

February Newsletter

Top Stories This Month



Carleton Receives \$1 Million to Modernize Classrooms and Enhance AI Literacy

Carleton University will update and modernize its classrooms and enhance AI literacy across campus amongst faculty, staff and students thanks to \$1 million in funding from the Government of Ontario.

The investment from the province's Training Equipment and Renewal Fund (TERF) will improve learning spaces at Carleton and allow the university to acquire new educational technology, including AI tools and equipment that enhance AI literacy and hands-on learning.

By leveraging the latest technology and state-of-the-art learning spaces, the project will support leading-edge research and curriculum innovation, while equipping learners with digital literacy skills to prepare them for in-demand careers.

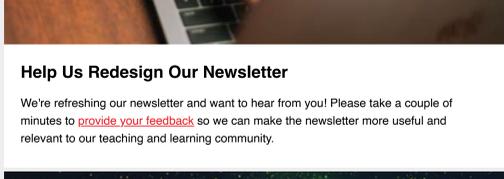
The classroom upgrades will happen over the summer and be ready in fall 2026.

This marks Carleton's fifth consecutive successful application to TERF, totaling more than \$4.25 million in funding over the last five years. Previous TERF funds have supported the creation of the [Future Learning Lab](#), the [Experiential Learning Hub](#), Indigenous Virtual Learning Spaces ([wa'otisi'qwa'to' \(she dropped in for a short while\)](#)) and [Tsi tewaterweistahkwa \(a place where we learn\)](#) and helped equip Carleton's nursing program with advanced high-fidelity simulation, XR resources and learning aids.



Announcing the 2025-26 Future Learning Innovation Fellowship Recipients

Teaching and Learning Services is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2025-26 [Future Learning Innovation Fellowship](#). The recipients are focused on integrating immersive technology, such as digital storytelling, mixed reality and 360-degree video, into their courses to address teaching and learning challenges. Please join us in congratulating Manjeet Birk, Mehdi Eshaghi, Eva Kartchava, Mike Murphy, Lama Mourad and Jesse Stewart. [Learn more about their individual projects.](#)



Help Us Redesign Our Newsletter

We're refreshing our newsletter and want to hear from you! Please take a couple of minutes to [provide your feedback](#), so we can make the newsletter more useful and relevant to our teaching and learning community.



New Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundle Now Available

A new Collaborative Indigenous Learning Bundle is available! [Kitikisik \(Great Sky\): Indigenous Star Knowledge](#) delves into how Indigenous knowledge systems understand and interpret space, the energy from stars and the possibility of extraterrestrial life. Featuring videos of Dr. Hilding Neilson, Wilfred Buck and Dr. Uahikea Maile, this Bundle also examines the impact of colonization on Indigenous astronomical practices. [Learn more about using any of the 17 Bundles in your course.](#)



Nominate a Student for a Provost Scholar Award

Faculty are invited to [submit nominations for the 2026 Provost Scholar Award](#). One award, valued at \$500 per faculty, is given to outstanding undergraduate students who exemplify student engagement by excelling in at least two of the following areas: community engagement, international learning experience, immersive learning or undergraduate research. The deadline for submitting is Feb. 23.

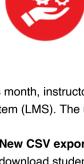


Update on the Assign2 Pilot

The [Assign2 pilot](#) is exploring a potential replacement for Scantron in processing paper-based multiple-choice exams. The fall 2025 term included five instructors whose feedback is shaping the assessment of the tool and related processes.

A cross-campus project team is supporting the pilot, with representation from TLS, [Scheduling and Examination Services](#), the [Paul Menton Centre](#), [The Print Shop](#), [Information Technology Services](#) and instructors. Feedback gathered during the pilot is shared with the vendor and informs the ongoing evaluation.

The pilot is continuing this term, with a decision on potential adoption planned for spring 2026. The earliest that we anticipate a possible complete transition to a new platform would be fall 2027. [Read more.](#)



Educational Technology Updates

This month, instructors will notice a few updates to Carleton's Learning Management System (LMS). The updates to Brightspace include:

- **New CSV export options for the Classlist:** A new "Export" button allows you to download student details directly to a CSV file for easier offline management.
- **In-line images for announcement emails:** If you include in-line images in an announcement, they will now appear directly in the body of the notification email sent to students. Previously, only file attachments were visible in these emails.
- **Class progress label changes:** We have tweaked a language setting in Brightspace. In the class progress reports, the column previously titled "Logins" has been updated to "Logins (Last 30 Days)" to clear up any potential confusion about the data being presented.

Brightspace Accessibility Review

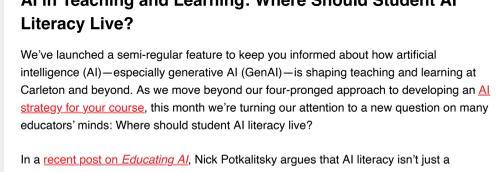
Brightspace's latest annual audit against [WCAG standards](#) has resulted in significant usability improvements for Brightspace and the Pulse app. These updates enhance support for assistive technologies by refining focus behaviour, contrast and navigation; any remaining limitations are documented in their public [accessibility reports](#).

Classlist: CSV Export and Improved Printing

- **Export to CSV:** A new "Export" button allows instructors to download student details (e.g. student name, student email, student number, group membership) directly to a CSV file for easier offline management.
- **Enhanced Printing:** The "Print" option now includes user pronouns and specific course details to provide better context for your physical records.

Learning Design and Technology Support

We've expanded our drop-in support hours! Drop by the Future Learning Lab (located on the fourth floor of the MacOdrum Library) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon with your questions. Not able to drop in? Feel free to reach out via the [TLS Support Portal](#). Our team is here to help.



AI in Teaching and Learning: Where Should Student AI Literacy Live?

We've launched a semi-regular feature to keep you informed about how artificial intelligence (AI)—especially generative AI (GenAI)—is shaping teaching and learning at Carleton and beyond. As we move beyond our four-pronged approach to developing an [AI strategy for your course](#), this month we're turning our attention to a new question on many educators' minds: Where should student AI literacy live?

In a [recent post on Educating AI](#), Nick Potkalitsky argues that AI literacy isn't just a technical skill—it's a critical thinking competency. He offers a compelling and nuanced analysis of the current state of AI literacy in schools, whereby institutions are looking to two distinct models of AI literacy. The isolation model puts AI literacy education in designated spaces whereas the distribution model empowers each educator to integrate AI literacy into their field. Potkalitsky's proposed solution is a hybrid model that combines coordination with contextualization.

Why is AI literacy important? AI content—or [AI Slop, as it's begun to be called](#)—is pervasive. Students are learning from AI tools directly, whether schools teach it or not. AI literacy isn't about teaching students how to use AI, per se, but rather helping them develop critical thinking habits that transcend contexts. Within the realm of academia, this must be paired with learning literacy; that is, students need to know how their exposure to, and use of, AI impacts their learning within each field and course.

Avoiding AI is not neutral. Educators who ignore AI are still shaping students' understanding—often in problematic ways. To quote Potkalitsky directly:

"The teachers who insist they won't 'do AI' in their classrooms aren't preserving their autonomy—they're surrendering it. When students bring AI-generated historical analysis to history class, the teacher who refuses to engage with its evaluation isn't avoiding AI literacy; they're teaching it implicitly. They're teaching students that AI-generated content doesn't warrant critical examination, that sources don't need verification, that the distinction between human and artificial reasoning doesn't matter. These aren't pedagogically neutral choices."

This sentiment resonates across higher education: as AI tools become more integrated into daily workflows, the challenge is no longer whether students use them, but how thoughtfully they do so.

Have something to share or a question about AI in your course? We want to hear from you! [Reach out to our team](#) with your ideas, challenges or success stories.

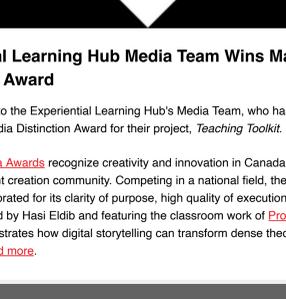


Classroom Quick Guides Now Available

Teaching and Learning Services has rolled out one-page quick guides in all teaching pool rooms. These guides are designed to help instructors:

- Quickly locate in-room equipment
- Troubleshoot the most common AV issues
- Access [extended troubleshooting resources](#) through QR codes that link to more detailed guides with images

We continue to provide live support for classroom technology needs Monday to Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. while classes are in session. Call 613-520-3815 or extension 3815 from the classroom phone.



Experiential Learning Hub Media Team Wins Maple Media Distinction Award

Congratulations to the Experiential Learning Hub's Media Team, who has been recognized with a Maple Media Distinction Award for their project, *Teaching Toolkit*.

The [Maple Media Awards](#) recognize creativity and innovation in Canada's higher education content creation community. Competing in a national field, the *Teaching Toolkit* project was celebrated for its clarity of purpose, high quality of execution and thoughtful design. Produced by Hasi Eidib and featuring the classroom work of [Prof. Peggy Hartwick](#), the video demonstrates how digital storytelling can transform dense theory into practical experience. [Read more.](#)

More News

- **New TA Pedagogical Training Catalogue:** Teaching and Learning Services offers a variety of paid pedagogical training workshops for teaching assistants. We've launched a new [online catalogue](#) that displays the workshops that are currently available. We encourage you to browse the offerings and to share this resource with your TAs.
- **Save the Date for InspireED 2026:** Teaching and Learning Services' InspireED symposium is happening on April 28 and our theme this year is relationship-rich education — the power of learning through meaningful connections. Together, we'll explore innovative ways of building relationships in an inspiring keynote, lively panel discussions, impressive project showcases and interactive workshops. Join us to connect, learn and be inspired. Want to stay in the know? Join the [InspireED mailing list!](#)
- **New In-Class Workshop on GenAI and Student Learning:** Discover how GenAI can support, rather than replace, deep learning. Join CSAS on Feb. 10 for an in-person session presenting their new GenAI and Student Learning workshop. Learn how CSAS helps students understand effective GenAI use, recognize its limitations and maintain academic integrity. All Carleton community members welcome. [Register here.](#)

Upcoming Events and Workshops

- [Assign2: Written Assignments](#), Feb. 5, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- [Assign2: Bubble Sheets for Multiple-Choice Questions](#), Feb. 10, 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- [Navigating Challenging Teaching Situations](#), Feb. 10, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- [FeedbackFruits: Group Member Evaluation](#), Feb. 12, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- [FeedbackFruits: Discussion on Topic](#), Feb. 25, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- [Welcome to My Classroom - Just Keep Swimming \(Together\) - Relationship-Building and Experimental Learning](#), Feb. 26, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
- [Welcome to My Classroom: Teaching with AI as a Technology of the Self](#), March 6, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- [FeedbackFruits: Discussion on Work](#), March 11, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Don't forget we host [drop-in sessions](#) every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the Future Learning Lab (room 483) from 10 a.m. to noon to help you with your course needs. Bring your laptop and any teaching-related questions you have.

Missed an event? Watch recorded sessions on our [Mediaspace channel](#).

[View all events](#)

Teaching and Learning Services
tl@carleton.ca, 613-520-2344
410 Dunton Tower
1125 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5B6

Need help? [Request a one-on-one consultation.](#)

