

GOVERNANCE UPDATES

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will meet on February 7. Topics of discussion will include appointments to the 2025 Program Committee, follow-up from the 2024 University Council AGM and Retreat, and the 2025 Distinguished Service Awards. A more extensive update from the Committee will be available in the March newsletter.

Executive Committee: Patrick Deane (Chair), Chancellor Shelagh Rogers, Petra Fachinger, Doug Bruce (Vice-Chair), Mary Drinkwater, Letitia Golubitsky, Chessa Jope, Noor Rahemtulla, Yanique Williams

Nominating Committee

A call for nominations for the two available Council Trustee positions was held from January 15 – 24. Councillors who meet the nomination and eligibility requirements, as outlined in the call for nominations, will proceed in the upcoming election from February 11 – 19. All Councillors are encouraged to vote in this important governance process - please watch for an email with voting instructions on February 11. Elected Councillors will serve a three-year term on the Board of Trustees, beginning June 1, 2025.

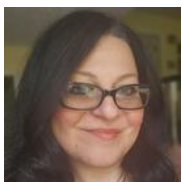
The Nominating Committee will meet in February to discuss the 2025 University Council election by alumni.

On behalf of your Nominating Committee: John Armitage, Doug Bruce, Alexander Lam, Irene Mukasa, David Pick, Elaine Wu

Program Committee

The Program Committee has reviewed the surveys and feedback from the Council AGM, Retreat and DSA Reception, and has prepared a report with their recommendations for the Executive Committee meeting in February. Details on dates to follow.

A thank-you to Letitia Golubitsky, Chair of 2024 Council Program Committee. And thank you to outgoing committee members Samantha Cheung, Chessa Jope, Tka Pinnock. New members will be appointed by the Executive Committee. A new Chair will be elected at the committee meeting in February and then planning for the 2025 AGM will commence.



Letitia Golubitsky, Outgoing Chair, 2024 Program Committee

On behalf of your Program Committee: John Armitage, Samantha Cheung, Chessa Jope, Daria Juudi-Hope, Colby Pereira, Tka Pinnock

Board/Council Trustees

The next regular Open Session of the **Board of Trustees** meeting will be held on March 7 (meeting dates can be found on Board [website](#)). You can check out the Board agenda/minutes on the [Governance Portal](#). To attend the Board's Open Session, please submit your request in advance to the [Secretariat](#).

University Council Trustees: Heather Black, Samantha Cheung, Jeremy Gooden, Alison Holt, Noor Rahemtulla, Yanique Williams.

[Senate](#)

The next Senate meeting will be held on February 27 at 2:30 pm (meeting dates can be found on the [Senate website](#)). You can review the Senate agenda/minutes on the [Governance Portal](#). To attend any portion of the meeting, please submit your request in advance to the [Secretariat's Office](#).



Honorary Degrees: Councillors are requested to consider submitting nominations of worthy individuals for an honorary degree. Nominations are open for degrees to be awarded in 2025 and the deadline is March 1, 2025. Information can be found on the [Secretariat's website](#).

Senate Appointee to Council: Petra Fachinger, Professor of English, Queen's University

[Queen's University Alumni Association \(QUAA\) President Update](#)

I hope you have completed all your post-holiday circling back, and that you are all adjusting well to 2025. The QUAA Board is busy working on our annual deliverables.

QUAA Grants

There are still a few more days to submit an application for a [QUAA grant](#). Alumni and student members of the Queen's community who have an idea for an innovative program that enriches the University may qualify for special project funding from the Queen's University Alumni Association (QUAA). Grants are normally for a few hundred dollars but can go as high as \$2,000.

Generally, the application cycle begins in the fall, but this year with all the transition, the cycle was delayed. Over the past few years, the QUAA Board has spent a great deal of time revamping the application and selection process to be more transparent, inclusive and equitable. The Giving committee recently presented at a session hosted by the Queen's Student Alumni Association about the application process, in an effort to make it more accessible to anyone who might be interested in applying.

The QUAA Board also has a modest pot of "special projects" funds that it can distribute off-cycle when there is a worthy initiative. If you ever have any questions about this, please reach out!

QUAA Gala Awards Selection

The selection committee for the QUAA Gala awards will be convening soon. We were pleased with the quality and quantity of nominations we received this year, and we hope to be announcing the date of the Awards celebration very soon!

Over the years the QUAA Board has toyed with the idea of moving this celebration between major markets. Of course, it would be amazing to have a larger physical presence in other cities in Canada. If you had interest in discussing this (and ideally connections to aid in planning such an event), we would love to hear from you.

Upcoming Events: I hope you have marked your calendars for the upcoming Micro Summits:

- [Palo Alto](#) - February 19-20: The future of supercomputing and its impact on industries and everyday life.
- [Toronto](#) - March 25-26: The future of media and intellectual property in the AI age.
- [Vancouver](#) - April 23-24: Innovations in healthcare and patient experience.
- [Calgary](#) - May 28-29: Sustainability and how it will reshape our daily lives.

I hope to attend the Toronto Summit, and it would be great to see some of you there!



[Allison P. Williams](#), Artsci'09, President and Chair, QAAA Board of Directors

QAAA Assembly Members [appointed by the University Council](#): Bittu George and Erin Polansky

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please check the [Alumni Events calendar](#) for a list of all upcoming alumni events (including branch, reunion, etc.).

February 6 – Carr-Harris Cup



Join us as Queen's defends their title in the [world's oldest hockey](#) rivalry! The [Queen's](#) Gaels-[Royal Military College](#) (RMC) Paladins rivalry dates back to a game on Kingston Harbour in 1886. The Carr-Harris Cup, officially established in 1986, also recognizes the legacy of the Carr-Harris family, who have had several family members attend both Queen's and RMC to play hockey.

Puck Drops at 7:30 pm at the Slush Puppie Place. Tickets can be purchased for **\$15 each or \$45 for a pack of four** at the [Slush Puppie Place Box Office](#), at the [Queen's University Athletics & Recreation Centre](#)

February 7 – **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** – Registration deadline for Reader Panel for [Commitment Scholars](#) 2025



The [Queen's Commitment Scholars Award program](#) celebrates and recognizes demonstrated leadership in, and commitment to, racial justice, social justice, or diversity initiatives by a student in their high school or in their community. The award provides dedicated financial, academic, and career support to help students complete their degree.

Readers are needed to review applications beginning in late-February.

As a Commitment Scholars Reader, your role will include:

- Completing an [online asynchronous education session of Unpacking Normalized Bias in Admissions, from the Human Rights and Equity Office](#), before starting your application review.
- Reviewing and scoring an average of 25-30 applications through our online reader portal (NetID required).
- Each application includes 2 short essay questions (800 words and 400 words). These will be provided along with a scoring sheet and guide.
- In general, it takes around 10 hours to complete the review process.
- You are not required to attend any meetings.

Timeline:

- **Please complete this [short form](#) to register as a Commitment Scholars Reader by February 6, 2025.**
- You will receive more information in mid-February.
- Links to individualized online reader packages containing your Commitment Scholars Award applications will be sent by email on **Tuesday, February 25, 2025.**
- All reader rankings will be due online by **Wednesday, March 19, 2025.**

Please [email](#) with any questions.

February – Black History/Black Futures Month



February is [Black Histories and Futures Month](#), an opportunity for us to reflect on the experiences and acknowledge the accomplishments of our Black community members. It is important to note, teaching and learning about Black history in addition to recognizing Black communities is not constrained to the month of February. This can be done throughout the year. Check out the [history and 2025 Events](#) (visit often for updates). For more information, please contact the [Office of the Vice-Principal \(Culture, Equity, and Inclusion\)](#).

February 11 - UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science



Queen's will recognize the [United Nations' International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#) by encouraging the campus community to share their passion for STEM by sharing their research contributions on Twitter and tagging [@queensuResearch](#). Please recognize and share these contributions.

Winter 2025, Elder Talk sessions



Join sessions **bi-weekly on Thursday's from 12:00-1:00pm** for new topics with Cultural Advisor, Te ho wis kwûnt (Allen Doxtator) **and surprise guests!** The Elder talks will be held in a hybrid model both in-person and online through Zoom (links will be sent upon registration). [RSVP](#)

February 13, 2025: Topic to be confirmed

February 27, 2025: Topic to be confirmed

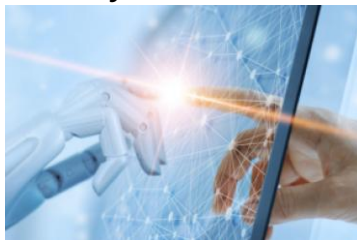
March 13, 2025: Indigenous Experiences in Colonial Institutions

March 27, 2025: The Good Mind – “what does this mean?”

April 10, 2025: Open Session + question period

Please note some topics may be subject to change

February 13-14 - [AI at Work Conference](#) - (in-person, Toronto)



Keynote lecture from Professor Daniel Susskind. The conference explores rights, risks, and opportunities in the workplace as impacted by AI. [Registration is now open](#), and it includes discounted rates for recent grads, students, and not-for-profit employees. All proceeds will support Queen's Centre for Law in the Contemporary Workplace. For more details and to register, visit: [AI at Work Conference](#) Any questions, please contact [Law Events](#).

February 15 – National Flag of Canada Day



At the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965, Canada's red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, [National Flag of Canada Day](#) was declared. Alumnus [John Matheson](#), Arts'40, LLD'84, was an influential figure in the development of national symbols such as the Canadian flag and the Order of Canada.

February 17-20 – Family Day (observed holiday), followed by Mid-term Reading Week (all classes cancelled, except Education and Medicine)

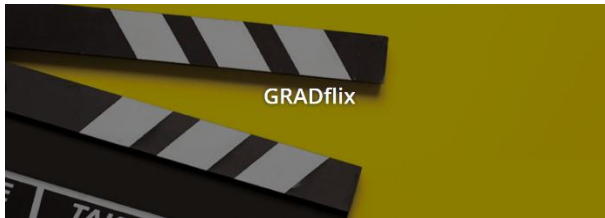
Calling for volunteers to help judge at this year's GRADflix showcase, 3 Minute Thesis and 3 Minute Research events.

The School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs will be hosting some events this term to showcase grad and postdoc research. **We are seeking your support to be a judge!** Of course, feel free to come along and just watch the events.

At this stage we do not know how many graduate students or postdocs intend to participate in any of these events. But provided we get sufficient numbers we will be hosting them and will require judges. We therefore ask if you are interested in being a volunteer judge for one or all of the events listed below. As soon as we can confirm the events will happen, we would reach out accordingly. Thank you for considering this opportunity to support our grad students and postdocs.

February 26th (noon – 1pm, Kinesiology 100) [GRADflix](#) Showcase

(judging will be held the week 17th – 21st February)



- Graduate students create videos that are 1 minute or less to convey their research. Sort of like a research trailer.
- Judges evaluate student videos on communication, creativity, and technical quality
- Judging will be done **asynchronously and remotely prior to the final event.**

- This event focused on students developing and practicing research communication skills with new technologies
- See a sample of [previous GRADflix videos](#) and criteria.
- Email Colette Steer (steerc@queensu.ca) to volunteer

Three Minute Thesis and Three Minute Research



We need judges for both events, and it is our hope that we can call upon alumni to consider this volunteer opportunity. It is not the easiest job to judge presentations that only last 3 minutes, but we have a rubric and guideline for the 3 areas we are assessing, namely communication, comprehension, and engagement. [See our website for an outline.](#)

This type of presentation is to train the students and postdocs how to present their research to a non-specialist audience (understanding who your audience is). [Here is a link to the 2023 year's final to get an idea of what it looks like.](#) The events themselves, depending on number of participants for each should last between 60 – 90 minutes.

March 21st (1:00-3:00 pm, Stauffer Library room 014) - 3 Minute Research,

- Postdocs present their research in 3 minutes or less using 1 static slide
- Judges evaluate presenters on communication, comprehension, and engagement
- Smaller, in-person event; previous years had 5-8 participants
- Cash prizes for top presenters
- Email Katie-Marie McNeill (kmm18@queensu.ca) to volunteer

March 26th (5:00-6:30 pm, Kinesiology 101) - 3 Minute Thesis Final

- Graduate students present their research in 3 minutes or less using 1 static slide
- Judges evaluate presenters on communication, comprehension, and engagement
- Typically, 8-12 presenters for the final
- Overall winner receives a cash prize and represents Queen's at provincial competition (last year's winner, Julia Tropak, won at the Ontario 3MT and competed nationally where she came 3rd!)
- Email Colette Steer (steerc@queensu.ca) to volunteer.

May 22-23 and June 24-27 - [Queen's Convocation](#) / [Summerhill Sendoff](#)



Know someone graduating? Please share that they can [pre-order their degree frame](#) by Feb 10 and pick-up at [Summerhill Sendoff](#). There will be five lucky grads to receive their degree frame for Free. [Alumni Relations](#) will be looking for **alumni volunteers** to assist with Alumni pin distribution (Convocation) and to congratulate Queen's Class of 2025 at the Summerhill Sendoff. Details to follow, or please contact jessie.mercer@queensu.ca

LEARN AND SHARE

Give Now

The Government of Canada has announced an extension to make charitable donations eligible for the 2024 tax year. Originally set to conclude on December 31, 2024, the deadline has now been extended to February 28, 2025. Consider [giving to Queen's](#) and please share with your Queen's networks.

Off-Campus Living

Mary Ann Tierney, the Off-Campus Living Advisor, is available to provide confidential guidance on evaluating off-campus housing, tenant rights and responsibilities, and resources for moving in/out.

If you know a student who would like to connect with the Off-Campus Living Advisor for one-on-one confidential support or advising, they can [Schedule an Appointment with the Off-Campus Living Advisor](#). They can also phone 613-533-6745 to set an appointment.

Career Services -Interview Room Bookings



After [posting a job](#) and finding some great Queen's University candidates, employers are welcome to book our Career Services Interview Rooms. The interview rooms are located conveniently in the heart of campus in Gordon Hall. Interview rooms are available

for booking Monday-Friday at a rate of \$75/room per day. Rooms come with WiFi access for all your devices and access to our Employer Lounge with complimentary coffee, tea, and juices.

Complete the [Event Booking Request Form](#) to request interview rooms.

If you have any questions about [Queen's Career Services](#) or contact their team at gocr@queensu.ca

COUNCILLOR SPOTLIGHT

Get to know your fellow Councillor members by visiting their [biographical sketches](#). New profiles for the following Councillors can be found [online](#). If you have exciting personal or professional news you would like to share through your monthly newsletter, please reach out to ucouncil@queensu.ca

STUDENT LIFE

The [Board of Trustees](#) is responsible for the overall operations of the University, including:

- overseeing financial matters
- property
- the appointment of Vice-Principals
- and, in conjunction with the Senate, the appointment of the Principal.

The Board of Trustees has 25 [members](#): 3 ex-officio and 22 elected. [Meet the two representatives elected by Students](#):



[Reem Al-Rawi](#) (She/Her) serves as the elected **Undergraduate Trustee**. She is a recent graduate from the Queen's Bachelor of a Health Sciences program and is currently taking additional classes as a non-degree student. She is passionate about equity, diversity, inclusion, indigeneity, and accessibility. She is eager to advocate for these important issues during her term. Beyond her role on the Board, Reem is deeply interested in healthcare and cardiovascular health, and acted as the co-chair of the Mental Health Awareness Committee and co-founder of the Queens Cardiac Research Committee.



[Kana Ogawa](#) ArtsSci '23, serves as the elected **Graduate Trustee**. Kana (she/her/hers) is a second-year Master's student in the Translational Medicine (TMED) Graduate Program. Her research focuses on the development of medulloblastoma, the most common childhood brain tumor. Kana is committed to I-EDIAA (Indigeneity, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Antiracism, Accessibility) and to formulating sustainable strategies for community impact. She developed a passion for governance and leadership through her long-term involvement with the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS) Student Council, including coordinating Orientation, leading Leather Jacket Sales, and volunteering for the food program Good Times Diner. Kana

aspires to be a vocal advocate for unique student perspectives and concerns and looks forward to collaborating with her peers.

Queen's University links to keep you informed

[Principal](#)

[Queen's Strategic Goals](#)

[QUAA](#)

[Rector](#)

[Alma Mater Society](#)

[SGPS](#)

[QSAA](#)

[Queen's Alumni Review](#)

[Queen's Gazette](#)

[Queen's Quarterly](#)

[Event Calendar](#)

[Inclusive Queen's](#)

[Queen's Encyclopedia](#)

[Viewbook](#)

[Arts & Science](#)

[Education](#)

[Smith Engineering & Applied Science](#)

[Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs](#)

[Health Sciences](#)

[Law](#)

[Smith School of Business](#)