Faculty of Science
Strategic Plan 2013-2018
DEAN’S MESSAGE

Science helps us understand the natural world and forms the foundation of great invention and discovery.

In the Faculty of Science, we are committed to meeting the demands of tomorrow. We will shape the future by building on our strengths and embracing creative solutions to meet the needs of students, employers and society.

To see the complete Faculty of Science 2013-2018 plan, please visit uwaterloo.ca/science/about/strategic-plan.

I look towards our shared future with a great sense of pride and anticipation.

Terry McMahon, Dean of Science

“What’s happening here in Waterloo is truly special — a dedication to the kind of deep, fundamental science that will benefit generations to come.”
— STEPHEN HAWKING

MISSION
We shape the future by expanding understanding of the living and physical world and by empowering students with this knowledge.

VISION
As an integral part of Canada’s most innovative university, the Faculty of Science is a global leader for scientific teaching and research and a preferred destination for those seeking to engage in world-class discovery.
Strategic Priorities

Undergraduate and Graduate Education

Basic and Applied Research

Facilities and Infrastructure

Visibility, Reputation and Community
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES, GOALS AND**

**Undergraduate and Graduate Education**

*Provide a modern science education founded on academic excellence and an ethic of research and discovery*

Experience transforms learning. The Faculty of Science values hands-on education through laboratory-based courses, field work, clinical rotations and co-operative work terms. By prioritizing curriculum reviews, student entrepreneurship and transferable skills, we will ensure that Science students are prepared for rewarding and successful careers.

*Velocity Science founders Harry Gandhi (left) and Peter Hong are helping entrepreneurial Science students turn their ideas into businesses.*

**Facilities and Infrastructure**

*Create world-class research infrastructure within the Faculty of Science*

Current infrastructure significantly limits our research potential. Science needs the resources and support necessary to turn today’s impossibilities into tomorrow’s reality. New, world-class research facilities will unite our diverse expertise to find effective solutions for today’s challenges.

*Support our teaching with suitable and up-to-date physical resources*

One mission. One home. One Science. Located in the heart of campus, the new Science Teaching Complex (STC) will be the place where students engage and ideas collide. With infrastructure that reflects our world-class education, the STC will connect students in dynamic classrooms, state-of-the-art laboratories and vibrant social spaces.

*Science at Waterloo is leading Canada’s contribution to the international team responsible for building CCAT — the world’s largest single dish submillimetre telescope, located high in the Chilean Andes.*
Engaging with the public is a core learning component for upper-year optometry students as they gain real-world patient care experience.

Canada Excellence Research Chairholder Philippe Van Cappellen investigates the movement of nutrients and toxic metals in aquatic systems to study their impact on water quality and ecosystem health.

OBJECTIVES

Basic and Applied Research

Promote cutting-edge research of relevance to our society

Research changes lives. To increase the Faculty of Science’s global competitiveness, we will support our researchers in diversifying and building their collaborations. Strengthening our external communications and knowledge mobilization strategies will highlight our accomplishments and accelerate the transfer of research knowledge into practice, improving the lives of Canadians and the world.

Visibility, Reputation and Community

Grow our reputation and brand in order to increase future opportunities

A strong brand requires a clear vision. Our goal for Science at Waterloo is to be recognized as a global leader for discovery and academic excellence. To achieve this, we will aggressively promote our successes at local, provincial, national and international levels.

Foster an increased sense of common purpose, community and engagement

Science values its people and partnerships. To build relationships within our Science family, we will support and recognize our accomplishments. Giving back to the community is a priority and responsibility for Science. Our alumni, partners and community will help guide our initiatives, shape our future and define our legacy.

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FACULTY OF SCIENCE
The University of Waterloo Health Sciences Campus in downtown Kitchener is home to the School of Pharmacy and the satellite campus of the School of Optometry and Vision Science.

Science at Canada’s most innovative university...

4,688 undergraduate students
551 graduate students
$69.5M research support
14 Canada Research Chairholders
Canada’s only English-language School of Optometry
100 international exchange agreements in 80 countries
26,250 degrees conferred

Top five in Canada
» 2nd for Chemistry*
» 4th for Earth and Environmental Sciences†
» 4th for Physics and Astronomy†

*ARWU, 2013, †QS World University Rankings, 2013

universityofwaterloo.ca/science