

Senate Executive Committee

Open Session

January 12, 2026

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Needles Hall

NH 3308

Waterloo Campus

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2026 01 12 Senate Executive Committee Meeting Book

1. Governance Resources

[Link to Governance Resources](#)

2. OPEN SESSION

3:30 p.m.

3. Approval of the Minutes

3.1 Conflict of Interest	Information	3
3.2 Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Meeting	Decision	4
3.3 Business Arising from the Minutes	Information	

3:35 p.m.

4. Reports to the Senate Executive Committee

4.1 Senate Engagement Working Group Update	Information	7
4.2 Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee	Decision	8
4.3 SEC Mandate Review	Information	10

4:00 p.m.

5. Senate Agenda Preparation

5.1 Senate Work Plan 25/26	Information	16
5.2 Draft Senate Agenda for January 26, 2026	Decision	18

6. Other Business

Information

7. Adjournment

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate Executive Committee

From: Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary

Date of Meeting: January 12, 2026

Agenda Item: **3. Approval of Minutes and Business Arising**

3.1 Conflict of Interest

Members are invited to declare any conflicts related to the agenda at this time. Should a conflict of interest arise during discussion, members are asked to declare a conflict of interest as it arises.

The Secretariat can provide guidance regarding potential conflicts of interest in advance of or during the meeting.

3.2 Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025 Senate Executive Committee meeting, as distributed/amended.

Documentation Provided:

- Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Meeting

3.3 Business Arising from the Minutes

There are no items of business arising.

University of Waterloo
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Meeting
[in agenda order]

Present: Ashley Day (Secretary), Laura Deakin, Tom Duever (Acting Chair), Mark Ferro, Vikas Gupta, Nadine Ibrahim, Carol Ann MacGregor, Blake Madill, David Porreca, Rida Sayed, Mark Seasons

Resources/Guests: Nasser Abukhdeir, David DeVidi, Jenny Flager-George, Andrea Kelman, Tony Ly

Regrets: Vivek Goel, Damian Mikhail, Jessica Rindlisbacher, James Skidmore, Justin Wan

1. Approval of Minutes

1.1 Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.2. Minutes of the October 6, 2025 Meeting

No amendments were brought forward. A motion was heard to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 meeting. Porreca and Seasons. Carried.

1.3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Ashley Day, Associate University Secretary, provided an update on the status of the Senate Engagement Working Group. A Teams site has been created for the working group to be populated with environmental scans of the U15, recent senate survey data and analysis, and discussion questions to guide the working group's first two meetings to be scheduled for November and December.

No other matters of business arising were identified.

2. Remarks from the Chair

2.1. Remarks from the Chair

The Acting Chair, Tom Duever, noted he would be chairing the meeting in the Chair's absence.

3. Reports to the Senate Executive Committee

3.1. Senate Executive Committee Mandate Review

Day spoke to the memo provided in the meeting materials that notified the committee of the upcoming review of the Senate Executive Committee's (SEC) mandate and terms of reference. This review reflects the University's ongoing review of governance practices and follows recent reviews of other Senate standing committees and councils. The Secretariat will undertake an environmental scan of U15 comparator institutions and findings will be presented to SEC at its January 12, 2026 meeting for discussion and feedback. Members were invited to share any initial comments with the Secretariat for consideration.

3.2. Draft Proposal – Senate Alternative Credentials Committee

David DeVidi, Associate Vice-President, Academic (AVPA), provided an overview of the proposal to create a Senate Alternative Credentials Committee (SACC), as provided in the meeting materials. The [Credentials Framework Report](#) released in Spring 2024 recommended the creation of a new Senate committee to oversee the approval of alternative (non-credit) credentials. Alternative credentials are currently approved by the Alternative Credentials Approval Committee (ACAC), managed by the AVPA Office, but with an increased interest in offering these types of credentials, there is a need to more closely tie the approval process to Senate.

Discussion followed. Members provided feedback including that consideration be given to include an AFIW, student, or alumni member. The committee discussed appropriate next steps and that the proposal should move forward to Senate Undergraduate Council (SUC) and Senate Graduate Council (SGC) for additional consultation and feedback, consistent with the standard approach to the establishment or review of Senate committees and councils with oversight of academic programming, and matters related to graduate and undergraduate education. It is anticipated that both SUC and SGC will need to recommend that the proposal move forward to Senate.

3.3 Draft Proposal – Senate Academic Innovation Committee

Faculty Senator Nasser Mohieddin Abukhdeir, Associate Professor, Chemical Engineering, provided an overview of a proposal to create a Senate Academic Innovation Committee (SAIC), as provided in the meeting materials. In addition to the materials provided, Abukhdeir spoke to the potential inclusion of alternative credentials within the mandate of the SAIC. The rationale for the proposal is to create a standing committee of Senate that is formalized and collegial, provides a long-term solution where elected faculty and students can contribute their expertise, and potentially reduces the number of committees being created should alternative credentials be included in the SAIC terms of reference.

Discussion followed. Members provided feedback and recommendations on the proposal including the need to address areas of duplication with SUC and SGC, and the proposed Senate Alternative Credentials Committee. Members discussed other considerations such as positioning the SAIC as a subcommittee of SUC and SGC, whether such a committee be considered after the Academic Innovation Working Group completes its work in July 2025, and the potential inclusion of discussions of related work at the University such as Strategic Enrolment Management and strategic hubs like the Teaching Innovation Incubator.

Abukhdeir excused himself from the meeting.

The committee continued discussion of appropriate next steps and reached a consensus that the proposal should move forward to SUC and SGC for consultation and feedback, consistent with the standard approach to the establishment or review of Senate committees and councils with oversight of academic programming, and matters related to graduate and undergraduate education. It is anticipated that both SUC and SGC will need to recommend that the proposal move forward to Senate. Additionally, members recommended a memo with a fulsome rationale be included in the materials to SUC and SGC. Members also agreed that a summary of the discussion would be provided to Senate under the Report of the Senate Executive Committee.

4. Senate Agenda Preparation

4.1. Senate Work Plan 25/26

This item was provided for information only.

4.2. Draft Senate Agenda for November 24, 2025

The committee reviewed the draft Senate meeting book and discussed the main items on the regular and confidential agendas. A minor amendment to the minutes was received by the Secretariat. Members discussed the materials for proposed amendments to Policy 70 – Student Petitions and Grievances. It was noted that it had been quite some time since consultations took place with the Associate Deans and appropriate committees and councils of Senate, and that additional consultation would be beneficial to allow more time to put processes in place to support the proposed policy amendments. Members agreed that the item should be removed from the November Senate agenda and brought forward at a future date once consultations are completed.

Day spoke to a request from the Secretariat to add an item to the consent agenda for approval. The item would bring forward a recommendation to appoint a graduate student member to the University Committee on Student Appeals. This appointment would fill the final vacancy on the committee. Members agreed this item should be added to the November Senate agenda.

A motion was heard to approve the November 24, 2025 Senate agenda, as amended. Deakin and Porreca. Carried.

5. Other Business

No items of other business were identified.

6. Adjournment - ensure that the time of adjournment is noted

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m. It was noted that the next meeting of the Senate Executive Committee will be held on January 12, 2026, from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

November 12, 2025

Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate Executive Committee

From: Laura Deakin
Co-Chair, Senate Engagement Working Group

Date of Meeting: January 12, 2026

Agenda Item: **4.1 Senate Engagement Working Group Update**

Summary

Laura Deakin, Co-Chair of the Senate Engagement Working Group, will provide an update on the progress of the working group.

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate Executive Committee
From: Vivek Goel
President and Vice-Chancellor

Date of Meeting: January 12, 2026

Agenda Item: **4.2 Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee**

Recommendation/Motion

That the Senate Executive Committee recommend that Senate appoint the Senate Executive Committee to serve as the Chancellor Review Committee.

Background

Dr. Jagdeep Singh Bachher currently serves as the University of Waterloo's 12th [Chancellor](#). He is a triple alum of the University of Waterloo, having earned a Bachelor of Applied Science, Mechanical Engineering in 1993, a Master of Applied Science, Management Sciences in 1994, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Management Sciences in 2000.

As titular head of the University, Chancellor Bachher serves a key ambassador for the institution, building and nurturing relationships across the broader Waterloo community and advancing its mission provincially, nationally, and internationally in keeping with the Vision for Waterloo at 100. He presides over convocation ceremonies, conferring degrees, diplomas and certificates on graduating students, and serves as an inspiration to the community writ large.

Jagdeep Singh Bachher's first term as chancellor will end on June 30, 2027, and as provided by the *University of Waterloo Act, 1972*, is eligible to serve for a second three-year term. Bachher was elected by the University's Senate to a three-year term that began on July 1, 2024. He succeeded Chancellor Dominic Barton.

Process for Chancellor Review and Renewal

As a long-standing practice, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) serves as the Chancellor Nominating and/or Review Committee, on approval from Senate. It is proposed the SEC be appointed in this capacity to review and make recommendations on the reappointment of Chancellor Jagdeep Singh Bachher.

The SEC will develop procedures for the review, including consultation with the University community, and share with Senate. It is anticipated that a recommendation would be presented to Senate at the May 2026 meeting.

Jurisdictional Information

University of Waterloo Act, Section 30:

- (1) There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be elected by the Senate in such manner as the Senate shall determine.

(2) The term of office of the Chancellor shall be three years, provided that he shall be eligible for re-election for one additional term.

(3) The Chancellor shall preside at all Convocations and shall admit to degrees, diplomas and certificates such candidates, including the recipients of honorary degrees, as may be designated by the Senate.

Governance Path

- Phase 1: Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee
 - Senate Executive Committee: January 12, 2026
 - Senate: January 26, 2026 (prospective)
- Phase 2: Reappointment of Chancellor
 - Senate Executive Committee: April 20, 2026 (prospective)
 - Senate: May 4, 2026 (prospective)

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate Executive Committee

From: Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **4.3 Senate Executive Committee: Mandate Review**

Summary

At its November meeting, SEC received formal notice of the review of its mandate and terms of reference as part of the University's ongoing commitment to effective and transparent governance. Work to date has included the collection and preliminary analysis of an environmental scan of governance structures and practices at U15 comparator institutions. The results of the environmental scan with preliminary findings have been provided below for the committee's discussion and feedback.

This review is proceeding in parallel with the work of the Senate Engagement Working Group. Areas of alignment, opportunities for shared insights, and potential synergies in recommendations will be shared with SEC as they become available.

Environmental Scan Findings for Consideration

An environmental scan of U15 institutions shows emerging best practices in governance oversight, structural review, and committee effectiveness monitoring. The scan shows that while agenda-setting and acting between meetings are universal functions, governance oversight and structural review are increasingly common responsibilities among peer institutions.

The scan indicates that SEC is mostly in alignment with comparator membership in terms of size and diversity of roles, although Waterloo is on the higher side of the scale with 16 members (average is 10-12). Some comparator committees include standing committee Chairs as part of their membership, especially where the mandate includes oversight of committee effectiveness.

The findings are in alignment with the 2022 Governance Review recommendation "22. Review Senate's committee and council structure and recommend changes, including whether any additions are desirable (e.g. the establishment of a Senate Governance Committee)."

As the work of the Senate Engagement Working Group progresses, similar themes have been identified for SEC consideration:

- Define clear guidelines for considering items proposed by Senators
- Clarification of the role of the SEC in approving the Senate meeting agenda
- Clarification of the role of the SEC in oversight of Senate governance matters

Findings for discussion:

1. Strengthen Governance Oversight

Add an explicit role for SEC to monitor and advise on Senate governance effectiveness and committee performance. Consider options for integrating governance reviews into SEC's annual work plan. Consider providing an annual governance effectiveness report to Senate.

2. Clarify Agenda-Setting Authority

Define clear guidelines for considering items proposed by Senators and pathways for how motions may be brought forward. This matter is also under discussion with the Senate Engagement Working Group.

3. Formalize Nominations Process

Consider options to formalize the process for nominations to Senate standing and sub committees as part of the committee's mandate. This could include the Chancellor Nominating/Review Committee role within the mandate.

4. Increase Communication and Transparency

Coordinate closely with the Senate Engagement Working Group to align governance improvements with engagement strategies.

5. Committee Nomenclature

Consider reflecting the mandate and responsibilities in a new committee name (e.g. Senate Governance Committee, Senate Steering Committee)

Documentation Included:

- Appendix A: Environmental Scan Findings
- Appendix B: Senate Executive Committee Terms of Reference

Appendix A: Environmental Scan

University	Standing committees	Key areas of responsibility
University of Alberta (General Faculties Council)	GFC Executive Committee GFC Nominating Committee GFC Governance and Procedural Oversight	<p>Executive: prepares agenda; acts as executive body of GFC; governance/procedural oversight; delegated authority between meetings.</p> <p>Nominating: recommends members for GFC committees/representative bodies.</p> <p>Governance: governance procedural oversight, including delegations of authority by GFC</p>
UBC (Vancouver Senate)	Agenda Committee Nominating Committee	<p>Agenda: prepares Senate agenda; discusses referred matters; may act for Senate on certain matters.</p> <p>Nominating: nominates members to Senate committees; reviews committee TOR on cycle.</p>
University of Calgary (General Faculties Council)	GFC Executive Committee	Executive body with delegated authority; prepares agenda; acts between GFC meetings within delegated authority; nominating/appointments role for GFC committees.
Dalhousie University (Senate)	Senate Planning & Governance Committee Senate Nominating Committee	<p>Planning & Governance: academic planning and governance oversight.</p> <p>Nominating: oversees nomination of Senate officers and committee memberships.</p>
University of Guelph (Senate)	Senate Governance and Nominating Committee Senate Priorities and Planning Committee	<p>Governance & Nominating: Oversees and improves Senate governance policies/practices/performance; strikes committees/boards and presents nominations for Senate committee membership and external Senate reps; reviews bylaws and committee TOR; advises on structure/effectiveness of Senate processes; updates on elections, by-elections, vacancies; prepares search committee nominations.</p> <p>Priorities and Planning: establishes Senate multi-year priorities, review annual committee reports, review motions for consideration</p>
University of Manitoba (Senate)	Senate Executive Committee Senate Committee on Nominations Senate Committee on Rules & Procedures	<p>Executive: prepares Senate agenda; coordinates committee work; routine Senate functions; follow-up on decisions.</p> <p>Nominations: nominates Senate committee members and representation on other bodies.</p> <p>Rules & Procedures: considers rules/procedural matters</p>

McGill University (Senate)	Senate Nominating Committee Senate Steering Committee	Nominating: reviews committee TOR; recommends creation/dissolution; recommends memberships. Steering: determines admissibility of motions/questions for Senate agenda.
McMaster University (Senate)	Senate Executive Committee	Acts for Senate between meetings; deliberates referred matters; nominates Senate members to Board and to Senate standing committees; handles governance/process requests.
Université de Montréal	Comité des nominations (Commission des études)	Makes proposals to fill/replace members on Commission des études committees; part of Senate-equivalent committee structure.
University of Ottawa (Senate)	Executive Committee of the Senate	Receives Senate referrals; may deal with/referral/submit matters; ensures committees function properly and that reports/decisions flow to Senate.
Queen's University (Senate)	Senate Governance and Nominating Committee	Advises on governance effectiveness; reviews composition/needs; recommends committee appointments; advises on Senate reps; monitors committee effectiveness.
University of Saskatchewan (Senate)	Senate Executive Committee Senate Nominations Committee	Executive: agenda, motions proposed by members; acts between meetings within authority. Nominations: nominates/elects members for Senate-related positions per TOR.
University of Toronto (Governing Council)	Governing Council Executive Committee	Sets Governing Council agenda; oversees accountability; approves some appointments; assigns issues to committees; confirms Academic Board decisions per TOR.
Western University (Senate)	Nominating Committee Operations/Agenda Committee (OAC)	Nominating: Senate committee and representation nominations; fills vacancies; EDIDA/TRC-informed. OAC: supervises Senate operations; recommends on rules/bylaws/committee functions; prepares agenda materials.

Appendix B: Senate Executive Committee Terms of Reference

1.01	There shall be a standing committee of Senate called the Executive Committee.
1.02	<p>Executive Committee Membership The membership of this committee shall consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ex Officio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The president of the university, who shall chair this committee. ii. The vice-president, academic & provost. iii. The associate vice-president, graduate studies and postdoctoral affairs. iv. The president of the Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo. b. Elected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. One faculty member of Senate from each faculty of the university. ii. Three members from the student members of Senate, at least one of whom shall be an undergraduate student and at least one of whom shall be a graduate student. iii. One member of Senate from among the community-at-large members of the Board of Governors. iv. One faculty member of Senate from the affiliated and federated institutions of Waterloo. v. One member from among the alumni members of Senate.
1.03	The term of office of members elected pursuant to paragraph 1.02.b shall be one year. Each member is eligible for re-election.
1.04	<p>Powers and duties of Executive Committee The Executive Committee shall have the following powers and duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To request special meetings of Senate, in accordance with Senate Bylaw 1. b. On those occasions when the agenda does not, in the estimation of the Executive Committee, warrant a meeting of Senate, to cancel any such meeting of Senate, and to exercise the powers of Senate, within the limits of The University of Waterloo Act, 1972, on all matters considered by the Executive Committee in its discretion to be of sufficient urgency that they must be decided prior to the next regular meeting of Senate, provided that the Executive Committee shall have no power under any circumstances to repeal, amend or modify Senate bylaws, or to exercise Senate's responsibilities under Policies 45, 48, 50 and 68. All such actions are to be reported to Senate. c. To prepare the agenda for all regular and special meetings of Senate. d. To receive and review reports from the deans of the university prior to their submission to Senate at each regular meeting. e. To present to Senate, normally at the last regular meeting in the year, a list of nominations for the committees and councils of Senate. f. To make recommendations to Senate as may be necessary from time to time regarding the establishment of ad hoc committees of Senate, such recommendations to include the terms of reference of any such committee and a list of nominations for the membership thereof. g. To receive and review the reports and recommendations of all committees and councils, prior to their presentation to Senate and to make at its discretion recommendations to Senate thereon. h. To act on behalf of Senate on such matters as Senate may from time to time designate. i. To report to Senate, as expeditiously as possible, with respect to the conduct of such matters as shall be delegated by Senate to the committee from time to time.

1.05**Meetings of the Executive Committee**

The committee shall normally hold regular meetings during each year equal to the number of regular meetings of Senate, each such meeting to be held approximately two weeks prior to the date of each general meeting of Senate. Special meetings of the committee shall be called by the chair of the committee.

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate Executive Committee
From: Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary

Date of Meeting: January 12, 2026

Agenda Item: **5. Senate Agenda Preparation**

5.1 Senate Work Plan 25/26

The Senate Work Plan is provided for information only.

5.2 Draft Senate Agenda for January 26, 2026

- 6: Report of the Senate Planning and Finance Committee
 - 2025-26 Mid Year Budget Update (information)
 - Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions and Enrolment Update (information)
 - Campus Plan (endorsement)
- 7: Report of the Senate Executive Committee
 - Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee (approval)
 - Senate Engagement Working Group Consultation (information)
- 8: Report of the Senate Graduate Council
 - Motion for approval of major modification for the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Health
- 9: Faculty of Mathematics
 - Motion for approval of amendments to the Faculty of Mathematics Constitution
- 10: Annual Report of the Vice-President Research and International (information)
- 11.2: Committee Appointments – Teaching Awards (consent agenda - approval)
- 15: Candidates for Honorary Member of the University (confidential session - approval)

Motion: That the Senate Executive Committee approve the January 26, 2026 Senate agenda as presented.

Documentation Provided

- Draft Senate Package

Senate Agenda Items p = planned ✓ = completed	September 22, 2025	October 20, 2025	November 24, 2025	January 26, 2026	March 2, 2026	April 6, 2026	May 4, 2026	June 8, 2026
LEADERSHIP, FACUTLY, AND ASSOCIATION REPORTS								
Report of the President	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Faculty Tenure and Promotion Report (<i>consent</i>)			✓	p	p	p	p	p
Report of the Vice-President, Academic & Provost	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Reports from Faculties (e.g., appointments, administrative appointments, sabbaticals) (<i>consent</i>)	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Call for Nominations and Designation of University Professor	✓					p		
Report of the Vice-President, Research & International (<i>consent</i>)	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Annual Report of the Vice-President, Research & International				p				
Faculty Presentations					p		p	p
Annual Association Reports: FAUW, WUSA, GSA					p			
Report of the COU Academic Colleague								p
COMMITTEE & COUNCIL REPORTS Each committee and council of Senate will provide a report to Senate after each meeting.								
Executive Committee, Academic Quality Enhancement Committee, Graduate Council, Honorary Degrees Committee, Planning and Finance Committee, Research and Innovation Council, Undergraduate Council	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
POLICIES & BY-LAWS Policy and By-Law amendments may also be brought forward based on review schedules or as required.								
Annual Report on Gift Acceptance (Policy 7) (<i>confidential</i>)								p
University Committee on Student Appeals Annual Report (Policy 72)				p				
University Appointment Review Committee Annual Report (Policy 76)						p		
Executive Appointments (Policy 48, 50, 68) (<i>confidential</i>)								
OPERATING BUDGET Under the Report of the Planning and Finance Committee.								
University Operating Budget Update		✓						
Joint Board/Senate Budget Education Sessions				p	p			
Operating Budget (recommendation to Board)						p		
ADMISSIONS UPDATES, CONFERRING OF DEGREES, AND AWARDS								
Call for Nominations: Honorary Degree and Honorary Member	✓			p	p			
Academic Calendar Dates	✓							
Teaching Awards Committee: Appointment and Award Winners				p			p	
Delegation and Reports of the Roster of Graduands	✓		✓			p		
Spring and Fall Convocation Reports	✓		✓					
Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions Update				p				
SENATE MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE								
Senate Orientation	✓							
Call for Senate Nominations, Elections, and Appointments			✓	p	p			p
Senate Effectiveness Survey					p			

Senate

Open & Confidential Sessions

January 26, 2026

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Needles Hall

NH 3407

Waterloo Campus

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2026 01 26 Senate Meeting Book

AGENDA

1. Governance Resources

[Link to Governance Resources](#)

2. OPEN SESSION

3:30 p.m.	3. Territorial Acknowledgement [Dean]		
3:35 p.m.	4. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes [Goel]		
	4.1 Conflict of Interest	Information	4
	4.2 Approval of the Agenda and Consent Items	Decision	
	4.3 Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting	Decision	5
	4.4 Business Arising from the Minutes	Information	
3:40 p.m.	5. Report of the President		
	5.1 General Update [Goel]	Information	10
3:55 p.m.	6. Report of the Senate Planning and Finance Committee		
	6.1 2025-26 Mid Year Budget Update [Duever, Reitsma]	Information	11
	6.2 Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions and Enrolment Update [Duever, VanderBurgh, Wan]	Information	12
	6.3 Campus Plan [Reitsma, Lewis, Bender]	Decision	21
4:30 p.m.	7. Report of the Senate Executive Committee		
	7.1 Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee [Goel]	Decision	22
	7.2 Senate Engagement Working Group Consultation Session [Deakin, Shantz]	Information	24
4:50 p.m.	8. Report of the Senate Graduate Council		
	8.1 Faculty of Engineering [Wan]	Decision	25
	8.2 Faculty of Health [Wan]	Decision	27
5:00 p.m.	9. Report from the Faculties		
	9.1 Faculty of Mathematics Constitution Amendments [Cotton]	Decision	29
	9.1.1 Faculty of Mathematics Constitution Amendments - Redline Version		31
5:10 p.m.	10. Report from the Senate Research and Innovation Council		

	10.1 Annual Report of the Vice-President Research and International [Dean]	Information	43
5:30 p.m.	11. Consent Agenda		
	11.1 Senate Work Plan 2025-26	Information	68
	11.2 Committee Appointments – Teaching Awards	Decision	69
	11.3 Report of the Senate AQUE Committee	Information	71
	11.4 Report of the Senate Executive Committee	Information	
	11.5 Report of the Senate Graduate Council	Information	72
	11.6 Report of the Senate Undergraduate Council	Information	74
	11.7 Report of the Vice President, Academic and Provost	Information	
	12. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda	Information	
	13. Other Business	Information	
	14. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION		
5:35 p.m.	15. Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee		
	15.1 Candidates for Honorary Member of the University [Goel]	Decision	76
	16. Confidential Consent Agenda		
	16.1 Confidential Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting	Decision	81
	17. Adjournment		

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Gen Gauthier-Chalifour
University Secretary

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **4. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

4.1 Conflict of Interest

Senators are invited to declare any conflicts related to the open session agenda at this time. Should a conflict of interest arise during discussion, senators are asked to declare a conflict of interest as it arises.

The Secretariat can provide guidance regarding potential conflicts of interest in advance of or during the Senate meeting.

4.2 Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented/amended, and to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda, listed as items 11.1-11.8 of the Senate agenda.

Senators wishing to have an item removed from consent to the regular agenda are asked to contact the University Secretary in advance of the meeting. Senators may also request to have items moved to the regular agenda immediately prior to the approval of the agenda. Items removed from the consent agenda will be considered under item 12.

4.3 Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting

Motion: To approve the open and confidential minutes of the November 24, 2025 meeting, as distributed.

Documentation Provided:

- Open Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting (item 4.3)
- Confidential Minutes of the November 24, 2025 Meeting (item 16.1)

4.4 Business Arising from the Minutes

There is no business arising from the minutes.

University of Waterloo
SENATE
Minutes of November 24, 2025 Meeting

Present: John Abraham, Nasser Abukhdeir, Yasmeen Almomani, Veronica Austen, Michael Barnett-Cowan, Aubrey Basdeo, Jordan Bauman, Jean Becker, Raouf Boutaba, David Clausi, Martin Cooke, Cecilia Cotton, Ashley Day (Associate Secretary), Hans De Sterck, Laura Deakin, Charmaine Dean, David DeVidi, Michael Drescher, Thomas Duever, Andrea Edginton, Mark Ferro, Paul Fieguth, Bruce Frayne, Gen Gauthier-Chalifour (Secretary), Vivek Goel (Chair), Rob Gorbet, Vikas Gupta, Kevin Hare, Chris Houser, Nadine Ibrahim, Marc Jerry, Acey Kaspar, Misha Khan, Scott Kline, Jochen Koenemann, Sachin Kotecha, Christiane Lemieux, Ondrej Lhotak, Christopher Lim, Lili Liu, Jun Liu, Brad Lushman, Shana MacDonald, Carol Ann MacGregor, Blake Madill, Pendar Mahmoudi, Heather Mair, Peter Meehan, Damian Mikhail, Sushanta Mitra, Richard Myers, Carter Neal, Cathy Newell Kelly, Christopher Nielsen, James Nugent, Nicholas Pellegrino, David Porreca, Neil Randall, Arya Razmjoo, Jacinda Reitsma, Jessica Rindlisbacher, Sharon Roberts, Meray Sadek, Beth Sandore Namachchivaya, Rida Sayed, Mark Seasons, Marcus Shantz, James Skidmore, Karen Sunabacka, Su-Yin Tan, Christopher Taylor, Sharon Tucker, Diana Vangelisti, Justin Wan, Johanna Wandel, Jeffrey Wilson, Stan Woo, Changbao Wu, En-Hui Yang

Regrets: Laith Alkhawaldeh, Andrew Chang, Helen Chen, Teresa Fortney, Murray Gamble, Peter Hall, Achim Kempf, Colleen Maxwell, Alex Pawelko, Jagdeep Singh Bachher, Alexie Tcheuyap, Katie Traynor, Bojana Videkanic, Mary Wells, Clarence Woudsma

Guests: Heather Bolton, Graham Brown, Tanya Daniels, Melanie Figueiredo, Jenny Flagler-George, Diana Goncalves, Lisa Habel, Diane Johnston, Andrea Kelman, John Lewis, Tony Ly, Nick Manning, Jon Mason, Christine McWebb, Ian Milligan, Kirsten Muller, Fayaz Noormohamed, Chris Read, Tim Weber-Kraljevski

1. Governance Resources

A link to the governance resources for Senate was provided for information.

2. OPEN SESSION

The Chair welcomed members to the last Senate meeting of the 2025 calendar year and noted that nominations for faculty and graduate students will open on January 7, 2026. Members with expiring terms (August 31, 2026) will receive an email from the Secretariat in December. The Chair noted Tom Duever's interim term as Vice-President Academic & Provost and Charmaine Dean's second term as Vice-President, Research & International will both end on June 30, 2027. A call for nominations for both vice-presidential nominating committees will be made in January. The Chair announced that this was the last meeting of senators Jean Becker, Associate Vice-President of Indigenous Relations, and Cathy Newell Kelly, Registrar, as both will retire at the end of the year. The Chair thanked them for their service and dedication to the University.

3. Territorial Acknowledgement

The territorial acknowledgement was given by Lili Liu, Dean, Faculty of Health.

4. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

4.1. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4.2. Approval of the Agenda and Consent Items

The Secretariat received a request from a senator to move item 5.3, Freedom of Expression Task Force – Guidelines for Collective Bodies, to the end of the regular agenda. Another request was received by the Secretariat from a senator to defer item 5.3 to a future Senate meeting. The Chair proposed moving item 5, Report of the President, to the end of the regular agenda, at which time the motion to defer could be heard.

A motion was heard to approve the agenda as amended and to approve or receive for information the items on the consent agenda, listed as items 9.1-9.10. Porreca and Wandel. Carried.

4.3. Minutes of the October 20, 2025 Meeting

The Chair noted that the Secretariat had received a few minor amendments to the attendance list, and minor editorial changes. A member noted the misspelling of Reitsma on page 6.

A motion was heard to approve the minutes of the meeting, as amended. Porreca and Deakin. Carried.

4.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

The Chair reported on two action items from the Annual Institutional Performance update, item 8.1, from the October 20, 2025 meeting. A student senator had been provided additional information by Chris Read, Associate Provost, Students, related to the University's student mental health services. Additionally, as requested, a link to more information about WATSpeed had been provided and included in the minutes of the October 20, 2025 meeting.

A member inquired about the status of the ongoing CUPE negotiations, to which Jacinda Reistma, Vice-President, Administration and Finance, responded that negotiations are ongoing with additional dates in place.

No other items of business arising were identified.

6. Institutional Priority Discussion – AI Enablement

6.1 Faculty of Science AI Strategy

Chris Houser, Dean, Faculty of Science, and Laura Deakin, Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning), presented an overview of the Faculty of Science AI Strategy. There are two working groups in place looking at how to prepare students, the barriers to instructors and researchers, and how to transform the Faculty of Science.

Discussion followed. Members inquired about AI ethics and how to prepare students for the use of AI in the classroom and the workforce. The Chair noted the development of an AI Enablement Framework for the institution that would be brought forward at a future Senate meeting.

7. Report of the Senate Graduate Council

7.1 Faculty of Engineering

Justin Wan, Chair of the Senate Graduate Council, introduced the proposed major modifications to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Master of Applied Science (MASc) in Electrical and Computer Engineering programs.

A motion as heard that Senate approve the major modifications to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Master of Applied Science (MASc) in Electrical and Computer Engineering programs, effective January 1, 2026, as presented. Wan and Neal. Carried.

8. Report of the Senate Undergraduate Council

8.1 Faculty of Arts

David DeVidi, Chair of the Senate Undergraduate Council, introduced the proposed major modifications for the double degree programs for Social Development Studies and the Bachelor of Social Work.

A motion was heard that Senate approve the proposed major plan modifications for the Faculty of Arts and Renison University College double degree programs for Social Development Studies and Bachelor of Social Work, effective September 1, 2026, as presented. DeVidi and Jerry. Carried.

5. Report of the President

5.1 General Update

The President and Chair of Senate noted the University recently celebrated a transformational gift of \$20 million from alumnus Frank Baylis and the Gloria Baylis Foundation. The gift supported the renaming of Engineering 7 to the Pearl Sullivan Engineering Building, honouring the late Dean Pearl Sullivan, whose leadership and vision helped shape the Faculty of Engineering and strengthen Waterloo's global reputation for excellence.

On November 4th, Minister of Finance Francois-Philippe Champagne delivered the 2025 Budget. There are a number of programs relevant to the sector such as the Defense Industrial Strategy which is expected to include significant support for research and development. While most federal departments are facing an expense reduction of 15% over 3 years, the granting councils and key research agencies are facing only a 2% reduction, with largely only defense and security related areas at the same level, which is a positive signal on how research investments are perceived by government. Furthermore, \$1.7 billion is allocated for research and innovation to recruit international talent to Canada. This includes \$1 billion over 13 years for the granting councils to launch an accelerated research chairs initiative, and \$133 million over 3 years for top international doctoral and post-doctoral fellows. The budget also includes \$400 million over 7 years for new research infrastructure through the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to support recruited chairs with research equipment; and \$120 million over 12 years to support universities recruiting international assistant professors.

The Chair spoke to anticipated changes to international student numbers for 2026-27. Although the government has indicated a 50% reduction in Provincial Attestation Letters (PALs), it was noted that the reduced total still exceeds the projected number of actual international student arrivals in 2025-26. An important note is that graduate and postgraduate students will be exempt from the lower cap, and the government is committing to a 14-day turnaround for processing doctoral-level study permits. Although positive, it will take time to turn around negative messaging, including global headlines that Canada is reducing international students by 50%.

On November 6th, Ontario Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy delivered the 2025 Ontario Economic Outlook. It mostly included measures to shield workers and businesses from US tariffs, economic uncertainty, and measures to enhance competitiveness, attract investment, strengthen supply chains, boost affordability and expand infrastructure and health care across the province.

The Chair provided an update on the status and potential implications of Bill 33, which passed its second reading last week. The legislation, once fully enacted, will grant the provincial government expanded authority over several aspects of university operations, particularly in relation to student ancillary fees, admissions standards, and research security planning. It was emphasized that although the bill has advanced in the legislative process, its provisions will not take effect until the government develops and approves the accompanying regulations that will determine how Bill 33 is to be implemented and enforced. If implemented, the bill could have significant impact on university operations, create new costs, and be a significant intrusion on university autonomy.

The Chair announced that on November 25th, the University would be sharing an update with the community on the progress of the 3-year budget plan. As we enter the second year of our 3-year plan, the focus remains on achieving long-term balance while preserving the University's academic and research excellence. There will be a Budget Information Forum for all staff in January and education sessions in March on the 26/27 Budget Package in advance of Senate and Board meetings in April.

5.2 Statement and Procedures on Principles for Institutional Partnerships

The Chair introduced the Statement and Procedures on Principles of Institutional Partnerships which is the response to the recommendations from the Task Force on Principles for Institutional Partnerships. The Task Force was established to provide a framework for how Waterloo establishes, manages and reviews institutional partnerships. The Task Force articulated nine proposed principles for institutional partnerships and also made five recommendations for the university to consider for implementation. The emphasis of these recommendations were on the "partnership activities" as opposed to the "partner" itself. The Principles and Recommendations were brought to Senate in May for consultation and then to other consultative bodies, incorporating feedback along the way. The Statement and Procedures outline a unified approach around the initiation/renewal of institutional partnerships, an oversight mechanism, and how concerns will be handled and received.

Questions were invited. Members discussed the materials provided as it related to time limits on partnerships, how the principles will be used with related policies that govern partnerships, and the review process.

A member requested a minor amendment that the word *paused* in the third last paragraph be changed

from *paused* to *reviewed*, such that the end of the sentence read "...whether the partnership should be reviewed."

A member requested a minor amendment for clarification, in that the membership of the ad hoc working group mentioned in the second last paragraph be drawn from the Board of Governors and *elected members* of the Senate.

A motion was heard that the Senate endorse the proposed Statement and Procedures on Principles for Institutional Partnerships, as amended. DeVidi and Kline. Carried.

5.3 Freedom of Expression Task Force – Guidelines for Collective Bodies

The Chair noted that Senate first reviewed the Guidelines for Collective Bodies on May 5, 2025. Feedback has been incorporated into the revised statement as presented in the meeting materials. The Guidelines considered comments and concerns raised by Senators and other consultative bodies, as well as additional feedback from the President's Advisory Committee on Freedom of Expression to make the statement less prescriptive. Key updates include that the publication process be less dependent on the Office of the AVP Communications and provides for templates for increased clarity, and the paragraph *Guidance on Social-Media* has been amended to allow department-level social media sharing with a disclaimer.

A member spoke to their request to defer the motion to a future meeting, stating that several senators have concerns with the wording and that the text was not yet ready for approval. The request to defer would allow time to compose a Senate working group to review final language.

Members supporting the request for deferral cited concerns with not taking time to gain consensus on language, and potential impacts on students and student groups.

Members in supporting the guidelines as presented cited confidence in the guidelines to add clarity for maintaining individual rights to not speak publicly on matters. It was noted that the guidelines will be helpful to provide guidance for unit heads and chairs to communicate with faculty on what the process may be when making a statement.

The Chair reminded members that this was the third time the guidelines have been brought forward to Senate and clarified that the guidelines are meant to help departments when units or faculty are seeking to make statements.

A motion was heard to remove the last paragraph of the guidelines so it could be reviewed by the Faculty Relations Committee. Nugent and Porreca. The motion did not carry.

A motion was heard to add *non-binding* to the title of the guidelines. Nugent and Porreca. The motion did not carry.

Through discussion, it was agreed to add a footnote to make it clear the guidelines would not apply to individual social media channels held by students, faculty members, or staff. It was also agreed that footnotes would be added to describe clearly what is meant by "digital assets" and "web pages" and, if possible, a link to where digital assets are defined by the University.

A motion was heard to defer consideration of this item until a Senate working group composed of elected and ex-officio Senators has been constituted and has formulated guideline language that would address concerns. De Sterck and Abukhdier. The motion did not carry.

A motion was heard to remove reference to "Institutional" within the guidelines. De Sterck and Porreca. The motion did not carry.

Discussion continued with members opposed to the motion to endorse the guidelines citing concerns with the guidelines not being policy or having gone through a formal policy development process, and members in favour of the motion citing support due to the extensive consultations and workshops to ensure wide input from the community, and a desire to move forward.

A member asked for clarification of language in the fifth paragraph and reference to units using *transparent mechanisms to ensure unanimity* and whether units are permitted to make statements where there is no unanimity. The Chair responded that the guidelines give colleagues within a unit a process to follow, but do not mandate a process given the non-binding nature of the document.

A motion was heard that Senate endorse the Institutional Neutrality, Institutional Restraint and Communications Guidelines for Collective Bodies (Faculties, Schools, Departments, and Academic Support Units), as amended. Kline and DeVidi. Carried. Members Mikhail and Sayed requested that their votes be recorded in the minutes as opposed to the motion.

9. Consent Agenda

The following items were received for approved / received for information as part of the consent agenda motion for approval under item 4.2.

9.1 Senate Work Plan 2025-26

9.2 Policy 68 Amendments

9.3 Report on Convocation 2025

9.3.1 Report on Fall 2025 Convocation

9.3.2 Convocation Overview 2025

9.4 Report of the Senate Executive Committee

9.5 Report of the Senate Graduate Council

9.6 Report of the Senate Research and Innovation Council

9.7 Report of the President

9.7.1 Tenure and Promotion Report

9.8 Report of the Vice-President, Academic and Provost

9.8.1 Faculty Appointments and Leaves

9.9 Report of the Vice-President, Research and International

9.9.1 Awards, Distinction, Grants, Commercialization Activity, International Engagements

9.10 Appointment to the University Committee on Student Appeals

10. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

11. Other Business

With no other business identified for the open session, Senate proceeded into the confidential session.

November 25, 2025

Ashley Day
Associate University Secretary

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Vivek Goel
President and Vice-Chancellor

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **5.1 General Update**

Summary

Dr. Vivek Goel, President and Vice-Chancellor, and Chair of Senate, will provide an update on matters of interest to Senate.

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Senate Planning & Finance Committee

Presenter(s): Tom Duever
Interim Vice-President Academic and Provost

Jacinda Reitsma
Vice-President Administration and Finance

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **6.1 2025-26 Mid Year Budget Update**

Placeholder for materials - TBC

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Tom Duever
Interim Vice-President Academic and Provost

Ian VanderBurgh
Interim University Registrar

Justin Wan
Interim Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **6.2 Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions and Enrolment Update**

Summary

This brief provides undergraduate and graduate admissions data and supporting context and aims to support Senate's awareness of the admissions funnel. The undergraduate data includes the 2022-2025 admissions funnel. A separate and early look at 2026 undergraduate applications is also provided.

This update is intended to provide Senate with an understanding of the trends in our applications, offers of admissions, and new admits - differentiated by undergraduate and graduate applicants, domestic and international applicants.

Jurisdictional Information

This report is submitted in support of section 22 of the *University of Waterloo Act, 1972*:

- (d) to determine standards of admission of students to the University;
- (j) to undertake, consider and co-ordinate long-range academic planning;

Governance Path

Senate Planning and Finance Committee: January 22, 2026 (information)
Senate: January 26, 2026 (information)
Board of Governors: February 3, 2026 (information)

Documentation Provided

Admissions and Enrolment 2022-2025 Brief

Admissions and Enrolment 2022-2025

Brief prepared for Senate 26 January 2026

This Brief provides an overview of admissions of undergraduate and graduate students in 2025, along with comparative data from 2022 to 2024 and an early look at 2026 application numbers. The recruitment and admissions information includes the number of applications, number of offers, number of confirmations, and count date registrations for each of the most recent four years.

ADMISSIONS – *The Data*

Domestic

Domestic interest in Waterloo programs is strong. On the undergraduate side, admissions criteria varied widely, from competitive-entry programs with capacity limits to those accepting minimum averages and offering to all eligible applicants. Many programs used minimum criteria to meet targets, while alternate offers were made for programs lacking qualified applicants. Domestic registrations came in above target. On the graduate side, domestic applications and registrations were significantly higher than in recent years and came in closer to targets.

In the charts that follow, graduate student numbers are a composite number that include Winter, Spring and Fall in each calendar year.

Undergraduate Domestic 2022 to 2025 applications, offers, confirmations, registrations

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications ¹	50086	49933	50787	51890
Offers ¹	26812	28338	29109	30593
Confirmations ¹	6449	6214	6221	6705
Count Date Registered ²	6058	6087	5988	6495
Targets ³	5594	5617	5733	6015
% of Target	108%	108%	104%	108%

Graduate Domestic 2022 to 2025 applications, offers, confirmations, registrations

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	4615	4187	4684	5862
Offers	2354	2314	2434	2799
Confirmations	1642	1710	1694	1982
Count Date Registered	1536	1590	1597	1849
Count Date Registered FTE	1332	1332	1332	1580
Targets FTE	1681	1695	1641	1605
% of Target	79%	79%	81%	98%

1. Applications, Offers, and Confirmations data sourced from [Registrar Resources Admissions Reports in Power BI](#).

2. November 1 Registered data source from IAP's Year One Monitoring reports (Quest extracts).

3. Targets established by Provost and Faculty Deans.

International

This year was highly challenging for international recruitment and admissions across Canada, and Waterloo was not immune to these trends. Geopolitical tensions with two of our major source countries for undergraduate and graduate students (China and India) continue to impact our numbers. Visa processing times, both inside and outside of Canada, also present major barriers or perceptions of barriers to prospective students. Incoming graduate students also face security concerns leading to an additional layer of visa challenges, particularly students coming from China and Iran. Additionally, federal messaging around immigration continues to dissuade students from even applying to Waterloo. Our total number of incoming undergraduate international students was quite close to the reduced target that was used in 2025. Incoming graduate international student numbers have remained relatively stable despite the challenges, somewhat thanks to an increase in the number of offers made.

In the tables that follow, “International” students are counted on the basis of citizenship status for Applications, Offers and Confirmations, as this is the information that is available at these points of time. For registration, “International” is defined on the basis of fee status, where some students who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents are eligible to pay domestic fees.

Undergraduate International 2022 to 2025 applications, offers, confirmations, registrations

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications ¹	17692	16642	14122	12483
Offers ¹	8361	8280	7071	6553
Confirmations ¹	1228	1075	932	962
Count Date Registered ²	937	812	540	508
Targets ³	1187	1156	1160	539
% of Target	79%	70%	47%	94%

Graduate International 2022 to 2025 applications, offers, confirmations, registrations

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	9620	9026	8126	7412
Offers	1883	2257	2147	2309
Confirmations	1076	1192	1132	1179
Count Date Registered ⁴	916	1031	944	929
Count Date Registered FTE ⁵	904	1018	909	912
Targets FTE	958	959	1005	1037
% of Target	94%	106%	90%	88%

⁴ For graduate students, students are counted on the relevant date (November 1, February 1, July 1) of their first term.

⁵ Graduate targets are in terms of FTE, rather than headcount, so registrations are shown in both measures.

ADMISSIONS – Graduate Student Deep Dive

The tables that follow separate the Graduate student information above by type of graduate degree.

Domestic Course-based Master's 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	2092	1957	2493	2922
Offers	919	984	1281	1569
Confirmations	597	705	883	1103
Count Date Registered	542	622	812	1001
Count Date Registered FTE	375	401	596	769
Targets FTE	773	790	783	812
% of Target	49%	51%	76%	95%

Domestic Research Master's 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	2005	1796	1709	2343
Offers	1169	1098	888	958
Confirmations	847	826	605	678
Count Date Registered	804	794	583	651
Count Date Registered FTE	784	776	562	629
Targets FTE	657	646	620	567
% of Target	119%	120%	91%	111%

Domestic PhD 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	518	434	482	597
Offers	266	232	265	272
Confirmations	198	179	206	201
Count Date Registered	190	174	202	197
Count Date Registered FTE	172	156	174	182
Targets FTE	251	259	238	226
% of Target	68%	60%	73%	80%

International Course-based Master's 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	4930	4365	3986	3277
Offers	1183	1307	1305	1502
Confirmations	567	570	596	615
Count Date Registered	439	458	449	453
Count Date Registered FTE	431	449	438	439
Targets FTE	447	405	448	498
% of Target	96%	111%	98%	88%

International Research Master's 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	3426	3231	2825	2452
Offers	442	610	496	413
Confirmations	341	410	321	282
Count Date Registered	320	377	286	244
Count Date Registered FTE	318	374	285	243
Targets FTE	293	316	313	293
% of Target	109%	118%	91%	83%

International PhD 2022 to 2025

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications	1264	1430	1315	1683
Offers	258	340	346	394
Confirmations	168	212	215	282
Count Date Registered	157	196	209	232
Count Date Registered FTE	156	195	186	231
Targets FTE	218	237	244	246
% of Target	71%	82%	76%	94%

ADMISSIONS – *International Deep Dive*

Total PALs used by Program Type, 2025

These Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) counts include all PALs from the 2025 allocation distributed by Waterloo. While most PALs are given to confirmed, incoming students who need to apply for a study permit, some PALs were given to current students who needed to re-apply for a study permit. Additionally, some students were given a second PAL (and a few students were given a third PAL) because of difficulties with their initial study permit applications. Because of the scarcity of PALs, additional PALs were given only after consultation with our immigration team.

	Total
Undergraduate: PALs to new student	902
Undergraduate: PALs to “X+Y” student	207
Undergraduate: PALs to current student	41
Graduate: PALs to new students	1144
Graduate: PALs to current students	24
Other (e.g. Renison)	10
Total	2328

Source: Registrar's Office

In total, Waterloo used close to 80% of our total PAL allocation from the Province in 2025. As of the time of writing of this report, we have not yet received our PAL allocation for 2026, although we do know that graduate students in master's and PhD programs will not require PALs in the coming year.

In 2025, we continued to expand our communications (e.g., website updates, emails, webinars, staff/faculty training) to support students through this process. Undergraduate students were required to pay a \$2500 tuition deposit to obtain a PAL, and course-based Master's students were required to pay a \$1000 deposit.

International fee-paying registered undergraduate students, by country of last school attended and country of citizenship, Fall 2025 and Fall 2024

By country of last school attended, Waterloo's largest source market for international fee-paying undergraduate students continues to be Canada, where we saw an increase in numbers from 2024 to 2025. At the same time, the careful strategic thought and difficult operational work done by our international recruiting teams ensured that the drop in international fee-paying students coming from outside of Canada was not more significant, despite global and national forces that have made recruiting much more challenging. Increased competition from universities across many countries has also added significant pressure to our efforts.

Last school attended (by country)	2025	% of total
Canada	225	44%
China	73	14%
India	53	10%
USA	25	5%
UAE	24	5%
Indonesia	13	3%
Saudi Arabia	10	2%
Pakistan	6	1%
Hong Kong	5	1%
Thailand	5	1%
Rest of world	69	14%
Total	508	100%

Citizenship	2025	% of total
China	210	41%
India	88	17%
Korea	30	6%
United States	25	5%
Hong Kong	24	5%
Pakistan	15	3%
Viet Nam	13	2%
Taiwan	12	2%
Indonesia	11	2%
Rest of world	80	15%
Total	508	100%

Source: Registrar's Office, IAP

Last school attended (by country)	2024	% of total
Canada	211	39%
China	89	16%
India	61	11%
UAE	31	6%
Saudi Arabia	22	4%
USA	15	3%
Indonesia	11	2%
Bangladesh	4	1%
Kenya	3	0.5%
Rest of world	93	17.5%
Total	540	100%

Citizenship	2024	% of total
China	229	42%
India	111	21%
Korea	28	5%
Hong Kong	17	3%
Pakistan	15	3%
Indonesia	15	3%
Saudi Arabia	13	2%
Viet Nam	12	2%
Nigeria	7	1%
Rest of world	93	18%
Total	540	100%

Source: Registrar's Office, Admissions

International registered graduate students, by country of last institution attended and country of citizenship, 2025 and 2024

The charts below show the breakdown of incoming international graduate students by last institution and by citizenship for both 2025 and 2024. Research-based programs typically rely on program-level recruitment linked to supervisor research opportunities, while course-based programs use coordinated faculty and program-driven strategies supported by centralized marketing and recruitment resources, with an emphasis on reputation, rankings, and targeted outreach.

Last institution attended (by country)	2025	% of total
Canada	418	45%
China	114	12%
USA	91	10%
India	46	5%
Iran	45	5%
UK	14	2%
Pakistan	12	2%
Egypt	9	1%
Nigeria	6	<1%
Germany	6	<1%
Rest of world	165	17%
Total	926	100%

Citizenship	2025	% of total
China	493	53%
India	74	8%
Iran	63	7%
USA	39	4%
Pakistan	22	2%
Egypt	20	2%
Nigeria	17	2%
Ukraine	10	1%
Viet Nam	8	1%
Turkey	7	1%
Rest of world	173	19%
Total	926	100%

Source: GSPA

Last institution attended (by country)	2024	% of total
Canada	362	39%
China	141	15%
USA	103	11%
India	70	8%
Iran	55	6%
UK	26	3%
Pakistan	18	2%
Nigeria	7	1%
Hong Kong	5	<1%
Egypt	4	<1%
Germany	4	<1%
Rest of world	130	14%
Total	925	100%

Citizenship	2024	% of total
China	473	51%
India	112	12%
Iran	67	7%
USA	31	3%
Pakistan	24	3%
Nigeria	18	2%
Hong Kong	16	2%
Egypt	11	1%
Bangladesh	9	1%
Ukraine	5	1%
Viet Nam	5	1%
Rest of world	149	16%
Total	925	100%

Source: GSPA

ADMISSIONS – *Early look at 2026*

Our admissions team monitors application trends through the application period. Because of changes in processes and timelines that are made from year to year, a snapshot on a particular date during the application period does not necessarily tell the full story of what might happen by the time that applications mostly close at the end of January.

Undergraduate Applications 2024 to 2026 as of December 17 in each year

Applications	2024	2025	2026	YOY (as of Dec 17)
Domestic	35844	38360	37373	-3%
International	9384	8663	8822	+2%

Domestic first-choice applications to Waterloo programs are down 14% year-over-year, with decreases in all Faculties except for Environment. Applications for lower choices are roughly the same as in the previous cycle. International first- and second-choice applications have healthy increases of 6% and 5%, respectively, and are also relatively flat for lower choices.

Graduate Applications 2024 to 2026

Because application numbers to graduate studies for Winter and Spring are small compared to the numbers for Fall, and because of the timing at which the bulk of applications are typically received for Fall entry, presenting comparative numbers for graduate studies at this time does not seem useful.

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate
From: Senate Planning & Finance Committee
Presenter(s): Jacinda Reitsma
Vice-President Administration and Finance

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **6.3 Campus Plan**

Placeholder for materials - TBC

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate
From: Vivek Goel
President and Vice-Chancellor

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **7.1 Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee**

Recommendation/Motion

That Senate appoint the Senate Executive Committee to serve as the Chancellor Review Committee.

Background

Dr. Jagdeep Singh Bachher currently serves as the University of Waterloo's 12th [Chancellor](#). He is a triple alum of the University of Waterloo, having earned a Bachelor of Applied Science, Mechanical Engineering in 1993, a Master of Applied Science, Management Sciences in 1994, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Management Sciences in 2000.

As titular head of the University, Chancellor Bachher serves a key ambassador for the institution, building and nurturing relationships across the broader Waterloo community and advancing its mission provincially, nationally, and internationally in keeping with the Vision for Waterloo at 100. He presides over convocation ceremonies, conferring degrees, diplomas and certificates on graduating students, and serves as an inspiration to the community writ large.

Jagdeep Singh Bachher's first term as chancellor will end on June 30, 2027, and as provided by the *University of Waterloo Act, 1972*, is eligible to serve for a second three-year term. Bachher was elected by the University's Senate to a three-year term that began on July 1, 2024. He succeeded Chancellor Dominic Barton.

Process for Chancellor Review and Renewal

As a long-standing practice, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) serves as the Chancellor Nominating and/or Review Committee, on approval from Senate. It is proposed the SEC be appointed in this capacity to review and make recommendations on the reappointment of Chancellor Jagdeep Singh Bachher.

The SEC will develop procedures for the review, including consultation with the University community, and share with Senate. It is anticipated that a recommendation would be presented to Senate at the May 2026 meeting.

Jurisdictional Information

University of Waterloo Act, Section 30:

- (1) There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be elected by the Senate in such manner as the Senate shall determine.

(2) The term of office of the Chancellor shall be three years, provided that he shall be eligible for re-election for one additional term.

(3) The Chancellor shall preside at all Convocations and shall admit to degrees, diplomas and certificates such candidates, including the recipients of honorary degrees, as may be designated by the Senate.

Governance Path

- Phase 1: Appointment of Chancellor Review Committee
 - Senate Executive Committee: January 12, 2026
 - Senate: January 26, 2026
- Phase 2: Reappointment of Chancellor
 - Senate Executive Committee: April 20, 2026 (prospective)
 - Senate: May 4, 2026 (prospective)

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Laura Deakin
Co-Chair, Senate Engagement Working Group

Marcus Shantz
Co-Chair, Senate Engagement Working Group

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **7.2 Senate Engagement Working Group – Consultation Session**

Summary

TBC after January 15 Senate Engagement Working Group Meeting

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Senate Graduate Council

Presenter(s): Justin Wan
Interim Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **8.1 Report of the Senate Graduate Council: Faculty of Engineering – Major Modifications**

Recommendation/Motion

That Senate approve the major modifications to the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Chemical Engineering and the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Electrical and Computer Engineering programs, effective May 1, 2026, as presented.

Summary

[Senate Graduate Council](#) met on [November 17, 2025](#) and agreed to forward the following item to Senate for approval as part of the regular agenda.

- a. Master of Engineering (MEng) in Chemical Engineering and the Master of Engineering (MEng) in Electrical and Computer Engineering programs.

The full proposal can be found in the November 17, 2025 Senate Graduate Council Meeting Book, starting on [page 224](#).

Proposal/RationaleChemical Engineering:

Students have expressed interest in both specializations as determined through exit surveys and consultations with current students.

The ML specialization has been highly desired by our students (both UG and Grad students have shown interest in this content), but we only recently hired the necessary faculty members with the expertise to teach it. 2 courses have been added to our curriculum in recent departmental meetings which finally offer this content. Coupled with the courses in optimization and process control which are traditionally offered by our department, we are now able to offer a coherent and attractive package to students with interest in this area.

The SEAM specialization aligns with our discipline and we teach many courses in these areas, which we wish to offer as a coherent package to our students. We have also expanded the offering for the Sustainable Energy and Materials specialization to include 2

courses from SEED to cover crucial material that is not normally taught in chemical engineering departments, but which complements the theme of this specialization. This combination will create exceptionally well-rounded and widely knowledgeable students. SEED has been consulted on this plan and a written agreement is in place concern the teaching load, costs, and timelines.

Electrical and Computer Engineering:

Update course lists for existing Graduate Specializations in the MEng in ECE programs. Introduce a new Graduate Specialization titled "Control and Autonomy." Many of the existing Graduate Specializations have not been updated in years. As a result, the course lists include courses that are no longer offered regularly and omits newer courses introduced in the meantime. The new Graduate Specialization in Control and Autonomy addresses a gap in the curriculum and highlights the Department's strengths in control, robotics, and autonomous systems.

Jurisdictional Information

As outlined in the council's [Terms and Reference](#), Senate Graduate Council is empowered to make approvals on behalf of Senate for a variety of matters:

- Consider, study and review all proposals for new graduate programs, the deletion of graduate programs, and/or major modifications to existing graduate programs, and make recommendations to Senate thereon.

Governance Path

Faculty of Engineering: March 27, 2025

Faculty of Engineering: September 16, 2025

Senate Graduate Council: November 17, 2025

Senate: January 26, 2026

Documentation Provided

Appendix A: [Proposed Changes – Faculty of Engineering](#)

The full proposal can be found in the November 17, 2025 Senate Graduate Council Meeting Book, starting on [page 224](#).

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Senate Graduate Council

Presenter(s): Justin Wan
Interim Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **8.2 Report of the Senate Graduate Council: Faculty of Health – Major Modifications**

Recommendation/Motion

That Senate approve the major modifications to the Master of Arts (MA) in Recreation and Leisure Studies program, effective May 1, 2026, as presented.

Summary

[Senate Graduate Council](#) met on [November 17, 2025](#) and agreed to forward the following item to Senate for approval as part of the regular agenda.

- a. Master of Arts (MA) in Recreation and Leisure Studies program.

The full proposal can be found in the November 17, 2025 Senate Graduate Council Meeting Book, starting on [page 263](#).

Proposal/Rationale

Changing the name of the coursework study option from Master of Arts (MA) in Recreation and Leisure Studies to Master of Arts (MA) in Sport and Recreation Leadership.

The name change better reflects the overall program goals and the applied nature of the online courses, while also maintaining the intended learning outcomes of the program. The name change will help solidify the identity of the online MA coursework program, which will help with student recruitment and appeal to prospective employers. The name change also reflects the content expertise of RLS faculty and course instructors and complements RLS undergraduate student training in sport and recreation management. The change to the program name will not involve any changes to current tuition rates. The proposed changes are also informed by the outcomes of curriculum reviews, a cyclical review, stakeholder consultations, community partners, and current and previous students. Beyond the name change, there are no other changes being proposed.

Jurisdictional Information

As outlined in the council's [Terms and Reference](#), Senate Graduate Council is empowered to make approvals on behalf of Senate for a variety of matters:

- Consider, study and review all proposals for new graduate programs, the deletion of graduate programs, and/or major modifications to existing graduate programs, and make recommendations to Senate thereon.

Governance Path

Faculty of Health: June 12, 2025

Senate Graduate Council: November 17, 2025

Senate: January 26, 2026

Documentation Provided

Appendix A: [Proposed Changes – Faculty of Health](#)

The full proposal can be found in the November 17, 2025 Senate Graduate Council Meeting Book, starting on [page 263](#).

For Approval**Open Session**

To: Senate

From: Mathematics Faculty Council

Presenter(s): Cecilia Cotton, Faculty Senator
Jochen Konemann, Dean, Faculty of Mathematics

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **9.1 Amendments to the Faculty of Mathematics Constitution**

Recommendation/Motion

That Senate approve the amended Constitution for the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo, as described in this report.

Proposal/Rationale

The proposed amendments aim to bring the Faculty's constitution in line with the current structure and operations of the Faculty, and in compliance with recent policy changes at the University level.

Amendments to the constitution are detailed in the attachment to this report, and a summary of the proposed changes are as follows:

- Amendments arising from the recent revisions to Policy 76 and Policy 77, and the introductions of new ranks within the professoriate.
- Amendments to align with the organizational structure of the Faculty (Math/Business is no longer a unit, the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) and Mathematics Undergraduate Group (MUG) are now treated as units, the Mathematics Graduate Student Association now exists).
- Amendments to reflect current practices or pragmatic approaches.
- The term length for Chair of Faculty Council is now defined as two years.
- The process to elect a Chair of Faculty Council is modified to include an option "None of the Above", which if the option prevails in the election the full election process under section V.i will be restarted from the beginning. This provision aims to mitigate situations where the elected Chair does not sufficiently earn the confidence of Faculty Council.
- Adjustment of Faculty Council quorum from 25 to 35, to reflect the growth of the Faculty in the time since that quorum figure was approved. Setting a formulaic quorum was considered but not adopted.
- Editorial edits to improve flow along with updates of titles and units.

The consultation process also yielded additional constitutional changes of potential interest to the Faculty, however it was determined that those additional changes would themselves require extensive consultation and were not pursued as part of the suite of changes for submission to Senate in this report.

Jurisdictional Information

Per Senate Bylaw 1, Article 15.01, where a Faculty has adopted a formal constitution, that constitution and any amendments thereto are inoperative and ineffective until approved by Senate.

Governance Path

- i. March 2024 - Faculty of Mathematics Administrative Committee established a subcommittee on constitution reform
- ii. May 2024 - Faculty Council received notice as part of agenda of regular meeting
- iii. October 2024 and February 2025 - Preliminary reports to Mathematics Faculty Council
- iv. May 2024 to March 2025 - Consultation
 - a. chairs of the various Faculty of Mathematics committees
 - b. Faculty Equity Officer
 - c. Secretary of the University
 - d. Dean Advisory Council
 - e. Faculty of Mathematics Administrative Committee
- v. First reading
 - a. March 21, 2025 - Draft revisions circulated to Mathematics Faculty Council
 - b. April 22, 2025 - Recommendation of proposed amendments by Mathematics Faculty Council, with 57 members in attendance and 52 voting in favour
 - c. Electronic vote of Mathematics Faculty Council held 5 May 2025 to 27 May 2025. Not all eligible voting members of the Faculty Council were able to participate in the vote. Vote declared null and void on 2 June 2025.
- vi. Feedback received following first reading
 - i. October 2025 - Faculty Council received notice as part of agenda of regular meeting
 - ii. November 25, 2025 - Recommendation of proposed amendments by Mathematics Faculty Council, with 64 members in attendance and 49 voting in favour
 - iii. Amendment approved by electronic vote of Mathematics Faculty Council held 9 December 2025 to 8 January 2026. X ballots circulated, Y ballots returned. Z voted in favour (P%, exceeds necessary threshold) **Results to be confirmed following Faculty e-vote**
 - iv. January 26, 2026 - Consideration of proposed amendments for approval by Senate

Documentation Provided

- **Attachment:** Draft revisions to the "Constitution of The Faculty of Mathematics at The University of Waterloo"

Proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Faculty of Mathematics

(strikethrough = deleted text; underline = new text)

CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

The Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo (the “University”) is constituted to

- (i) conduct research that has worldwide impact and recognition;
- (ii) provide teaching and learning opportunities of unmatched breadth and depth;
- (iii) produce graduates who are in worldwide demand; and
- (iv) undertake educational outreach and community engagement that increases mathematical and computing literacy nationally and globally.

I

FACULTY AND FACULTY COUNCIL

I.1 There shall be a unit of the University called the Faculty of Mathematics (the “Faculty”).

I.2 The plenary organ of the Faculty shall be the Faculty of Mathematics Faculty Council (“Faculty Council”).

I.2.i Faculty Council shall consist of the following, all as voting members:

The President of the University

The Vice-President, Academic & Provost

The Dean of the Faculty

~~All Associate Deans of the Faculty~~

~~All Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Lecturers holding a regular faculty appointment in the Faculty~~

All regular faculty members, as defined by Policy 76, holding appointments in the Faculty of Mathematics

The Associate Vice-President, Academic (or delegate)

The Associate ~~Provost~~ Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (or delegate)

The University Registrar (or delegate)

The University Librarian (or delegate)

The Faculty Relations Manager (Mathematics) in ~~the Department of Co-operative Education and Career Action~~ Co-operative and Experiential Education (CEE)

The Director of the Student Success Office (or delegate)

One full-time graduate student in the Faculty, pursuant to paragraph V.2.i

Two full-time undergraduate students in the Faculty, pursuant to paragraph V.2.ii

One full-time post-doctoral fellow in the Faculty, pursuant to paragraph V.2.iii

One representative from each of

1. the Faculty of ~~Applied~~ Health ~~Sciences~~;
 2. the Faculty of Arts;
 3. the Faculty of Engineering;
 4. the Faculty of Environment;
 5. the Faculty of Science
- pursuant to paragraph V.2.iv.

I.2.ii [The Chair of](#) Faculty Council may invite representatives of other units and sub-units of the University to attend and participate in meetings of Faculty Council on such terms as Faculty Council may determine.

I.3 Except as may otherwise be determined by [the Administrative Committee of](#) Faculty Council, meetings of Faculty Council shall be open to all members of the University community. [The Administrative Committee of](#) Faculty Council may, on 48 hours' notice, close a meeting to any or all categories of spectators. Student members of Faculty Council shall not participate in meetings or parts of meetings in which individual student cases are discussed.

I.4 The Year of Faculty Council runs from September 1st to August 31st. Faculty Council shall meet at least four times annually, as specified in the Bylaws. Additional meetings may be held either at the call of the Administrative Committee established pursuant to Clause III.1 below, or within 15 working days of receipt by either the Chair or the Secretary of Faculty Council of the written request of 15% of the membership of Faculty Council.

I.5 A quorum at all meetings of Faculty Council shall consist of ~~25~~ [35](#) members of Faculty Council.

I.6 Meetings of Faculty Council shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order and Procedure (to the extent that those Rules are not inconsistent with this Constitution) and such bylaws as may be adopted by Faculty Council. Except as otherwise provided for in this Constitution, notices of meetings with agenda and all relevant documentation shall be made available to members of Faculty Council at least 5 working days in advance of its meetings.

I.7 All Faculty Council Records will be maintained in accordance with University Policy 12 – Records Management which guides the creation, storage, use, and disposition of University Records. Except where prohibited by University Policy or government privacy legislation, all Faculty Council Records will be made available to the Faculty electronically.

I.8 Faculty Council shall have the following powers and duties:

- a) Subject to the approval of the Senate of the University (the “Senate”), to determine the course of study in the Faculty and the conditions of admission into, and continuation within, these courses of study;
- b) Subject to confirmation by Senate, to appoint the examiners for, and conduct the examinations of, the courses in the Faculty and determine the results of such examinations;
- c) On the Recommendation of the Undergraduate Standings and ~~Promotions~~ [Petitions](#) Committee established pursuant to Clause III.3 below and the Graduate Studies Committee established pursuant to Clause III.4 below, to recommend to Senate candidates for the conferring of degrees, diplomas, awards and other honours;
- d) To appoint such standing and ad hoc committees of Faculty Council as it shall determine, and to delegate to such committees the powers and responsibilities that Faculty Council itself possesses pursuant to Clause IV below; and
- e) To consider and report to Senate upon such matters affecting the Faculty as Faculty Council may deem appropriate.

~~¶~~ [I.9](#) Except in cases of extreme emergency, no motion of major policy significance may be debated or voted upon in any meeting unless prior notice of that motion is included in the agenda of that meeting. In cases of dispute, the Chair's ruling on whether or not a motion shall be admitted shall be final. Normally, reference to committees, questions of procedure, tabling and requests for information are among the matters not requiring notice of motion.

II

OFFICERS

II.1 The Dean

II.1.1 The senior executive officer of the Faculty shall have the title "Dean of Mathematics" (the "Dean").

II.1.ii The Dean is an officer of the University and is appointed in accordance with University Policy 45, "The Dean of a Faculty," as it may be amended from time to time, or any document in substitution therefor.

II.1.iii In reporting to the Vice-President, Academic & Provost, the Dean leads the Faculty with respect to curriculum development, teaching, learning, research, and fostering its best interests. The Dean represents the Faculty and acts on its behalf in any administrative and ceremonial matters pertaining to the Faculty as a whole. The Dean manages the Faculty, including matters relating to resourcing, resource allocation and Faculty development with advice from the Faculty Council and other relevant committees and performs such other duties or functions as required for the academic program of the Faculty.

II.2 The Chair of Faculty Council

II.2.i Pursuant to the provisions of Clause V.1 below, Faculty Council shall elect one of its faculty members as chair [to serve for a term of two years](#).

II.2.ii The duties of the chair shall consist of:

- a) Calling and chairing meetings of Faculty Council in accordance with I.5 above;
- b) Calling and chairing meetings of the Administrative Committee established pursuant to Clause III.1 below;
- c) Serving as electoral officer of the Administrative Committee established pursuant to Clause III.1 below; and
- d) Such other duties as may be assigned to the chair by this Constitution or through bylaws or resolutions of Faculty Council.

II.3 The Secretary of Faculty Council

II.3.i The Secretary of Faculty Council shall be appointed by the Dean.

II.3.ii The duties of the secretary shall consist of:

- a) Giving notice of and recording the proceedings of Faculty Council meetings and keeping the attendance roll;
- b) Giving notice of and recording proceedings of meetings of the Administrative Committee established pursuant to Clause III.1 below; and
- c) Such other duties as may be assigned to the secretary by [the Chair](#), this Constitution or through bylaws or resolutions of Faculty Council.

III STANDING COMMITTEES

~~The tenure of standing committees of the Faculty is from September 1st to August 31st.~~

- Administrative Committee
- Undergraduate Affairs Committee
- Standings and ~~Promotions~~ Petitions Committee
- Graduate Studies Committee
- Faculty Tenure, Permanence and Promotion Committee
- Honorary Degrees Committee
- Computing Advisory Committee
- Faculty Committee on Student Appeals

III.1 Administrative Committee (the “AC”)

III.1.i The AC shall:

- a) Plan the forthcoming business of Faculty Council and arrange the agenda of its meetings;
- b) Receive reports from standing and ad hoc committees of Faculty Council;
- c) Assign matters to appropriate committees and Faculty Council and manage matters that do not otherwise fall within the mandates of committees of Faculty Council;
- d) Serve as a nominating committee for Faculty representatives to other bodies in the University, and for any other committees to which the Faculty may from time to time send representatives, including appointing members to such bodies or committees as required to fill vacancies which may occur between elections;
- e) Monitor all motions submitted to Faculty Council via the Agenda in order to ensure that such motions are accompanied by adequate statements outlining the reasons for the motion, and its expected consequences.

III.1.ii The AC shall consist of the following, all as voting members:

Ex Officio

- a) The Chair of Faculty Council, who shall be Chair;
- b) The Secretary of Faculty Council;
- c) The Dean of the Faculty;
- d) The Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies;
- e) The Associate Dean, Graduate Studies.

Elected/Appointed

- a) One member of Faculty Council from each of 1. Applied Mathematics 2. Combinatorics and Optimization 3. Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) 4. Computer Science 5. Mathematics Undergraduate Group (MUG) 6. ~~4.~~ Pure Mathematics ~~5.~~ 7. Statistics and Actuarial Science chosen by a procedure approved by the relevant unit;
- b) One undergraduate student representative, chosen by the undergraduate students in the Faculty through a procedure approved by ~~the Dean~~ the Mathematics Society (MathSoc);
- c) One graduate student representative, chosen by the graduate students in the Faculty through a procedure approved by the ~~Dean~~ Math Graduate Student Association (MGSA).

III.1.iii Meetings of the AC shall be closed to everyone other than members of the AC and those invited to attend at the request of the AC.

III.2 Undergraduate Affairs Committee (the “UAC”)

III.2.i The UAC shall:

- a) Provide general academic oversight on proposals concerning curricula, courses, academic policies, academic standards, continuation conditions, and general undergraduate affairs, and make recommendations on those matters to Faculty Council;
- b) Define and oversee the functioning of the core curriculum in the Faculty, and make recommendations in that respect to Faculty Council;
- c) Establish and oversee policies relating to admission of undergraduates to the Faculty, including policies governing advanced standing; Oversee and coordinate the preparation of calendar and other informational material relating to undergraduate programs and plans in the Faculty;
- d) Receive and consider proposals from the Undergraduate Standings and Promotions Committee; and
- e) Consult representatives of groups that do not have permanent representation on the UAC whenever those groups may be affected by proposals to be considered by the UAC, and, in the discretion of the UAC, invite representatives of such groups to attend UAC meetings at which such proposals are to be discussed.

III.2.ii The UAC shall consist of the following as members, all of whom shall be voting members of the UAC unless otherwise noted:

Ex Officio

- a) The Dean;
- b) The Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, who shall be Chair;
- c) The Associate Dean, Co-operative Studies;
- d) The Associate Dean, Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach;
- e) ~~4~~ The Faculty of Mathematics representative on Senate Undergraduate Council;
- f) ~~e~~ The Mathematics Society Vice-President Academic;

Elected/Appointed

- a) One member of Faculty Council from each of 1) Actuarial Science 2) Applied Mathematics 3) Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing ~~3~~ 4) Combinatorics and Optimization 5) Mathematics Undergraduate Group ~~4~~ 6) Pure Mathematics ~~5~~ 7) Statistics chosen by a procedure approved by the relevant unit.
- b) Two members of Faculty Council from the Cheriton School of Computer Science, chosen by a procedure approved by the School;
- c) ~~One member of Faculty Council from the Math/Business and Accountancy plans chosen by a procedure approved by the Director of the Mathematics Business and Accountancy plans;~~
- ~~4~~ One undergraduate student representative majoring in Computer Science, chosen by the undergraduates majoring in Computer Science by a procedure authorized by the Director of the Cheriton School of Computer Science;

III.2.iii The chair of the UAC shall be the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies. Meetings of the UAC shall be closed to everyone other than members of the UAC and those invited to attend at the request of the [chair of UAC](#).

III.2.iv Recommendations for changes in curriculum and regulations governing undergraduate programs for the next academic year shall be submitted to the UAC by a date to be specified by the UAC in consultation with the chair of Faculty Council. Except as otherwise provided in this Article III.2, the UAC shall present its recommendations ~~and copies of submissions~~ to Faculty Council for approval.

III.3 Undergraduate Standings and ~~Promotions~~ [Petitions](#) Committee (the “S&P”)

III.3.i The S&P shall:

- a) Implement existing policies concerning standings, ~~promotions~~, withdrawals, and related matters;
- b) Receive, evaluate, and adjudicate on ~~all~~ petitions for ~~special consideration related to standing and promotions~~ [exceptions to academic rules as per Policy 70](#);
- c) Report, and make recommendations, to the UAC on policies related to standings and ~~promotions~~ [petitions](#).

III.3.ii The S&P shall consist of the following members, all of whom shall be voting members unless otherwise noted:

Ex Officio

- a) The Dean;
- b) The Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, ~~who shall be Chair~~;
- c) [The Assistant Dean for Students](#);
- d) [The Director of the Mathematics Undergraduate Office, or delegate](#);
- e) ~~e) The Co-operative Education & Career Action~~ [Co-operative and Experiential Education \(CEE\)](#) Faculty Relations Manager, Mathematics ~~Co-op~~; and
- ~~d) f) The Associate Dean, Co-op Studies.~~

Elected/Appointed

- a) Not more than two academic advisors from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science appointed by the Chair or Director of the relevant unit;
- ~~(b) Not more than two academic advisor from the Mathematics Business and Accountancy Plans appointed by the Director of the Mathematics Business and Accountancy Plans.~~
- b) [Not more than one academic advisor appointed by the Director of the relevant plans for each of 1\) Honours Mathematics, 2\) Mathematical Studies, 3\) Computational Mathematics, 4\) Mathematics Business.](#)

III.3.iii Meetings of the S&P shall be closed to everyone other than members of S&P and those invited to attend at the request of S&P.

[III.3.iv The Chair of S&P shall be the Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies or delegate](#)

III.4 Graduate Studies Committee (the “GSC”)

III.4.i The GSC shall:

- a) Be responsible for the development and operation of graduate studies in the Faculty, and shall oversee the promotion of research within Faculty, subject to the approval of Faculty Council, the Senate Graduate Council, the ~~Dean of Graduate Studies~~ Associate Vice President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs ~~the Graduate Studies Office, the Senate Research Council~~, the Senate and other bodies and offices with mandated responsibility for development and operation of graduate studies ~~and research~~ at the University;
- b) Consider all proposed new graduate courses and programs and all proposed changes in existing graduate courses and programs, and ~~to~~ make recommendations to Faculty Council in those respects;
- c) Determine the requirements for Sole Supervisory Privilege Status ~~qualification as approved doctoral dissertation supervisors~~ within the Faculty;
- d) Recommend to Faculty Council candidates meeting all requirements for the ~~post-baccalaureate~~ graduate degrees offered by the Faculty;
- e) Oversee the preparation of calendar and other informational material related to the graduate programs of the Faculty, and ~~to~~ coordinate such material prepared by Departments and Schools of the Faculty;
- f) Make recommendations to the appropriate bodies on the financial requirements for graduate student support, and for the promotion of research; and
- g) Have responsibility for the admissions policies and procedures for graduate students, subject to approval by Faculty Council.

III.4.ii The GSC shall consist of the following as members, all of whom shall be voting members of the GSC unless otherwise noted:

Ex Officio

- a) The Dean;
- b) The Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, who shall be Chair;
- c) The graduate officers from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) ~~Computational Mathematics~~ 4) Computer Science 5) ~~4)~~ Pure Mathematics 6) ~~5)~~ Statistics and Actuarial Science 6) Master of Mathematics for Teachers
- d) The Associate Dean, Research;
- e) ~~The Associate Provost, Graduate Studies~~ The Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs.
- f) The Chair of the Math Graduate Student Association

Elected/Appointed

- a) One faculty member of Faculty Council from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science chosen from among the ~~approved doctoral dissertation supervisors~~ Sole Supervisory Privilege Status 2 holders by a procedure approved by the relevant unit, each to serve a two-year term;
- b) ~~Two~~ One full-time graduate students in the Faculty, elected for a 2-year terms ~~(except for 1-year terms when need to provide for retirement in alternate years)~~ by the graduate students of the Faculty.

III.4.iii Meetings of the GSC shall be closed to everyone other than members of the GSC and those invited to attend at the request of the chair of GSC.

III.5 Faculty Tenure, Permanence and Promotion Committee (the “FTPPC”)

III.5.i The ~~TPC~~ FTPPC shall serve as the Faculty Tenure, Permanence and Promotion Committee as outlined in University Policy #77, “~~–~~ Tenure and Promotion of Faculty Members” (“~~Policy 77~~”).

III.5.ii Membership on the ~~TPC~~ FTPPC shall be as provided ~~for Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committees~~ in Policy 77, with the following additional requirements:

- a) Where Policy 77 requires “at least five tenured or permanent faculty members broadly representative of Faculty program areas,” this shall mean one faculty member of Faculty Council from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science 6) either the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing, or the Mathematics Undergraduate Group elected by the relevant unit(s);
- b) Members of the ~~TPC~~ FTPPC elected pursuant to paragraph ~~III.6.ii.a)~~ III.5.ii.a) shall serve three-year non-renewable terms;
- c) Nominations of members to serve as elected members of ~~TPC~~ FTPPC shall be in writing and must be signed by five members of the electorate as defined in Policy 77, except that the electorate shall be limited to members of the unit for which such nomination is made.
- d) Elections pursuant to this sub-Clause ~~II.5.ii~~ III.5.ii shall be conducted by the Dean’s Office on behalf of each unit, and shall be by secret ballot conducted among members of the electorate in each unit for which such election is held.

III.6 Honorary Degrees Committee (the “HDC”)

III.6.i The HDC shall:

- a) Consider issues of policy concerning honorary degrees and distinguished professor emeritus appointments, and make recommendations on these matters to the appropriate bodies;
- b) Recommend candidates for honorary degrees, and refer suitable nominees to the Senate Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees, according to the criteria established by that Senate Committee; and
- c) Advise the Dean on recommendations for distinguished Professor Emeritus appointments received by the Dean from Chairs and Directors of the Faculty. In considering nominations, the Chair or Director will first consult with and seek the advice of the Department or School Tenure and Promotion Committee before deciding to forward a recommendation to the Dean. The Dean in turn will consult with the Faculty Honorary Degrees Committee, consider its advice in his/her final decision, and forward approved nominations to the Senate Nominating Committee for Honorary Degrees.

III.6.ii The HDC shall consist of the following as voting members:

- a) The Dean;
- b) A faculty ~~Faculty~~ member holding a tenured appointment ~~in the professorial ranks~~, appointed by the AC to serve as Chair; and
- c) One faculty member of Faculty Council from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science appointed by the Chair or Director of the relevant unit, each to serve a two or three year term.

III.6.iii Meetings of the HDC shall be closed to everyone other than members of the HDC and those invited to attend at the request of the HDC.

III.7 Computing Advisory Committee (the “CAC”)

III.7.i The CAC shall:

- a) Advise [the Associate Dean Computing and](#) Faculty Council on procedures and priorities for the use of computing resources within the Faculty; and
- b) Participate in continuous long-term planning for the renewal of computing resources in the Faculty, including attention to the relationship with central computing resources for the University.

III.7.ii The CAC shall consist of the following as voting members:

Ex Officio

- a) The Dean;
- b) The Associate Dean, Computing, who shall be Chair;
- c) The Director of Infrastructure of the Cheriton School of Computer Science;

Elected/Appointed

- a) One faculty member from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) [Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing](#) 3) Combinatorics and Optimization ~~3)~~ 4) Computer Science ~~4)~~ 5) [Mathematics Undergraduate Group](#) 6) Pure Mathematics ~~5)~~ 7) Statistics and Actuarial Science appointed by the Chair or Director of the relevant unit;
- b) One full-time graduate student in the Faculty, elected by the graduate students of the Faculty by a procedure approved by the Associate Dean;
- c) One undergraduate student in the Faculty, chosen by the ~~graduate~~ undergraduate students in the Faculty by a procedure approved by the Associate Dean; and
- d) Such additional (non-voting) persons as the Chair shall from time to time appoint.

III.7.iii The chair of the CAC shall be the Associate Dean, Computing. Meetings of the CAC shall be closed to everyone other than members of the CAC and those invited to attend at the request of the [chair of the](#) CAC.

III.8 Faculty Committee on Student Appeals (the “FCSA”)

III.8.i The FCSA shall:

- a) Exercise the jurisdiction vested in faculty committees on student appeals by section 3 of University Policy 72, “Student Appeals” (“Policy 72”); and
- b) Advise Faculty Council on matters referred to in paragraph [III.8.i.a\)](#) ~~III.9.i.a)~~.

III.8.ii The FCSA shall consist of the following as members, all of whom shall be voting members of the FCSA:

- a) The Dean;
- b) A member of the Faculty holding tenured [or permanent](#) appointment ~~in the professorial ranks~~, appointed by the AC, to serve as Chair;

- c) Two faculty members of Faculty Council from each of 1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science 6) either the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing, or the Mathematics Undergraduate Group appointed by the Chair or Director of the relevant unit, each to serve a two-year term, provided that one of such appointees from each unit shall retire in each year;
- d) Three or more undergraduate students in the Faculty, chosen on a termly basis by the undergraduate students in the Faculty by a procedure approved by the Dean ~~for one or two-year terms~~; and
- e) Two or more full-time graduate students in the Faculty, chosen by the graduate students in the Faculty by a procedure approved by the Dean, for one- or two-year terms.

III.8.iii Meetings of the FCSA shall be closed to everyone other than members of the FCSA and those invited to attend at the request of the FCSA.

IV

AD HOC COMMITTEES

IV.1.i Faculty Council shall be entitled to establish such other standing or ad hoc committees as it sees fit, to determine the composition and terms of reference of such committees, and to appoint the initial members of such committees, provided that:

- a) no such committee shall remain a committee of Faculty Council for more than two years from the date of the meeting of Faculty Council at which it was established unless its composition and terms of reference are incorporated in this Constitution or its bylaws; and
- b) all elections subsequently necessary to fill positions on such committees are held pursuant to the provisions of Clause V.3 below.

V

ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

V.1 Election of Chair of Faculty Council

V.1.i Except as otherwise provided for in valid University or Senate documents, the election of the chair of Faculty Council shall take place during a period (the “Election Period”) assigned by the AC, and shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:

- a) Not less than four weeks prior to the start of the Election Period, the AC shall circulate to members of Faculty Council a call for nominations to be received in the office of the Secretary of Faculty Council not later than two weeks prior to the start of the Election Period.
- b) All nominations submitted pursuant to paragraph V.1.i.a) shall be endorsed by three faculty members of Faculty Council and the nominee.
- c) At the start of the Election Period, the chair of Faculty Council shall issue a notice of election, and in issuing that call shall append a list of those nominated pursuant to paragraph V.1.i.a).
- d) The chair of Faculty Council shall be elected from among the nominees listed pursuant to paragraph V.1.i.c) by a simple majority of the votes cast during the Election Period. The ballot shall include the option “none of the above” and if this option wins, the nomination and election process shall restart.

V.1.ii The office of chair of Faculty Council shall be deemed to be vacated should the incumbent be absent from the University for longer than six consecutive months.

V.1.iii Should the Administrative Committee determine that the office of chair of Faculty Council ~~become is~~ vacant ~~for any reason whatsoever~~, then the remaining members of the AC shall appoint another faculty member of Faculty Council to serve in that office until a replacement is elected in accordance with the provisions of sub-Clause V.1.i. Such election shall be held within ~~twelve~~ four months of the creation of the vacancy.

V.2 Election/Appointment of Council Members

V.2.i Graduate Student representative. The Graduate Student representative will be chosen to serve a one-year term through a nomination/election process administered by the Mathematics Graduate ~~Office~~ Student Association.

V.2.ii Undergraduate Student representatives. The Mathematics Society President, and the Mathematics Society Vice-President Academic shall serve as the Undergraduate Student representatives.

V.2.iii Post-Doctoral Fellow representative. The Post-Doctoral Fellow representative will be chosen to serve a one-year term through a nomination/election process administered by the Mathematics Graduate Office.

V.2.iv Representatives from other Faculties. The representative from each of the other Faculties will be appointed to serve a one-year term, chosen through the process determined by that Faculty.

V.3 Vacancies on Committees of Faculty Council

V.3.i ~~Any elected member of a committee of Faculty Council shall be deemed to have vacated the position should the incumbent be absent from the University for longer than six consecutive months.~~

~~V.3.ii~~ Should a vacancy occur ~~for any reason whatsoever~~ in any elected position on a committee of Faculty Council, then the remaining members of that committee shall appoint another member of Faculty Council to serve in that position in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution by which the relevant committee is established until a replacement is elected in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution by which the relevant committee is established. Such election shall be held within ~~twelve~~ four months of the creation of the vacancy.

V.4 University and Senate Committees and Councils

V.4.i The following processes are used to appoint or elect members to University and Senate Committees or Councils from the Faculty of Mathematics, as specified in the bylaws and/or policies associated with those committees:

a) Senate Graduate & Research Council. Membership of this Senate Committee is described in Senate Bylaw 2. The two elected/appointed members from Mathematics will be the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, and the Associate Dean, Research. The Associate Deans serve on the Council without term limits.

b) Senate Undergraduate Council. Membership of this Senate Committee is described in Senate Bylaw 2. The elected/appointed Faculty representative is elected from the faculty ~~Faeulty~~ members at large, for a term of two years.

c) University Committee on Student Appeals. Membership of this University Committee is described in University Policy 72. ~~The~~ Any Faculty representative requested by Policy 72 is appointed by the Dean from the faculty ~~Faeulty~~ members at large, for a term of two years.

d) Dean Nominating Committee. Membership ~~of these committees~~ is described in University Policy 45. The six faculty members are elected as follows:

One regular faculty ~~Faeulty~~ member elected by the members of the relevant unit(s) from each of

1) Applied Mathematics 2) Combinatorics and Optimization 3) Computer Science 4) Pure Mathematics 5) Statistics and Actuarial Science ~~elected by the members of the relevant unit;~~

One regular faculty ~~Faeulty~~ member is elected from the faculty ~~Faeulty~~ members at large and will satisfy the gender requirements specified in University Policy 45.

~~IV.1.iii~~ e) The Constitution of the councils of the other Faculties may include representative membership from the Faculty of Mathematics. These positions will be filled according to those constitutional requirements; if there are no specific requirements, the representatives from the Faculty of Mathematics shall be appointed as per a process approved by Administrative Committee ~~by the Dean~~.

VI

BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

VI.1 Bylaws of Faculty Council shall be adopted by a two thirds majority of the votes cast at a duly constituted meeting of Faculty Council at which a quorum is present. Notice of proposed amendment, repeal or adoption of bylaws must be given in writing not less than 30 days prior to the meeting at which those proposals are intended to be considered.

VI.2 Any amendments to this Constitution shall require the following: ~~e)~~ a) A recommendation for such amendments ratified by a simple majority at a meeting of Faculty Council. Notice of such a recommendation must be brought to Faculty Council at least 30 days prior to its discussion. b) ~~f)~~ A ballot (including the use of electronic voting) of all members of Faculty Council, on the recommendation of Faculty Council. There shall be at least seven days' notice before the start of the voting period, and the voting period shall have a duration of fifteen business days. The ballot must carry by at least a 60% majority of all members of Faculty Council. c) ~~g)~~ Approval of the University Senate.

Ratified ~~Approved~~ at a meeting of Faculty Council held ~~November 10, 2016~~ 25 November 2025 and subsequently approved by ballot.

Approved at a meeting of Senate held ~~January 16, 2017~~ **TBD**.

For Information**Open Session**

To: Senate

Presenter(s): Charmaine Dean
Vice President, Research and International

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **10.1 Awards, Distinctions, Grants, Commercialization Activity, International Student Engagements**

Recommendation/Motion

This item is for information purposes.

Summary

This Annual Report to Senate summarizes Fundamental and Applied Research, Knowledge Mobilization, Community, Campus and Culture, and Innovation and Entrepreneurship initiatives for 2024/25.

Proposal/Rationale

This report provides an annual summary of significant activities and outputs related to research, support services and commercialization initiatives in the Office of the Vice-President, Research and International.

Jurisdictional Information

N/A

Governance Path

Joint meeting of Senate Graduate Council and Senate Research and Innovation Council:
January 13, 2026 (information)

Senate: January 26, 2026 (information)

Documentation Provided

Attached – Vice-President, Research and International: Annual Report to Senate 2024/2025.

**Office of the Vice-President,
Research and International**

ANNUAL REPORT TO SENATE

2024/2025

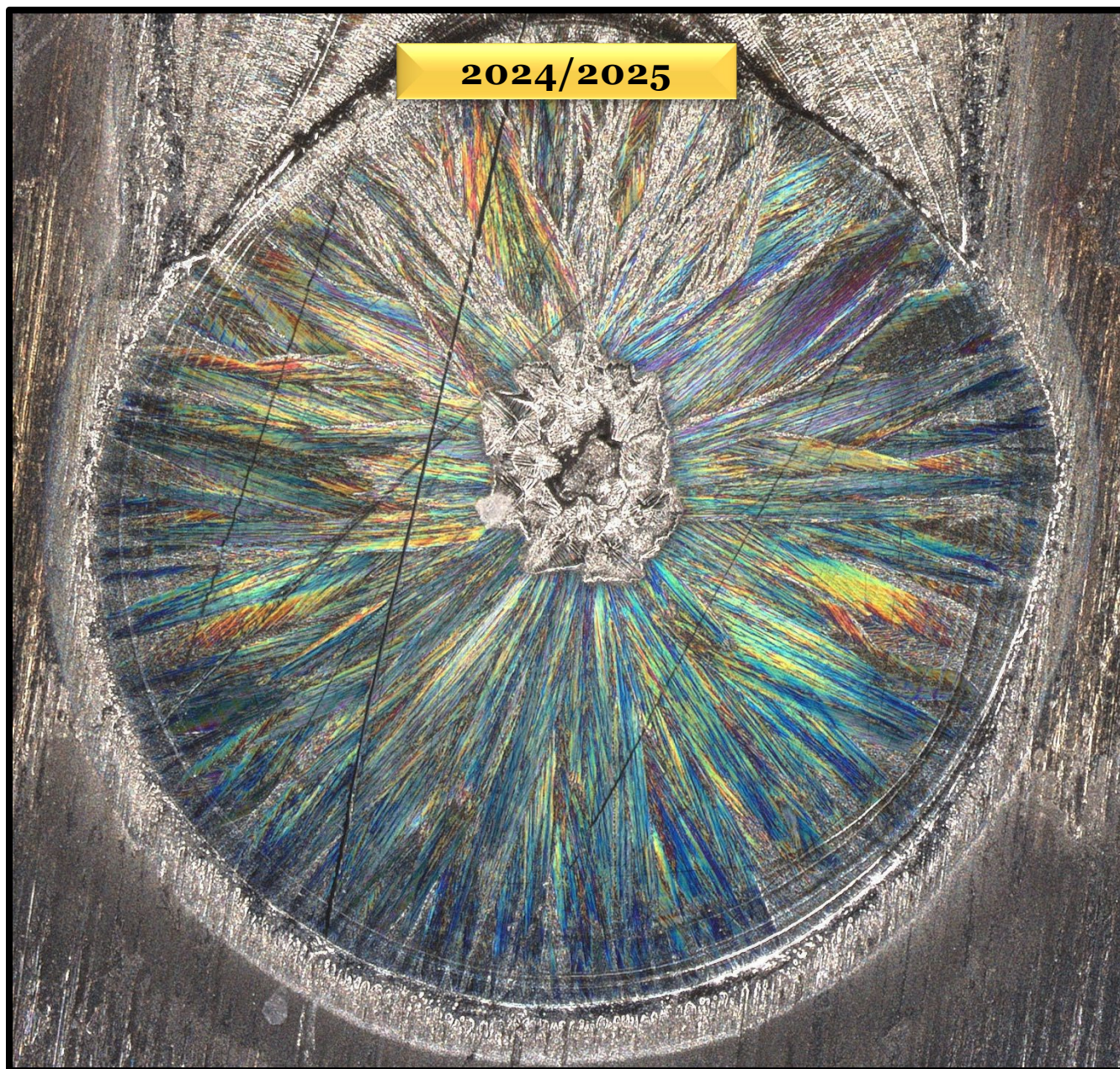


TABLE OF CONTENTS

2024/2025 - Highlights

3

Strategic Areas

Fundamental and Applied Research

Tracking our research funding

Benchmarking ourselves

Working with partners

Celebrating our awards



5

5

6-8

9

10-11

Knowledge Mobilization

Leading a Community of Practice



13

13

Community, Campus, and Culture

Supporting international opportunities for students

Fostering equity, diversity and inclusion

Upholding ethical standards in research

Safeguarding research



14

14

15

16

17

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Our innovation impact

Creating anchor partnerships

Nurturing commercialization activities



18

18

19

20

Appendix

Data Notes

21-22

Front cover photo: Peacock Mountain- This is a digital microscopy image of a laser weld produced by the laser directed energy deposition (LDED) process. The particular feature in question is the end of the weld which causes the enlarged circular shape. The colourful streaks are iron and titanium oxides of various thickness. Photo by Mikhail Malmyguine (Faculty of Engineering, BASc student) with assistance from Michael Benoit (Faculty of Engineering)– second place winner of the 2025 Art of Engineering and Architecture research photo contest.

MESSAGE

VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL

The Office of the Vice-President, Research and International provides support across the full research cycle from grant writing that includes research security, ethics, and diversity, equity and inclusion support to commercialization pathways that enable real-world applications in critical areas that serve humanity.

This report provides highlights of the research outputs and supports from across the OVPRI portfolio to showcase the diverse research activities that enable Waterloo to implement our long-term Waterloo@100 and Global Futures visions and be a continuous leader in solving the world's most pressing problems.

In the coming years, we will continue building Waterloo's strengths in foundational and applied research and continue to work collaboratively with a wide variety of local and global partners.

We will accomplish this by fostering an inclusive campus research environment that ensures our research planning, execution, and dissemination is locally grounded and carries global impact.

2024/2025 - HIGHLIGHTS

This year we successfully increased our overall funding by 10%. There were many initiatives that contributed to this increase such as the \$45M from the Digital Research Alliance of Canada and Compute Ontario for much needed computing updates to the Graham Data Centre (now called Nibi).

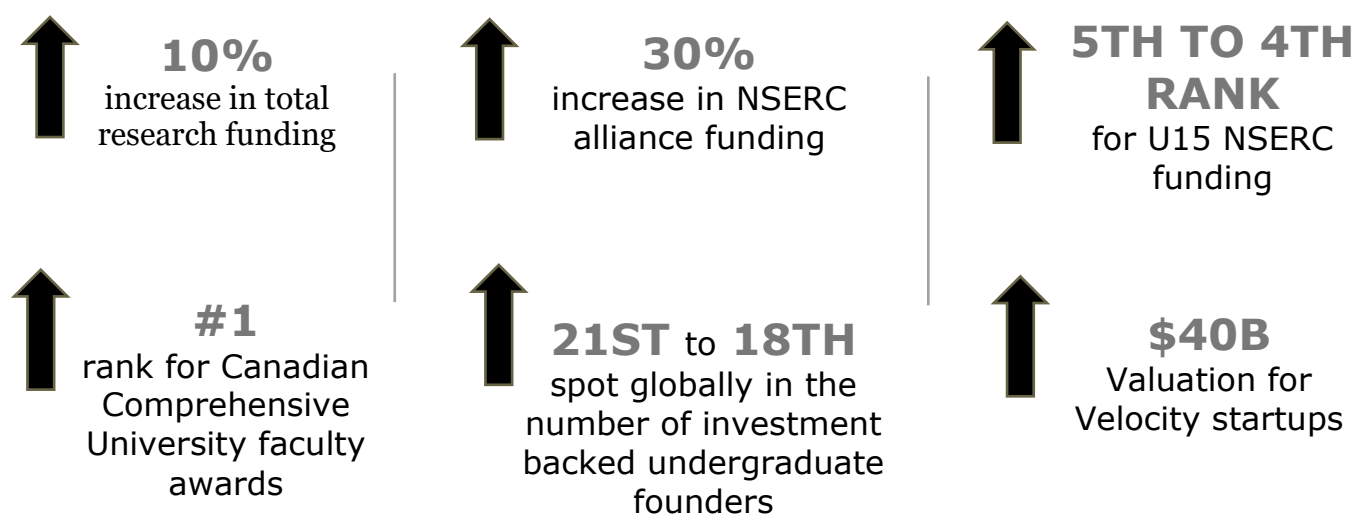
Our consistent leadership in NSERC funding signals the strength and commitment of our campus community to continue work toward scientific and technical breakthroughs. Although we have constantly performed well on our SSHRC Insight grants we will encourage more faculty members to apply for SSHRC funding in general. To make progress on CIHR funding, we will actively encourage applicants to use available grant writing resources and participate in the CIHR project grant external peer review program.

Our efforts in relation to Faculty level award support are visible through our upward movement in the Maclean's annual awards ranking in both the comprehensive and U15 university categories. This work will continue as a key strategy moving forward.

Over the coming year, we will continue to enhance our Knowledge Mobilization Community of Practice (CoP) to ensure that sharing of research initiatives and best practices strengthens our local and global research impact. We will continue to actively support researchers and students to embed diversity, equity, and inclusion and decolonization, Indigenization, and reconciliation into their work, including more concerted efforts around inclusive innovation.

Our success of ensuring that we have an anchor partnership in Rogers signals our commitment to diversify partnership funding. The derived benefits to research and technology transfer, student engagement, and the innovation ecosystem development from this anchor partner will help facilitate research in telecommunications research and we will seek out other anchor partners in key strategic areas.

Finally, we have made huge strides this year in tracking multiple metrics related to our student/faculty and startup ecosystem so that we can effectively benchmark our programs and activities going forward.





University of Waterloo, Artist rendering of Mathematics 4 (M4) - a five-storey building that includes classroom space, labs and a cutting-edge eco-friendly server room – currently under construction



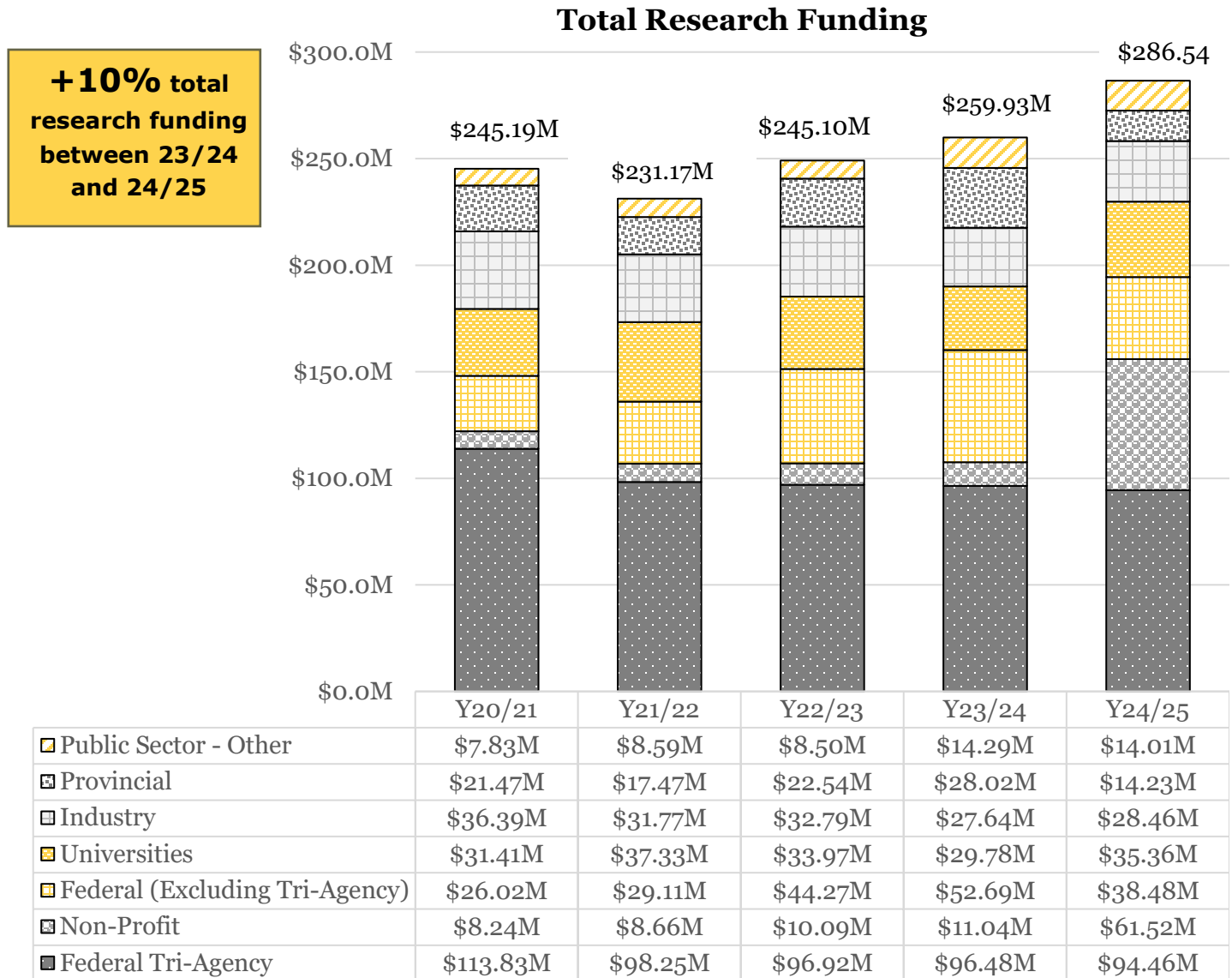
University of Waterloo, Artist rendering of Longhouse Labs - a dedicated space for Indigenous-led experiences and learning – currently under construction

Fundamental and Applied Research



Tracking our research funding

Between 2023/24 and 2024/25, total research funding increased by 10%. The largest increase was in Non-Profit funding which increased by 459% (\$50.5M) due in large part to a joint grant (+\$45.4M) from the Digital Research Alliance and Compute Ontario for significant upgrades and additions to the Graham data centre (now called Nibi).

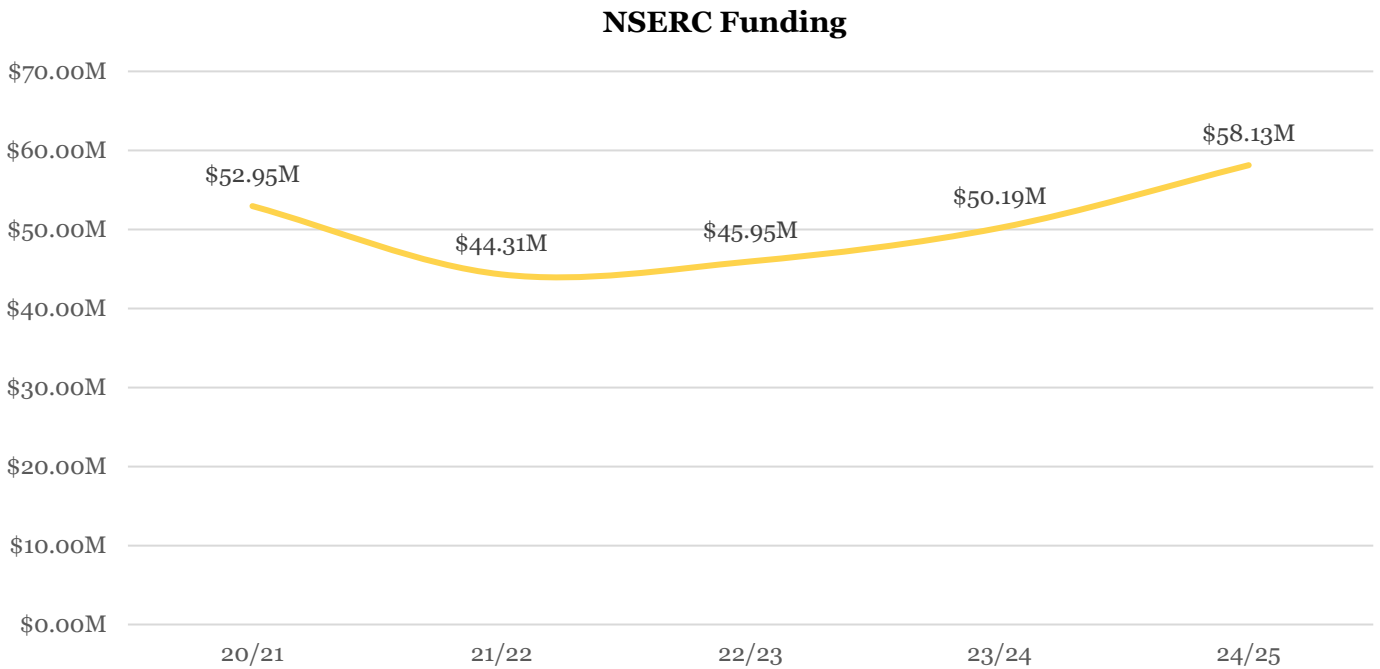


Federal (Excluding Tri-Agency) funding decreased between 23/24 and 24/25 due in large part to the natural end of the Canada First Research Excellence Fund grant (-\$5.8M) and Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (-\$4.1M) projects. Provincial funding also decreased by \$13.8M due to the end of one-time funding from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade for the Innovation Arena (-\$7.5M), a decrease from Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (Ontario) related to Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-Cov-2 (-\$3.6M) and a decrease from the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security for Ontario Research Fund – Research infrastructure (RI) projects (-\$3.1M).

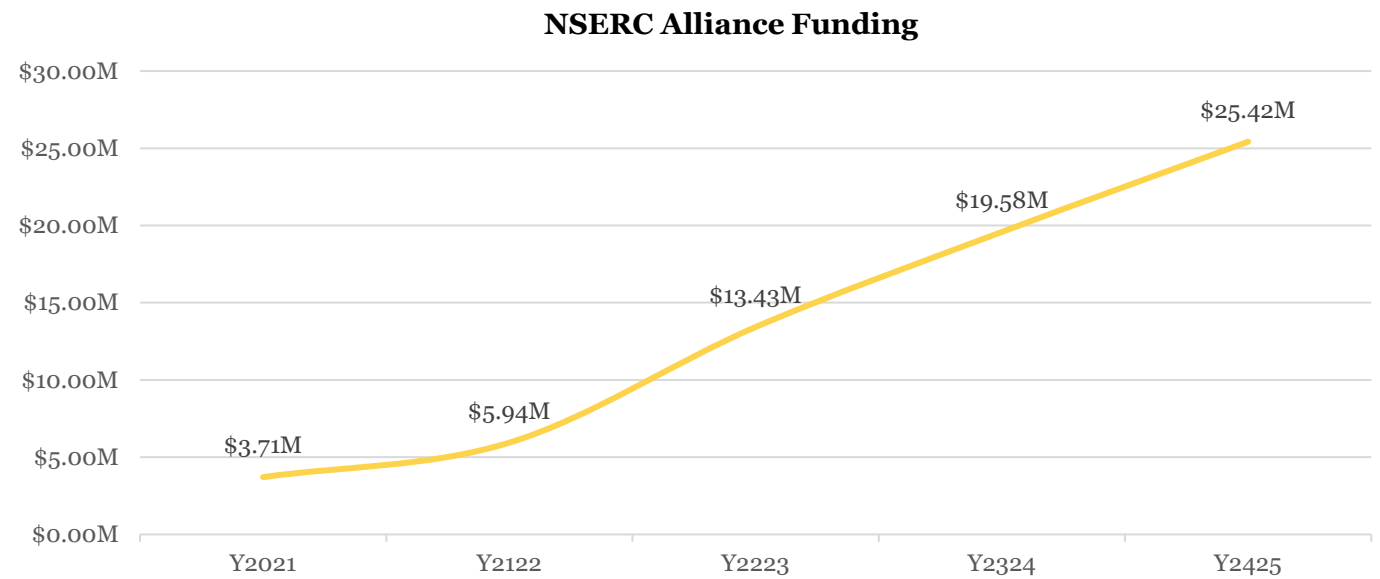


Benchmarking ourselves – NSERC funding

Between 2023/24 and 2024/25, Waterloo had a 16% increase in NSERC funding. The contributions to this increase include an additional \$5.8M Alliance, \$1.2M Idea to Innovation, \$450K Research Tools and Instruments (RTI), and \$500K National Science Foundation - Global Centres funding.



The data above do not include Canada Research Chairs (CRCs), Canada Excellence in Research Chairs (CERCs), and New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF).



Alliance grants encourage university researchers to collaborate with partner organizations, which can be from the private, public or not-for-profit sectors. Between 2023/24 and 2024/25, there was a 30% (+\$5.8M) increase in NSERC Alliance funding especially from the Alliance Advantage (+\$3.3M) and Alliance Quantum (+\$1.8M) programs.

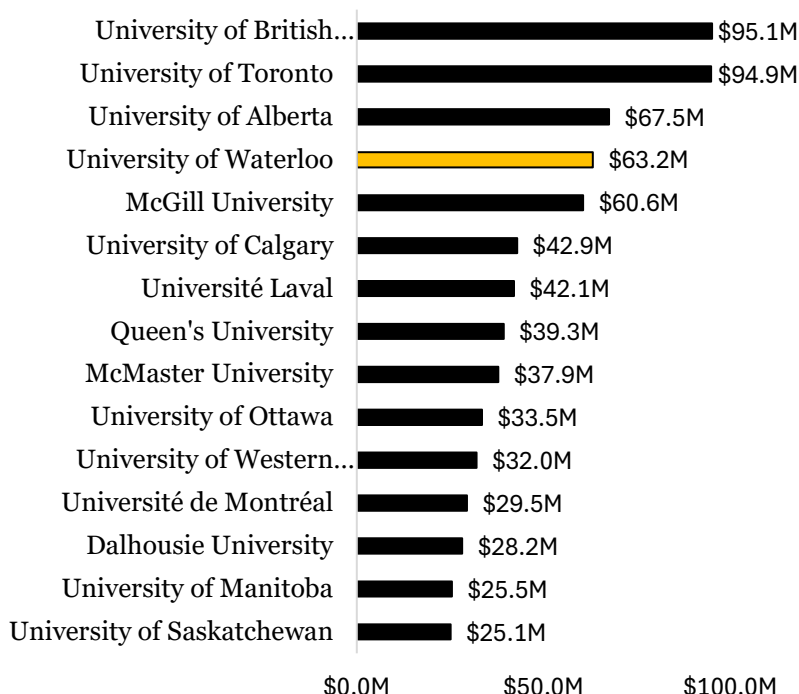


Benchmarking ourselves – NSERC funding

In the last 3 years, our NSERC funding rank has remained in the top 5 among U15 Universities. Our strategic goal has been to move up one rank in NSERC funding and this year we achieved this goal by moving from 5th to 4th rank, surpassing McGill University. These publicly available data used for benchmarking include funds from CRCs, CERCs, and NFRF programs - See appendix for exclusions.

UW Historic Rank for U15 NSERC Funding			
Year	22/23	23/24	24/25
Rank	5	5	4

U15 NSERC Funding 24/25



U15 NSERC Funding 23/24



U15 NSERC Funding 22/23

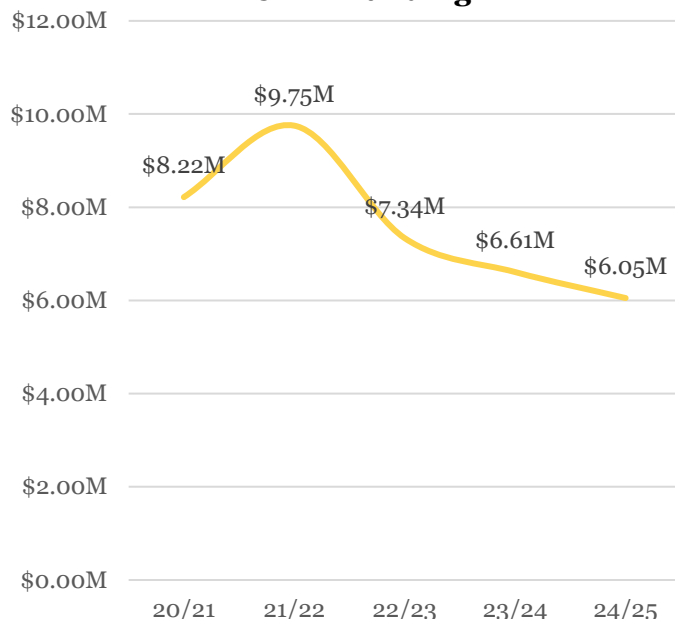




Benchmarking ourselves – CIHR and SSHRC funding

CIHR funding is difficult since Waterloo does not have medical school. Since 2022/23, our CIHR rank has been dropping year over year among comprehensive universities. Losing or gaining one or two grants makes a noticeable difference in CIHR funding. In 2024/25, the University of Guelph received training grants for healthy cities and one health research projects valued at \$1.2M, and therefore moved into third place. Since 2020/21 Waterloo has consistently garnered over \$6M in annual SSHRC funding. The University is actively encouraging more faculty to apply for SSHRC funding.

CIHR Funding

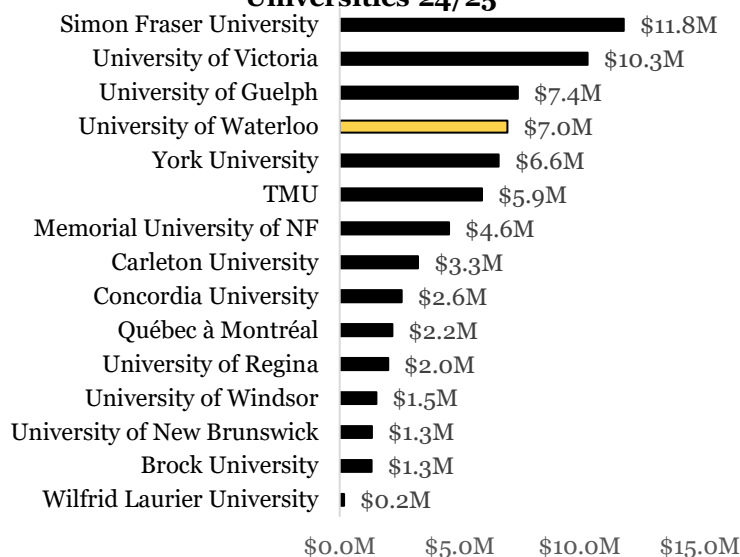


The data above do not include CRC and CERC program funding.

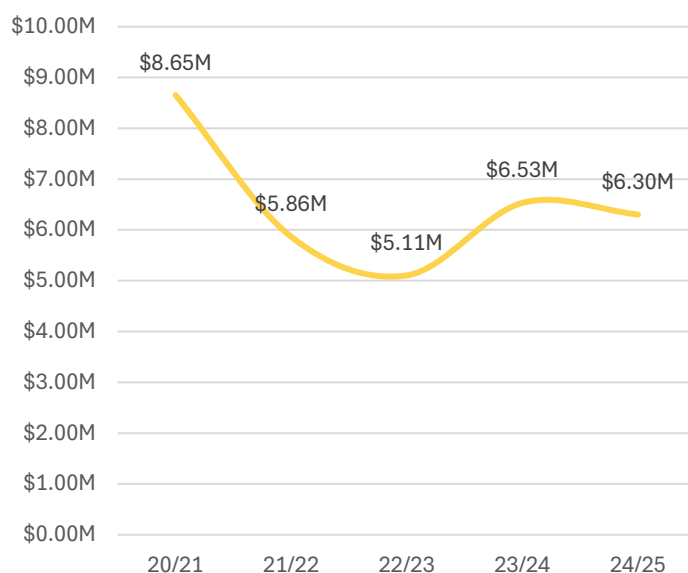
UW Historic Rank for Comprehensive Universities

Year	22/23	23/24	24/25
Rank	2	3	4

CIHR Funding for Comprehensive Universities 24/25



SSHRC Funding

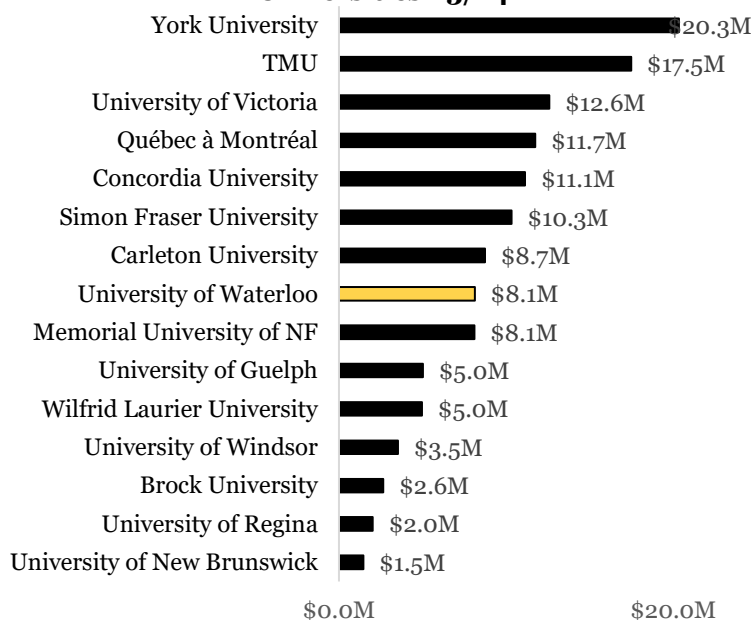


The data above do not include CRC, CERC, or NFRF program funding.

UW Historic Rank for Comprehensive Universities

Year	21/22	22/23	23/24
Rank	6	8	8

SSHRC Funding for Comprehensive Universities 23/24





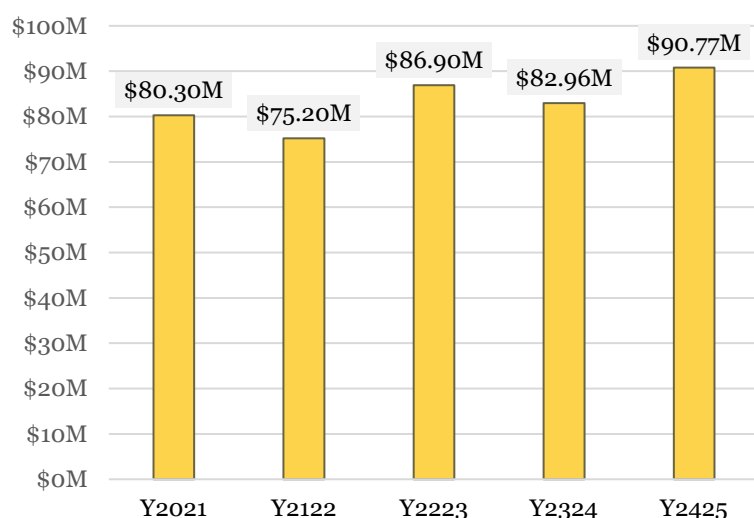
Working with partners – Partnership funding

Partnerships are critical for the success of our research enterprise. Waterloo leverages partnership funding from our government partnership programs, industry stakeholders and international partners.

+9% total government research and industry partnership funding between 2023/24 and 2024/25

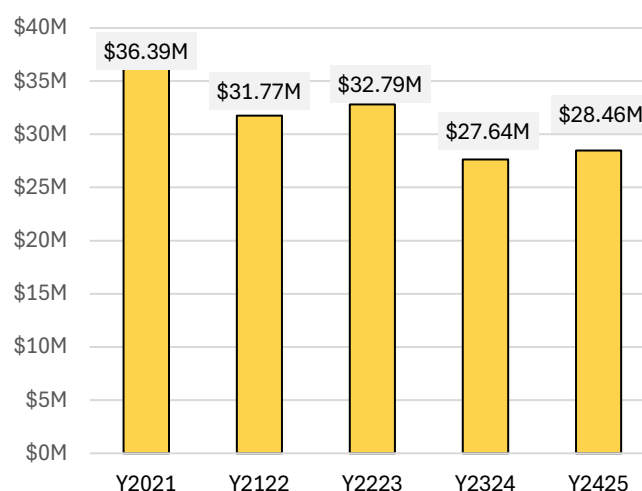
+3% total industry funding and CFI in-kind between 2023/24 and 2024/25

Government Research and Industry Partnership Funding



Industry Funding

Industry and CFI in-kind



FINCAPES

Flood Impacts, Carbon Pricing, and Ecosystem Sustainability (FINCAPES) is a five-and-a-half-year gender responsive international research and teaching project undertaken by the University of Waterloo's Faculties of Mathematics and Environment in collaboration with Indonesian partners. It focusses on providing technical assistance and capacity building to address adaptation strategies and mitigation impacts of climate change and biodiversity conservation in Indonesia. It is funded through Global Affairs Canada.

Top 10 countries, excluding the USA, with International research collaboration records in 24/25

Indonesia		\$2,643,273
United Kingdom		\$904,614
South Korea		\$772,231
Hong Kong		\$304,105
Cuba		\$303,770
Germany		\$293,019
India		\$212,500
Netherlands		\$191,923
Australia		\$176,270
Austria		\$160,144

Data notes: Appendix 1



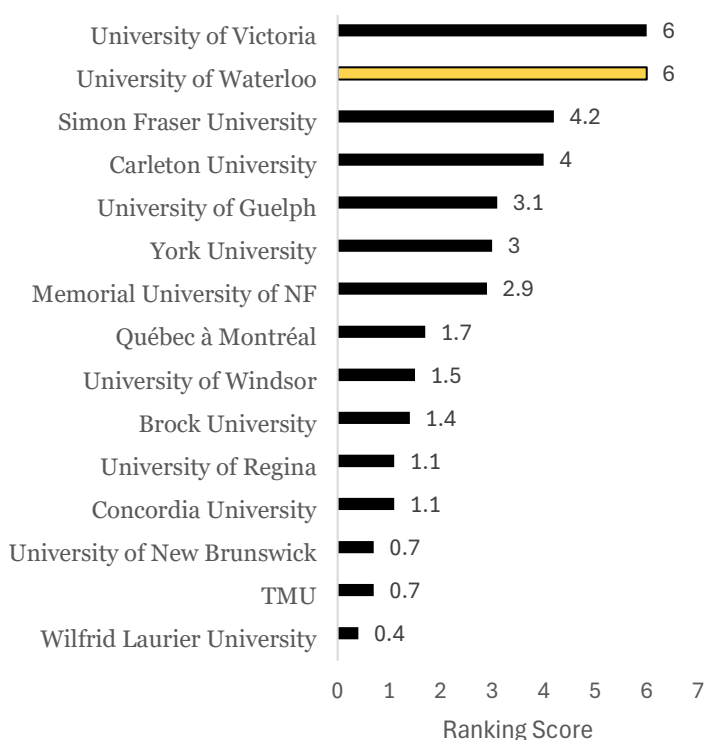
Celebrating our awards

Waterloo fosters a culture where research excellence is valued and recognized. We have been consistently successful in the Maclean's award ranking among comprehensive and the top 13 Canadian universities.

Waterloo moved from 2nd to 1st (tie) place with Victoria among the comprehensive universities in Canada

Waterloo moved from 11th to 5th place among the top 13 universities in Canada between 2020 and 2025

Maclean's Top Comprehensive Canadian Universities for 2025



Waterloo rank in Maclean's top 13 Canadian Universities (Top Rank = 1)

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Toronto	1	1	1	1	1	1
McGill	3	3	2	2	2	2
Ottawa	10	7	7	3	3	3
Dalhousie	8	5	6	7	5	4
Victoria	4	4	4	5	4	5
Waterloo	11	10	10	9	7	5
Queen's	2	2	3	4	6	7
McMaster	9	9	5	6	8	7
Alberta	5	8	8	8	10	7
Montreal	5	13	13	10	9	10
UBC	7	6	9	10	12	11
SFU	12	11	10	12	11	12
Western	13	12	12	13	13	13

UW Historic Maclean's Award Rank for Comprehensive Universities

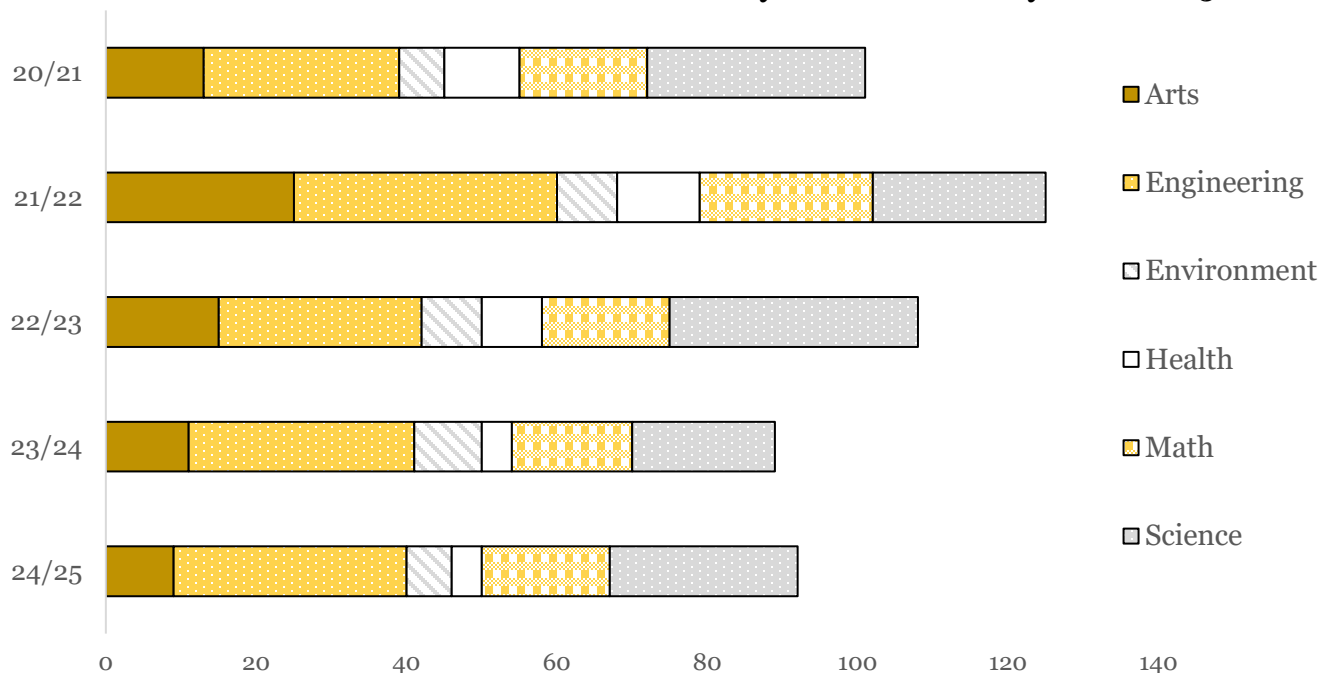
Year	2022	2023	2024
Rank	2	2	2

Data note: Methodology and inclusions for Maclean's ranking in Appendix 1.0



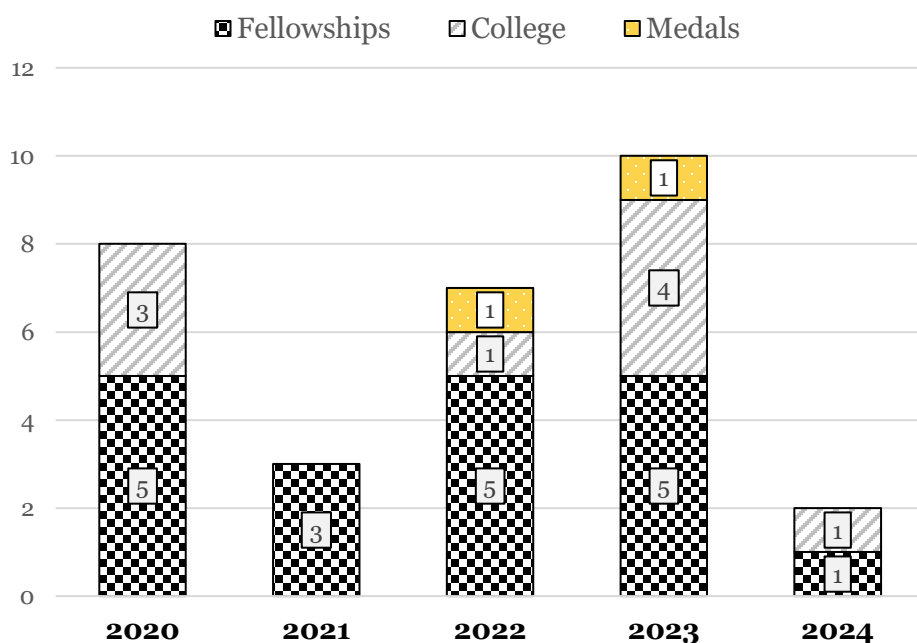
Celebrating our awards

Number of External Awards Received by Waterloo Faculty 2020-2025



Royal Society of Canada (RSC) Results

Number of Royal Society Awards per Type



2

Medals

9

College

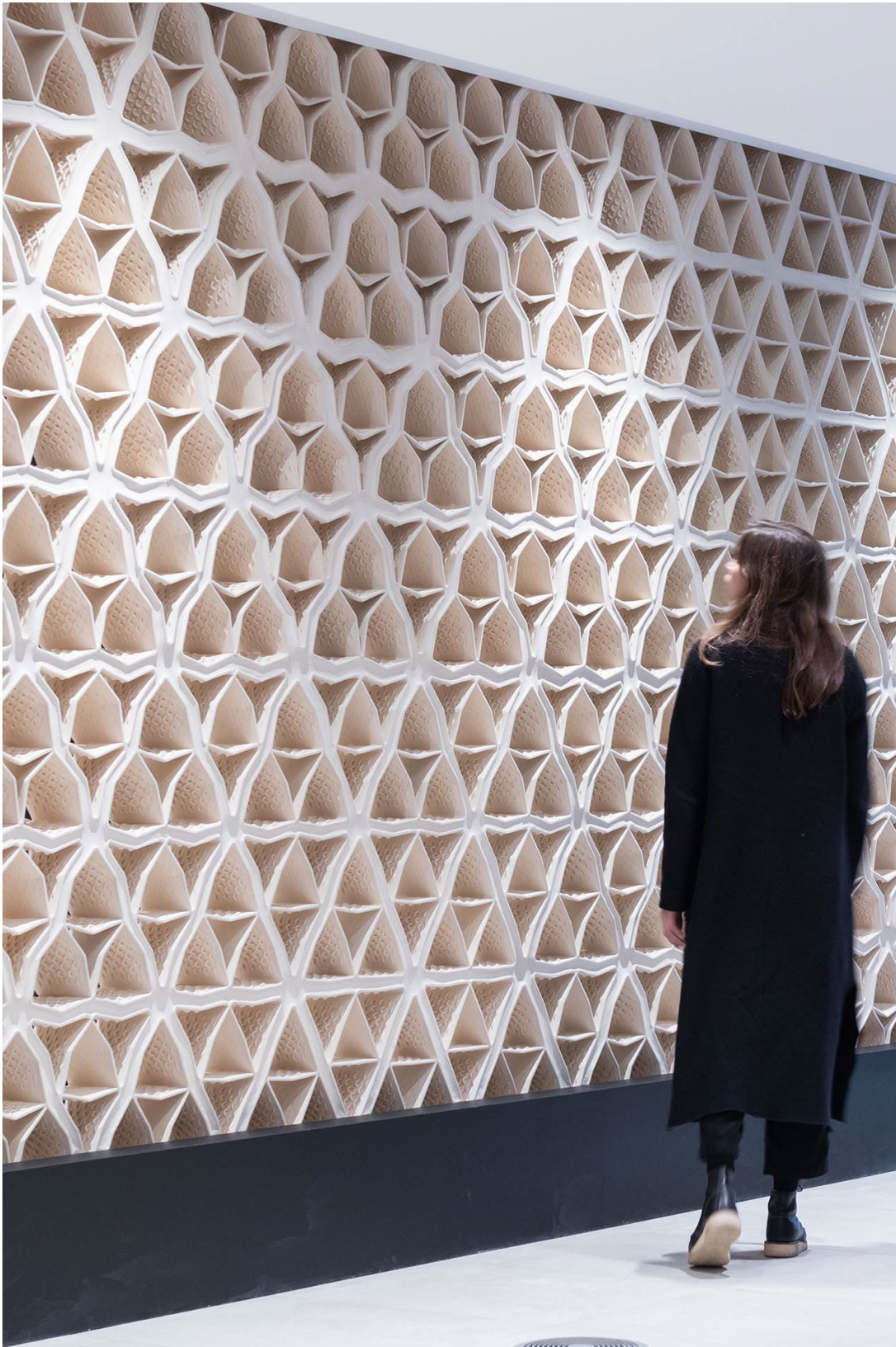
19

Fellowships

=



**30 Total Waterloo
RSC Recognitions**



Architecture students at the University of Waterloo have developed a flexible wall of 175 3D-printed clay bricks for interior spaces using traditional material and robot-supported production meld to create digital artisanship. Hive is the result of a research partnership between the University of Waterloo and the Investment Management Corporation of Ontario (IMCO). The project was commissioned by SDI Interior Design and supported by the Masonry Works Council of Ontario. Credit: Shabaan Khokhar

Knowledge Mobilization



Leading a knowledge mobilization community of practice (CoP)

During 2024/25, the Office of the Vice-President, Research and International hosted approximately 65 faculty, staff and student members on the Knowledge Mobilization Community of Practice (KM CoP). This includes membership, as examples, from the Office of Research; School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED), School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability; Cheriton School of Computer Science; Centre for Bioengineering and Biotechnology; Water Institute; the Knowledge Development and Exchange Hub) at Renison; Waterloo Institute for Complexity and Innovation; Work-Learn Institute; Global Water Futures; Waterloo Climate Institute; InterRAI Canada; Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging; School of Public Health Sciences. Originally established in 2020, the KM CoP continues to grow.

Knowledge Mobilization is the practice of advancing research for the benefit of the public good at the local and/or global scale. It is also a pathway for research impact.

Knowledge Mobilization links research to end-users, and ensures that research addresses real world issues and uptake is maximized.

Knowledge mobilization moves beyond the dissemination of research results, to support dialogue and collaboration with end users, and the co-creation of research programs and outputs.

Knowledge Mobilization Community of Practice Objectives:

- Building networks and relationships with others doing similar jobs; promote new collaborations and connections
- Promoting knowledge exchange by working across departmental boundaries and sharing ideas (e.g., share relevant articles / resources)
- Providing a platform for learning (e.g., sharing best practices, services and tools, developing technical skills, new ways of doing things, etc.)
- Enhancing Waterloo's institutional capacity to maximize innovation and the impact of its academic research and assess progress

7

KM COP facilitated seven collaborative education sessions with presenters in 2024/25

Example topics included:

- “Waterloo’s Research Strategic Plan Knowledge Mobilization consultation”
- “Adventures in Knowledge Mobilization for Global Impact - Examples from the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project”
- “Knowledge Mobilization Within the Municipal Net-Zero Action Partnership (N-ZAP)”
- “Bibliometrics and Research Impact and Thinking Through How to Improve KM”

Community, Campus, and Culture



Supporting international opportunities for students

International activity related to partnership meetings, hosting delegations, and signing Memorandums of Understanding helps facilitate student mobility. Results of these initiatives over the past year are shown below.

Inbound mobility

23 Global Affairs Canada (GAC) student scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa managed

21 undergraduate students from United Arab Emirates attended custom Waterloo health innovation program in collaboration with Faculty of Health and Renison University College.

4 European Union student exchange agreements executed for students from the Netherlands and Austria

Outbound mobility

12 undergraduate students received Queen Elizabeth Scholars funds for the the Beyond Borders Field School in Ghana for immersive, interdisciplinary, cross-cultural learning

6 Master of Public Health students visited University of Philippines, Manila to strengthen academic collaboration through joint research, community site visits, and workshops addressing public health challenges

Safety Abroad Monitoring

2024/25

4153

Registered trips

97

Countries registered

89%

Trips registered by undergraduate students



Fostering equity, diversity and inclusion in research

Waterloo is a leader in inclusive research excellence by helping research leaders address systemic barriers and enact meaningful advocacy. By enabling researchers and research administrators to actively practice and embed equity, diversity, inclusion and decolonization, Indigenization, and reconciliation into their work, we work towards fully implementing equity, diversity, and inclusivity across the research enterprise.

Strategic Implementation Area 1) - Creating Impact through Collaboration

- Collaborations with: the National Indigenous Research Administrators (NIRA) Canadian Association of Research Administrators (CARA) | Research Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Council | Velocity
- Launch of the Indigenous Research Council (IRC) in collaboration with Research Ethics and the Office of Indigenous Relations

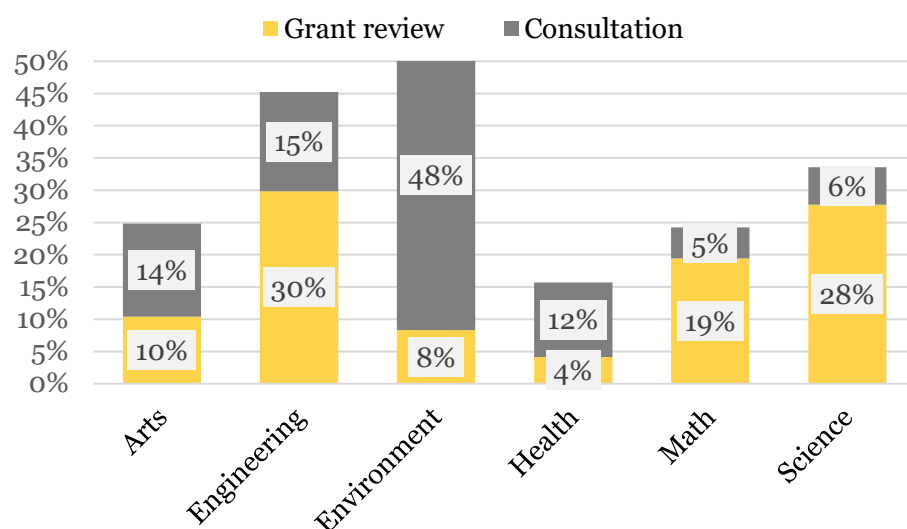
Strategic Implementation Area 2) - Creating Impact through Dismantling Barriers

- President's Anti-Racism Taskforce (PART) Recommendation 23: Needs assessment on Indigenous research training created and distributed with 77% final response rate
- PART Recommendation 63: Consultation took place to determine necessary changes to processes and supports and was welcomed and well-received. All VPRI PART items now on track to delivery or ongoing implementation

Strategic Implementation Area 3) Creating Impact through Capacity Building

- Building Inclusive Research Capacity (BIRC) Program: Launched five core webinars with over 400 attendees to sessions
- Inclusive Research Resource Hub (IRRH): 1000+ views and 40 new resources added | A Better First Draft Program launched | 80% of participants would recommend workshop | Canada Excellence Research Chair Equity Plans supported with personalized template with resources to support plan writing

Percentage of Grant Reviews and Consultations by Faculty 2024/25



Strategic Implementation Area 4) - Creating Impact through Specialized Advice

- Grant reviews N=144
- Consultations N=104
- Additional 3 grant reviews and 131 consultations not attributed to a specific faculty

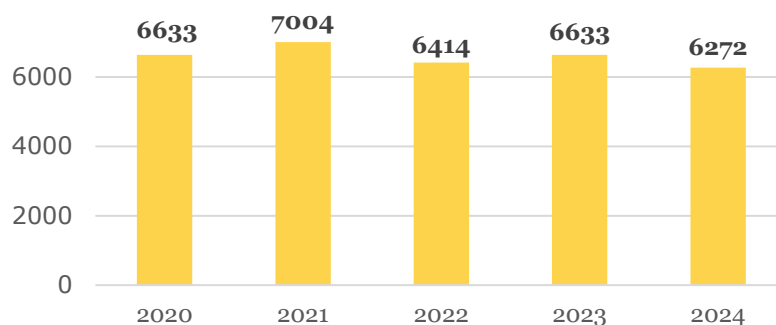


Upholding ethical standards in research - Human ethics

Waterloo's two Research Ethics Boards (REBs) are responsible for reviewing the ethical aspects of all human participant research, whether funded or unfunded, conducted by faculty, staff, or students, regardless of where the study takes place. Ethics reviews are also conducted for studies by members of Waterloo's Affiliated and Federated Institutions. The welfare and respect of study participants through a risk-benefit analysis focuses on informed consent and voluntariness along with privacy, confidentiality, equity, and fairness; especially in situations where individuals may be vulnerable. Research education about ethical principles and practices are provided, including the creation of guidelines on research with, for, and about Indigenous Peoples along with in person consultations and interpretations of international, national, and provincial ethical guidelines and/or legislation.



Number of Human Ethics Protocol Submissions per Year

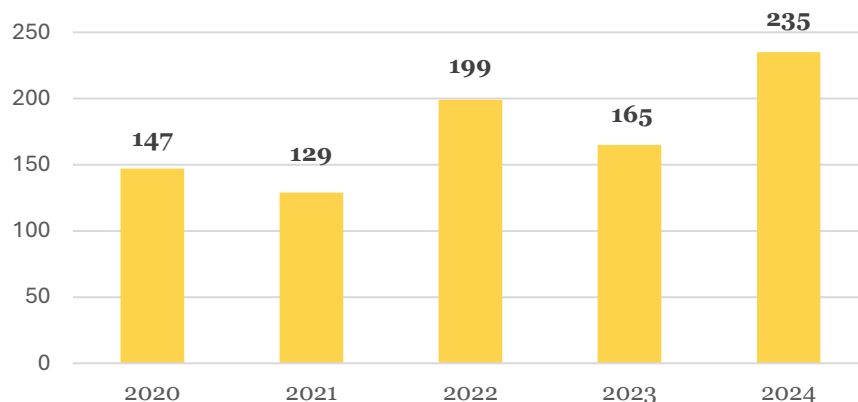


Protocol submissions = total of all initial application, amendments, resubmissions, renewals, and closure reports.

Upholding ethical standards in research – Animal ethics

Waterloo's Animal Care Committee (ACC), in accordance with institutional, provincial, national, and international guidelines, laws, and regulations, ensures the University fulfills its responsibilities for the use of live, non-human vertebrate animals (hereafter referred to as animals) in research and teaching. This responsibility includes ensuring the quality and operation of animal housing facilities, and temporary holding spaces on campus, meets these standards. The jurisdiction of the ACC extends to all teaching and research activities involving animals conducted on or off-campus by faculty, students, and staff.

Number of Animal Ethics Protocol Submissions per Year





Safeguarding Research

Safeguarding Research support ensures that every faculty member receives assistance with understanding and implementing research security guidelines in their research portfolios. The following are internal and external Safeguarding Research collaborators.

Internal collaborations

- University of Waterloo Departments and faculty members
- Procurement and Contract Services
- Information Technology Services
- Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs
- Waterloo Centres and Institutes

External collaborations

- Ontario Community of Practice for Research Security and the U15
- Ministry of Colleges and Universities
- Ontario Solicitor General
- Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness of Canada
- Global Affairs Canada
- Department of National Defence
- NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC and CFI

International collaborations

United States

- Stanford University
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Texas A&M University

United Kingdom

- University of London
- Queen Mary University of London

European Union

- Technical University of Munich
- Dutch Embassy Representatives

Japan

- Government Reps

The Safeguarding Research team works with faculty members to assist them with industry and grant-related security risk assessments and risk mitigation plans. The graphic below shows the number of risk assessments conducted and/or risk mitigation plans developed in 2024/25. The team also conducted 307 discrete open-source due-diligence assessments to support these applications and address inquiries from researchers, departments, faculties, and the broader university community.



In December 2024, the Canadian Controlled Goods Program conducted a routine physical inspection of campus locations where controlled goods are stored, to verify the university's compliance with the Defense Production Act (DPA) and Controlled Goods Regulations. The inspection concluded with no adverse findings or procedural deficiencies, affirming that the university's practices for managing and safeguarding controlled goods meet all regulatory requirements.



Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Our innovation impact

University of Waterloo entrepreneurship activities – defined as startup development and ventures through incubators and accelerators that are associated to the University of Waterloo contribute \$430M annually to Ontario’s GDP. This includes supporting 3500 jobs each year (see Appendix 1 for data notes).

Waterloo Rank among U15 in Pitchbook’s Top 100 Global Universities Producing Investment backed Undergraduate Entrepreneurs (rank based on Founder count)			
Year	2025	2024	2023
Rank	2 (N=639)	1 (N=562)	1 (N=511)

Additionally, in 2025, Waterloo moved from 21st to 18th spot globally for the count of investment backed **Undergraduate Founders**.

Waterloo Rank among U15 in Pitchbook’s Top 100 Global Universities Producing Investment-backed Graduate Entrepreneurs (rank based on Founder count)			
Year	2025	2024	2023
Rank	4 (N=220)	4 (N=184)	4 (N=173)

Additionally, in 2025, Waterloo moved from 96th to 75th spot globally for the count of investment backed **Graduate Founders**.

The 2025 PitchBook University rankings are based on the total number of founders whose companies received a round of venture funding in the previous 12 years (i.e. between Jan. 1, 2014, and Sept. 1, 2025)





Creating an anchor partnership – Rogers

The University of Waterloo and Rogers have signed a partnership for research and knowledge transfer, student engagement, and ecosystem development.

Research and technology transfer component focusses on:

- 5G MEC Architecture
- 5G Network Slicing
- 5G Smart Infrastructure
- 5G Data Driven Operations
- 5G Asset Tracking
- Flexible Open Radio Access Network
- Hockey Analytics
- Fire Detection
- Robotic Transportation
- 5G-Enabled Autonomous Fleet Operations
- Mobile Remote Healthcare



Future Research areas identified:

- Smart Micro Grids
- Network Resilience

79 students supported through the Rogers partnership in 2024/25

Student engagement:

- Commercial Viability Stream: Through collaboration with students in the Master of Business, Entrepreneurship and Technology (MBET) program in the Faculty of Engineering, commercial viability studies completed and presented to Rogers.
- Corporate Innovation Program: Students from the MBET program completed a Rogers climate-themed emergency response use-case project.
- Hackathon/Scholarships supported by Rogers: Sponsorship of a Ted Rogers Undergraduate scholarship, Sponsorship of a Wildfire Hackathon and Cybersecurity conference, and Sponsorship of a uXperience Design Jam with the Stratford School of Design.

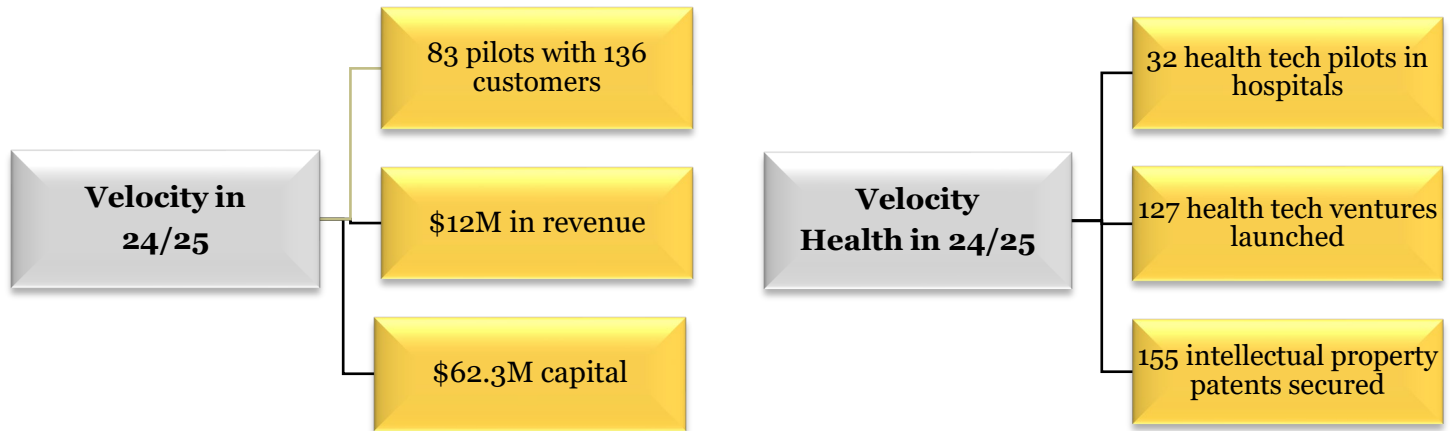
Ecosystem Development:

- Partnership with the Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI)
- Centre of Excellence in Next Generation Networks (CENGX)
- Collaboration with Velocity for a Amazon web services (AWS) & Rogers Hackathon on AI/ML & GenAI for Environmental conservation and monitoring using satellite and remote sensing data.



Nurturing commercialization activities - Velocity

The 1200+ founders who have accessed support from Velocity since 2008, together make up 500 companies and have a combined value of \$40B.



Student startup highlight – PatientCompanion

Who?

- Christy Lee, fourth year Waterloo Biomedical Engineering Co-founder

What?

- Communication app between healthcare providers (i.e. nurses) and patients

How?

- Patients make specific requests that are automatically prioritized on the healthcare provider's end

Support?

- \$25K StartUp Lab Pitch competition (WLU)
- \$5K Velocity pitch (UW) competition
- \$5K Greenhouse social impact fund (UW)
- Pilot opportunity at local hospital



Appendix 1

Data notes

Pages 6 - 8

Total research + Longitudinal NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC funding – Internal awards database InfoEd – Fiscal years are Mar 31 to April 1.

Data note- Universities funding group includes Waterloo internal funding + non-University funding that flows through Universities (i.e. CFI grants at other Universities on which Waterloo is a co-applicant)

Tri-Agency funding from InfoEd = Does not include CERC, CRC, CFREF, NFRF.

Comparative NSERC funding- Government of Canada NSERC public funding database

Exclusions:

Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarships - Doctoral
Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarships - Master's
Canada First Research Excellence Fund
Canadian Graduate Scholarships Foreign Study Supplements

NSERC Student Ambassadors
- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship Tri-Council - Doctoral 3 years

New Frontiers in Research Funding (NFRF)

Inclusions: CERCs, CRCs

Comparative CIHR funding- Government of Canada CIHR grants and awards open government database

Inclusions: CERCS and CRCs

Comparative SSHRC funding- Government of Canada SSHRC grants and awards open government database

Exclusions:

Canada First Research Excellence Fund
Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral
Canada Graduate Scholarships – Masters
Canada Graduate Scholarships - Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplements
New Frontiers in Research Fund

SSHRC Doctoral Awards

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships

Inclusions: CERCs and CRCs

Page 9

Research and industry partnership funding =

1. If the sponsor is one the following:

Communitech

OCI (Ontario Centre for Innovation)

Ministry of Colleges & Universities (MCU) - ORF-RE (Ontario Research Fund - Research Excellence)

APC (Automotive Partnerships Canada)

NSERC - Engage Grant

NSERC - Engage Plus Grants

NSERC - I2I (Idea to Innovation Program)

NSERC - Interaction Grant

NSERC - IRC (Industrial Research Chairs Program)

NSERC - Other

NSERC - Strategic Project Grants Program (STP)

NSERC - Strategic Project Grants Program (STP)

NSERC - CDE

NSERC - CRD (Collaborative Research and Development)

DND/NSERC RSCH PARTNERSHIP PGM

OCE - CMM

OCE - CCIT

OCE - CPRO

OCE - CEET

OCE - CE

OCE - INC/CCR

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Alliance Advantage Grants

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Alliance Consortia

Quantum Grants

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Alliance Quantum Grants

NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada)/NSERC - Alliance Grants -

NOVA Program

NSERC - Alliance Grants - NRCAN - Small Modular Reactors

SSHRC - Partnerships

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Alliance Society Grants

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) - Small Modular Reactors

NSERC - Alliance Grants - CSE- Research Communities

NSERC - Alliance Grants - Mission Grants

NSERC - Alliance Grants - SSHRC Sustainable Agriculture Research Initiative

2. If the projects is identified as "Matching" in InfoED and is one of these sponsors:

FedDev - Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario

FedDev - AMF (Advanced Manufacturing Fund)

FedDev - ARC (Applied Research & Commercialization)

FedDev - ICP (Investing in Commercialization Partnerships)
 FedDev - TDP (Technology Development Program)
 FedDev - Other
 MITACS - NCE
 MITACS - non NCE
 Mitacs Inc
 European Commission – Horizon Europe

3. If the project is identified in as “Matching” in InfoEd and the sponsor type if NCE
 CFI Cash Funding (IF and JELF) + ORF RI (SIF and LIF) to match CFI In-Kind
 CFI Innovation Fund (IF) (added in Y2425)
 CFI John Evans Leadership Fund (JELF) (added in Y2425)
 Ontario Research Fund - Research Infrastructure (RI) (added in Y2425)

International partnership funding = 1) the research is being conducted outside of Canada 2) the funding may originate from a country where there is collaboration with a researcher from that country 3) the professor has a partnership with an institution there 4) there is a projected impact of the research on that community.

Industry funding = all industry partners included and industry in-kind CFI

Pages 10-11

Data = Office of Research, Awards Officer
 Maclean’s ranking = Maclean’s faculty award ranking Data is for previous five-year period; 2024 ranking is for 2019 to 2023 data. Each annual ranking shows the number of faculty members who have won major awards over the past five years, including Killam, Molson and Steacie prizes, the Royal Society of Canada awards, the 3M Teaching Fellowships and more than 30 other award programs. The total award count is divided by the number of full-time faculty.

Page 13

Data = Co-operative Education, Director, Student and Faculty Relations

Page 14

Data = Office of Research, Senior Manager, Knowledge Mobilization & Partnerships

Page 15

Text= Responsible Conduct of Research team

Page 16

Data= International team

Page 17

Information and data= Director, Inclusive Research

Page 18

Information and data= Director, Research Ethics

Page 19

Information and data= Safeguarding Research team

Page 20

University of Waterloo entrepreneurship activity data= Ernst and Young 2025 report

Pitchbook Ranking= Pitchbook annual ranking of Universities: Top 100 colleges ranked by startup founders

Waterloo Ventures data = Directors, Velocity and WatCo.

Page 21

Rogers information = Corporate Partnerships team

Page 22

Velocity data = Program participation data, and partnership records, from Velocity (Incubator and Campus), and WatCo. From Director, Velocity

UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO



This annual report was prepared by the
Office of the Vice-President, Research and International

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Senate Agenda Items	September 22, 2025	October 20, 2025	November 24, 2025	January 26, 2026	March 2, 2026	April 6, 2026	May 4, 2026	June 8, 2026
p = planned ✓ = completed								
LEADERSHIP, FACUTLY, AND ASSOCIATION REPORTS								
Report of the President	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Faculty Tenure and Promotion Report (<i>consent</i>)			✓	p	p	p	p	p
Report of the Vice-President, Academic & Provost	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Reports from Faculties (e.g., appointments, administrative appointments, sabbaticals) (<i>consent</i>)	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Call for Nominations and Designation of University Professor	✓					p		
Report of the Vice-President, Research & International (<i>consent</i>)	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
• Annual Report of the Vice-President, Research & International				p				
Faculty Presentations					p		p	p
Annual Association Reports: FAUW, WUSA, GSA					p			
Report of the COU Academic Colleague								p
COMMITTEE & COUNCIL REPORTS Each committee and council of Senate will provide a report to Senate after each meeting.								
Executive Committee, Academic Quality Enhancement Committee, Graduate Council, Honorary Degrees Committee, Planning and Finance Committee, Research and Innovation Council, Undergraduate Council	✓	✓	✓	p	p	p	p	p
POLICIES & BY-LAWS Policy and By-Law amendments may also be brought forward based on review schedules or as required.								
Annual Report on Gift Acceptance (Policy 7) (<i>confidential</i>)								p
University Committee on Student Appeals Annual Report (Policy 72)				p				
University Appointment Review Committee Annual Report (Policy 76)						p		
Executive Appointments (Policy 48, 50, 68) (<i>confidential</i>)								
OPERATING BUDGET Under the Report of the Planning and Finance Committee.								
University Operating Budget Update		✓						
Joint Board/Senate Budget Education Sessions				p	p			
Operating Budget (recommendation to Board)						p		
ADMISSIONS UPDATES, CONFERRING OF DEGREES, AND AWARDS								
Call for Nominations: Honorary Degree and Honorary Member	✓			p	p			
Academic Calendar Dates	✓							
Teaching Awards Committee: Appointment and Award Winners				p			p	
Delegation and Reports of the Roster of Graduands	✓		✓			p		
Spring and Fall Convocation Reports	✓		✓					
Undergraduate and Graduate Admissions Update				p				
SENATE MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE								
Senate Orientation	✓							
Call for Senate Nominations, Elections, and Appointments			✓	p	p			p
Senate Effectiveness Survey					p			

For Approval**Open Session - Consent****To:** Senate**Presenter:** David DeVidi
Associate Vice-President, AcademicJustin Wan
Interim Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral
Affairs**Date of Meeting:** January 26, 2026**Agenda Item:** **11.2 Committee Appointments – Teaching Awards****Motion:**

That Senate approve the committee appointments for the Distinguished Teacher Awards and for the Amit & Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student, as presented in this report.

Summary:

Senate appoints the membership of the two awards committees. Per past precedent, staff in the Centre for Teaching Excellence have formed a recommended committee membership based on the terms of the awards.

Highlights:

The **Distinguished Teacher Awards (DTA)** are awarded to exemplary instructors at the University of Waterloo. The awards are open to all who teach at the University, and the main criterion of the award is a record of excellent teaching. The committee considers: evidence of intellectual vigour and communication skills in the interpretation and presentation of subject matter; evidence of educational impact beyond the classroom; the instructor's concern for and sensitivity to the needs of students; and a clear indication that the nominee has a favorable and lasting influence on students, and, where relevant, on colleagues. The DTA is awarded to four instructors annually and individuals are announced at the April meeting of Senate. The committee is appointed by Senate and consists of three undergraduate students, two graduate students, one alumni representative, three members of faculty (typically previous winners of the award), and the associate vice-president, academic as chair.

The **Amit & Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student (AETS)** awards are open to all students who have a formal teaching role at the University of Waterloo. Up to four awards are given annually in recognition of excellence in teaching of all kinds by registered students (e.g., teaching assistant, laboratory demonstrator, sessional lecturer). The selection committee considers intellectual vigour and communication skills in the interpretation and presentation of subject matter. Concern for and sensitivity to the academic need of the students is an important criterion. The committee is appointed by Senate and consists of three undergraduate students, two graduate students, two members of faculty, and the associate vice-president, graduate studies, and postdoctoral affairs as chair.

Recommended committee memberships:

Distinguished Teacher Awards (DTA)

Tiffany Bradley	Alumnus
Emma Littler (Public Health Sciences, PhD)	Graduate Student
Amanda Demmer (Public Health Sciences, PhD)	Graduate Student
Cynthia Richard (Pharmacy)	Past award recipient
Rick Marta (Chemistry)	Professor
Suzanne Kearns (Geography and Environmental Management)	Past award recipient
Charlie Uebele (Environment and Business, Honours)	Undergraduate Student
Chloe Hajjar (Global Business and Digital Arts, Honours)	Undergraduate Student
Carla Stocco (Arts Honours)	Undergraduate Student
David DeVidi (AVPA)	Chair

Amit & Meena Chakma Award for Exceptional Teaching by a Student (AETS)

Carol Hulls	Associate Chair Teaching and an Associate Professor Teaching Stream in the Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering Department
Alex Kunert	Graduate Student (Prior AETS Winner)
Ryan Lok	Graduate Student (Prior AETS Winner)
Clara Shao	Undergraduate Student
Sonia Mehta	Undergraduate Student
Ashdeep Gill	Undergraduate Student
Svitlana Taraban-Gordon	Teaching Resource Person (non-voting)
Justin Wan	Chair

Previous Action Taken:

Not applicable

Next Steps:

Announce the DTA and AETS winners at the May Senate meeting.

Governance Path:

Senate: January 26, 2026

For Information**Open Session - Consent**

To: Senate

From: Senate Academic Quality Enhancement Committee

Presenter(s): David DeVidi
Associate Vice-President, Academic

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **11.3 Report of the Senate Academic Quality Enhancement Committee**

Summary

Senate Academic Quality Enhancement Committee (AQuE) conducted an e-vote concluding on November 24, 2025 and agreed to forward the following items to Senate for information as part of the consent agenda. On behalf of Senate, the following items were approved:

- a. Final Assessment Report: Applied Mathematics (MMath, PhD)
- b. Final Assessment Report: Environment and Business (BES, MEB)
- c. Final Assessment Report: International Development (BES, Minor, Option), Development Practice (MDP)
- d. Progress Report: Computing and Financial Management (BCFM)

Approved final assessment reports and cyclical program review progress reports can be viewed on the [AQuE Committee Reporting page](#). There were no issues noted in the reports or concerns raised by the committee.

Jurisdictional Information

As outlined in the committee's [Terms and Reference](#), Senate Academic Quality Enhancement Committee is empowered to make approvals on behalf of Senate for a variety of operational matters:

2. On behalf of Senate, consider and approve all Final Assessment Reports and Progress Reports within the University's IQAP, and provide Senate with a summary of the committee's deliberations in this regard. Any matter of controversy that might arise may be referred to Senate.

Governance Path

Senate Academic Quality Enhancement Committee approval date: November 24, 2025

For Information**Open Session - Consent**

To: Senate

From: Senate Graduate Council

Presenter(s): Justin Wan
Interim Associate Vice-President, Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **11.5** **Report of the Senate Graduate Council**

Summary

[Senate Graduate Council](#) met on [November 17, 2025](#) and agreed to forward the following items to Senate for information as part of the consent agenda. On behalf of Senate, the following items were approved:

1. New Scholarships and Awards

Council approved the following awards: Faculty of Engineering International Student MEng Award; Siv Sivaloganathan Graduate Scholarship in Mathematical Medicine.

2. Curricular Submissions

Council approved the following new courses, the deletion of courses, and proposed minor changes to existing courses and programs for:

- a. [Faculty of Engineering](#)
- b. [Faculty of Health](#)
- c. [Faculty of Mathematics](#)

3. Senate Alternative Credentials Committee

Council recommend that Senate approve the creation of a Senate Alternative Credentials Committee.

Jurisdictional Information

As outlined in the council's [Terms and Reference](#), Senate Graduate Council is empowered to make recommendation and approvals on behalf of Senate for a variety of matters:

- Receive for information and make recommendation to Senate as appropriate with respect to governance, regulations, policies, and matters relating to graduate education and Studies at the University.
- On behalf of Senate, consider and approve all new graduate courses, the deletion of graduate courses, and proposed minor modifications to existing graduate courses

and programs, and provide Senate with a brief summary of Council's deliberations in this regard.

- On behalf of Senate, consider and approve all new graduate scholarships and awards, and proposed changes to existing graduate scholarships and awards. Any matter of controversy that might arise may be referred to Senate.

Governance Path

Senate Graduate Council: November 17, 2025

For Information**Open Session - Consent**

To: Senate
From: Senate Undergraduate Council
Presenter(s): David DeVidi
Associate Vice-President, Academic

Date of Meeting: January 26, 2026

Agenda Item: **11.6** **Report of the Senate Undergraduate Council**

Summary

[Senate Undergraduate Council](#) met on [December 9, 2025](#) and agreed to forward the following items to Senate for information as part of the consent agenda. On behalf of Senate, the following items were approved:

1. Curricular Submissions

Council approved the following new courses, the deletion of courses, and proposed minor changes to existing courses and programs for:

- a. [Faculty of Engineering](#)
- b. [Faculty of Mathematics](#)
- c. [Faculty of Science](#)

2. Senate Alternative Credentials Committee

Council recommend that Senate approve the creation of a Senate Alternative Credentials Committee.

Jurisdictional Information

As provided for in [Senate Bylaw 2](#), section 5.03, council is empowered to make recommendation and approvals on behalf of Senate for a variety of operational matters:

- a. Make recommendations to Senate with respect to rules and regulations for the governance, direction and management of undergraduate studies in the university.
- c. On behalf of Senate, consider and approve all new undergraduate courses, the deletion of undergraduate courses, and proposed changes to existing undergraduate courses and minor changes to programs and/or plans, and provide Senate with a summary of council's deliberations in this regard. Any matter of controversy that might arise may be referred to Senate.

Governance Path

Senate Undergraduate Council – December 9, 2025