

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

Annual Report



About Us

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.



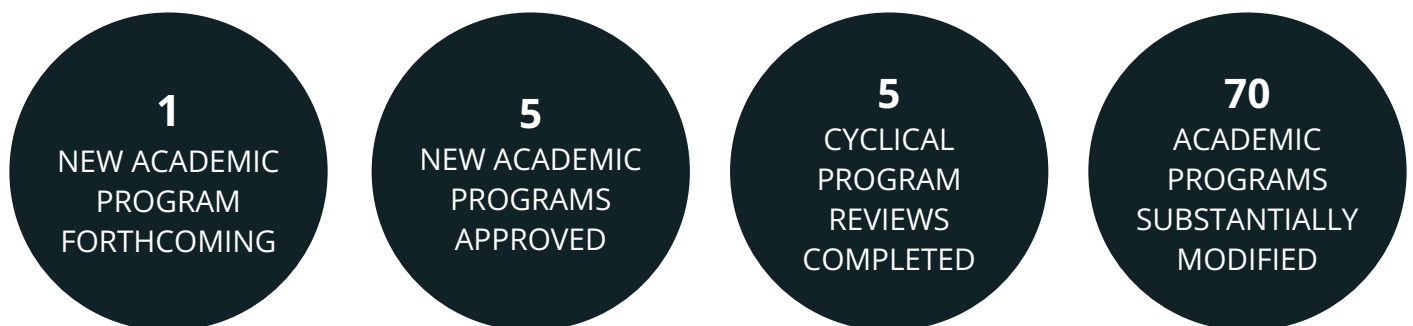
**\$1.425
MILLION
IN NEW
FUNDING**

In 2024-25, the OVPAPPA contributed directly to the university receiving \$1.425 million dollars in new funding to support teaching and learning:

- \$1 million from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities' Training Equipment and Renewal Fund to acquire instructional equipment for Carleton's new nursing program
- \$350,000 from Employment and Social Development Canada to support the FUSION Skills Development Fund
- \$75,000 from ONCAT to develop a micro-credential framework

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 instructors, 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. During the reporting period, Senate approved the several new minors, specializations, streams and concentrations, including a new stream in Artificial Intelligence in Software Engineering, as well as the introduction of a new Undergraduate Certificate in Journalism in Indigenous Communities.

Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives secured \$75,000 in funding from ONCAT and recently completed the development of a micro-credential framework. This project will help ensure consistency in quality of Carleton's micro-credential offerings, and help the university expand its activities in this area.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SERVICES BY THE NUMBERS

Teaching and Learning Services (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.

Various initiatives, programs and services – some of which are highlighted in this report – support the department's priorities of:

STUDENT
SUCCESS

PEDAGOGICAL
INNOVATION

TEACHING
EXCELLENCE

WELCOMING
AND
INCLUSIVE
LEARNING
SPACES



STUDENT SUCCESS

156

NEW SAPP, I-CUREUS AND CITYSTUDIO PROJECTS

771

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN FUSION

949

STUDENTS WITH VR AND XR EXPERIENCE

FUSION Skills Development

FUSION is a series of skill-specific, self-directed online learning modules that aim to bridge academic and employability skills to educate the next generation of citizen scholars. This year, TLS launched modules on three new topics, including AI and digital literacy. These modules will be integral in preparing students for this time of rapid technological change – they will teach them how to identify accurate information online, manage their digital footprint and use AI effectively and ethically.

TLS also secured \$350,000 funding from Employment and Social Development Canada to support the FUSION Skills Development Fund. The fund provided instructors with support to incorporate a FUSION module into their summer and fall 2025 courses.

CityStudio Ottawa

TLS supports the CityStudio Ottawa initiative that brings students, faculty, city staff, and community members together 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, students from 12 courses were given the opportunity to work on city projects and engage in civic issues directly relevant to where they live and study, such as water amenities mapping, resource mapping and identifying underserved communities for OC Transpo.



Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundles

The Bundles are both a resource for instructors and a learning tool for students to use in the classroom. This year, 5,896 students learned from Indigenous academics and Knowledge Keepers through the Bundles incorporated in their coursework.

There are 16 Bundles available to the Carleton community. They cover topics that range from Indigenous sciences to Indigenous Peoples' relationships with lands and waters. Three more Bundles that focus on astronomy, engineering and plant biology are currently in development and are set to be released in 2025. To date, the Bundles have been used in more than 550 courses at Carleton.

SaPP and I-CUREUS

TLS provided over \$200,000 in funding to support 62 participants in the Students as Partners Program (SaPP) and 82 in the Internship-Carleton University Research Experience for Undergraduate Students (I-CUREUS). These two programs provide opportunities for students to develop and apply new skills, impact teaching and research, and enhance their employability. In April, participants attended the I-CUREUS and SaPP Showcase to share their projects with the Carleton community, from exploring outdoor learning in Canadian schools to incorporating neurodiverse perspectives into teaching about dyslexia.



Experiential Learning Hub

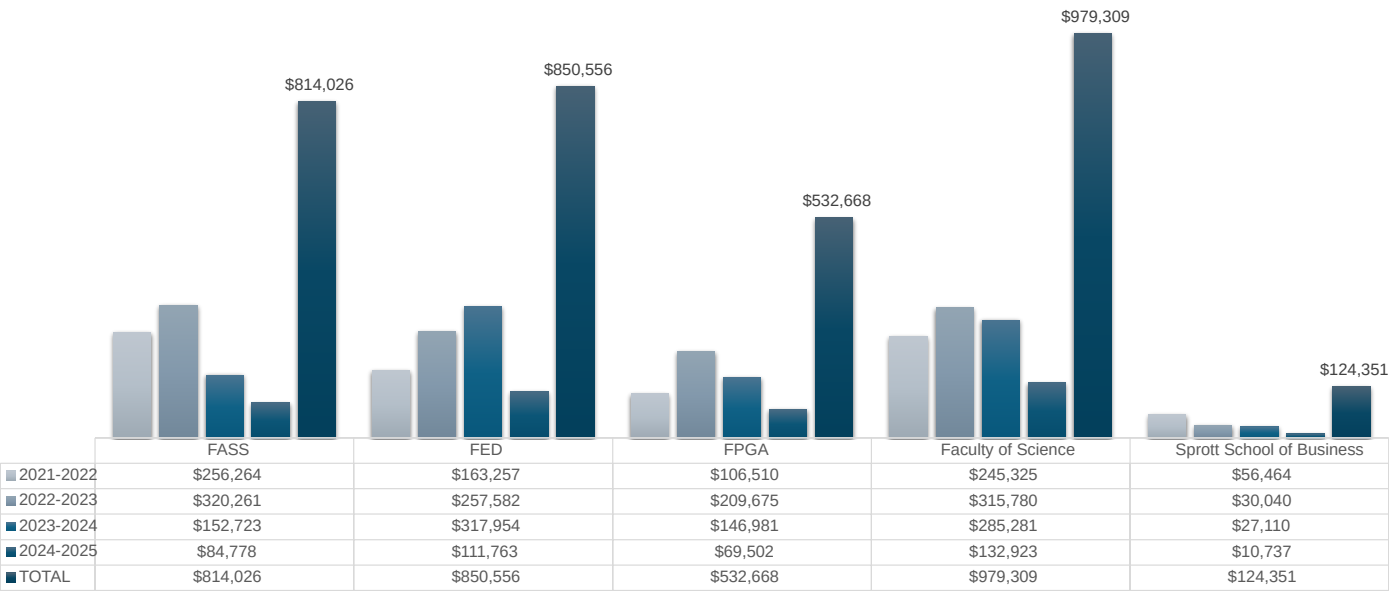
Carleton's Experiential Learning Hub, launched in fall 2023, is a state-of-the-art facility located in Southam Hall that brings students and instructors together to engage with extended reality (XR) educational technologies. Instructors have taken advantage of the hub to incorporate XR activities across 40 courses during the fall and winter terms, giving 949 students experience with these technologies.

Through XR, students have been able to explore things that were otherwise inaccessible, such as the underground infrastructure of the stormwater facilities at Pearson International Airport, or the electron transport chain process inside a plant cell, something that cannot be seen under a microscope. Other VR experiences simulated age-related vision loss symptoms so students could better understand the diseases that they were studying.

ENABLING EDUCATORS



Over the past four years, the Office of the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic) has awarded more than \$3 million in internal grants to support a diverse array of teaching initiatives.



PEDAGOGICAL INNOVATION

Indigenous Immersive Learning Experiences

Led by Associate Vice-President Indigenous Teaching, Learning and Research, Kahente Horn-Miller, the Carleton Immersive Media Studio (CIMS) and TLS have developed the Indigenous Virtual Learning Space. This virtual reality experience enables students to interact and learn in an environment that was purposefully designed to support Indigenous pedagogies, with the goal of making these pedagogies more accessible to a broader audience. This initiative was funded through a successful application to Ministry of Colleges and Universities' Training Equipment and Renewal Fund.

Also in collaboration with Prof. Horn-Miller, CIMS, and TLS's New Media produced a photogrammetry model and accompanying 360-degree video experience of a Seneca Bark Longhouse at Ganondagan. The experience provides learners the opportunity to virtually visit an authentic Seneca Longhouse and learn from Knowledge Keepers.



HOME

Supported by the TLS Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant and in-kind new media training and production, Prof. Manjeet Birk (Feminist Institute of Social Transformation) produced an engaging 360-degree virtual reality experience called HOME. The immersive short film forms part of her teaching strategy to enhance problem-based learning in her Critical Race Studies class. Beyond just the VR experience, Prof. Birk is studying the impact her video has on learning and student engagement in understanding race, racism and oppression.



Digital Nursing: XR and Simulation Training Initiative

TLS and the Faculty of Science received \$1 million through the Ministry of Colleges and Universities' Training Equipment and Renewal Fund (TERF) to acquire instructional equipment for Carleton's new nursing program. These funds will enable the Faculty of Science to establish advanced nursing simulation labs, which will include XR, high fidelity manikins and task trainers. This marks Carleton's and TLS's fourth consecutive application to TERF, totalling more than \$3.25 million in funding over the last four years. Previous TERF funds have supported the creation of the Future Learning Lab, the Experiential Learning Hub and the Indigenous Virtual Learning Space.

Future Learning Innovation Fellowship

The Future Learning Innovation Fellowship supports faculty members and instructors in the exploration and implementation of new and innovative teaching and learning practices. Five new fellowships were awarded in 2024-25. All five fellows – Kevin Cheung (Mathematics and Statistics), Rick Colbourne (Business), Vicky McArthur (Journalism and Communication), Brenda Morris (Social Work) and Brian Strong (Linguistics and Language Studies) – are applying artificial intelligence to address teaching and learning problems. The fellows received funding and priority support from TLS and will share their work with colleagues across the university once their projects have been completed.

Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund (CUELF)

\$56,750 in funding was distributed through the Carleton University Experiential Learning Fund (CUELF) to create and enhance 15 course- and program-level projects in 2024-25. The projects will provide Carleton students with real-world experiences and range from creating innovative laboratories to develop the skills for a career in biomedical engineering, to providing earth science students with hands-on field exercises, to engaging students in producing a community archive that makes queer history in the capital more visible.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

488

**UNIQUE
INSTRUCTORS
PARTICIPATED
IN TLS EVENTS**

2,117

**TAs
ATTENDED
PEDAGOGICAL
WORKSHOPS**

112

**EDUCATIONAL
EVENTS
HOSTED**

Professional Development and Support

TLS continues to support the professional development of Carleton's teaching community through workshops, individual consultations and community of practices. In 2024-25, 303 unique faculty members and 185 unique contract instructors participated in 112 teaching events.

TLS also offered pedagogical training for teaching assistants. 2,117 TAs attended synchronous training sessions, while 2,253 TAs enrolled in the TA Central Hub, our Brightspace learning portal that features pre-recorded training videos and resources related to teaching.

During the reporting period 501 instructors used our exam processing services. In total, we processed 807 batches of exams.

Supporting Digital Needs

During the year, 3,386 unique clients (instructors, librarians, teaching assistants, and staff) contacted TLS to get help with educational technology tools. Supported enterprise tools include Brightspace, Zoom, cuPortfolio, Wooclap, H5P and Kaltura.

Enterprise Educational Technology Leadership

TLS extended the licence for its core enterprise educational technology, D2L's Brightspace Learning Management System (LMS) for an additional five years, providing stability, cost certainty to the university and access to new student-centred tools, including FeedbackFruits. This large suite of tools includes features such as peer review, group member evaluation and interactive video.

Online Teaching and Learning

TLS worked on 32 online projects, including enhancing existing courses, developing new online modules, and working on courses for the new online MSc in Mineral Exploration program. The team designed templates for the upcoming programs in Nursing, Global Affairs, and Online BA. In addition, the team completed special projects that involved creating online training for the University of Ghana and the 360° Longhouse. Meanwhile, our New Media team finished 71 multimedia projects to enrich online academic offerings.



Teaching Awards

Carleton University Teaching Awards

These awards recognize teaching excellence, leadership and innovation. In 2024-25, five instructors and one learning support staff member were honoured across three award categories.

Achievement Awards

These awards are presented in recognition of the research and teaching distinction of Carleton's academic staff. This year 26 instructors and researchers were honoured across the five award categories.

Raving Ravens

This initiative provides an avenue for students to thank educators who have made an impact on their experience at Carleton. During the reporting period, 96 students sent a thank you messages to 80 unique professors, librarians and learning support staff.

WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING SPACES

Classroom Renewals

In the reporting period, 28 classrooms and departmental rooms had minor technological updates, reflective of the restricted capital funds environment in 2024-25.

Classroom Orientations

Our Learning Spaces support team received 3,806 urgent classroom support and classroom orientation requests.

Events Support

Our team supported and technically produced 347 campus-wide events, including high impact hybrid events such as convocation, Dr. Wisdom Tettey's Welcome event, and the Nursing Program announcement, which was attended by the Premier of Ontario. The team also supported music ensembles and graduation recitals, and other performances in the Kailash Mital Theatre.

