-reviewed journal articles.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TLS ACTIVITIES

4. SELECTED INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING SPACES

Classroom Renewals

In the reporting period, 22 classrooms were renewed despite the restricted capital funds in 2023 and 2024.

Classroom Orientations

TLS team received 3,831 classroom support requests, as well as pre-class check ins and classroom orientation sessions during the reporting period.

Events Support

Our team supported 498 campus-wide events, including convocation, Carleton University Jazz Camp, meetings of the Senate and the Board of Governors, and performances in the Kailash Mital Theatre.

