

## GOVERNANCE UPDATES

### [Executive Committee](#)

The Committee met on February 7 and **Doug Bruce** was re-elected as Committee Vice-Chair. The Committee approved appointments to the 2025 Program Committee and received a report from L. Golubitsky, as a follow-up to the 2024 AGM and in-person Retreat. Dates for the 2025 AGM and in-person events will be circulated to Councillors soon.

**The call for the 2025 Distinguished Service Awards is now open!** Do you know someone who has made Queen's a better place and deserves to be recognized? Inaugurated by the University Council in 1974, this award recognizes individuals who have made Queen's a better place through their outstanding contributions. Each year the University Council Executive Committee invites nominations for up to six DSAs, one of which will be reserved this year to recognize exceptional alumni contributions. Additional details can be found [here](#). The deadline for nominations is April 28 at 4 pm. All nominations will be considered by the Executive Committee in June.

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

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### [Nominating Committee](#)

**Council Trustee Election Update: Chessa Jope and Jeremy Gooden** are the successful candidates in the recent election to the Board of Trustees. Chessa and Jeremy (re-elected to his second term) will serve three-year terms, beginning June 1, 2025. 93% (43/46) of Councillors voted in this election.

**2025 University Council Election Update:** The 2025 University Council election will be held from May 14-28. The Call for Nominations will be launched on March 19 and will run for two weeks, closing on April 2. There will be ten positions with four-year terms (September 2025-2029) available for alumni in the 2025 election. Councillors are encouraged to share the call for nominations with their alumni networks and encourage nominations.

Should there be any questions regarding the nominating/election process, you may contact the University Secretariat at [ucouncil@queensu.ca](mailto:ucouncil@queensu.ca).



Elaine Wu, Chair, Nominating Committee

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

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### [Program Committee](#)

Update: Welcome to new committee members Yinka Adegbusi, Leo Bailey, and Heather Black (Council Trustee rep), approved by the Executive Committee.

**Orientation:** As we head into Councillor elections, Orientation details are being compiled. If you could offer a piece of advice to yourself as a newly elected University Councillor, what would it be? What do you wish you had learned

during orientation that would have assisted you in your role? Please send feedback to [ucouncil@queensu.ca](mailto:ucouncil@queensu.ca) for consideration for this year's Councillor Orientation being held in June.

**University Council AGM and Retreat:** The Program committee presented their report to the Executive which was approved with the following recommendations. Staff are currently researching available dates.

The business AGM (virtual) and the Retreat (in-person) will be scheduled as two separate working sessions for Fall 2025.

1. **(New)** The 2025 AGM virtual meeting will be **extended** to accommodate breakout zoom meetings to facilitate Councillors' further discussions with the new members and existing Councillors.
2. **(New)** The Retreat will start with a session involving university leaders **on a Friday afternoon completed before sundown, followed by** a session involving Queen's students **on Saturday morning**. Both retreat days, Friday & Saturday, are organized as half-day working sessions.
3. **(New)** The Distinguished Service Awards (**DSA**) ceremony will be held on Friday evening followed by a **Friday night Council social event**.



Letitia Golubitsky, Chair, Program Committee

On behalf of your Program Committee: Yinka Adegbusi, John Armitage, Leo Bailey, Heather Black, Daria Juudi-Hope, Colby Pereira

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### **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.

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### **Senate**

The next Senate meeting will be held on **March 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](#).

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



### **QUAA President Update**

Hello University Councillors,

I hope that you are all well – it's been pretty snowy here in Toronto the past few weeks (for Toronto, anyway!), and I am really looking forward to Spring!

### **Board 100% Giving Goal Achieved:**

While we are early in the calendar year, we are late in the fiscal year. However, I am pleased to report that the QUAA Board has again met its giving participation goal, with 100% of our Board making an annual gift to Queen's this past fiscal year.

Our Board members have supported many causes through Queen's, including [cancer research](#), [the Four Directions Indigenous student centre](#), and the [AMS Food Bank](#), to name a few. I always like learning about what facets of Queen's our Board members choose to support through their gifts.

Of course, you can take this as your reminder to check if you are up to date with your annual gift, and if you are stumped on where to direct it, you can explore the Giving site for options: <https://givetoqueens.ca/>

### QUAA Grants and QUAA Gala Awards Selection

Speaking of giving and granting, the QUAA Board has been very engaged with reviewing applications for QUAA grants and nominations for our Gala awards. I had hoped to be able to share the recipients with you, but we are not quite ready to announce them yet. Please stay tuned for those announcements in the coming weeks.

### Toronto Branch Co-Presidents Hiring Underway

The Global Alumni Strategy team in Advancement has been hard at work with a revamp of the Alumni branches. This initiative has been supported by the QUAA Board in a number of ways, most recently through efforts to recruit interim Co-Presidents to lead the Toronto Branch during this time of transition. As Toronto is a key alumni market, it was wonderful to see so much interest in the role and to receive such a competitive group of applicants to draw from. Looking forward to participating in interviews in the coming weeks.

### Upcoming Micro-Summits: Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver

You may have seen or heard the reviews on social media about the success of the inaugural Queen's Micro-Summit in Palo Alto earlier in February, exploring the world of supercomputing in the age of AI. I hope that Councillors will consider supporting the upcoming summits in [Toronto](#), [Calgary](#), and [Vancouver](#), either by attending the events or promoting them to your networks.



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

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS – Be an Ambassador!

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

### March - #SDGMonthCanada



SDG Month Canada is a national collaboration that invites universities and colleges to organize workshops, panels, and interactive programming to increase awareness of and engagement with the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Learn more and see details on the [Office of the Principal's website](#)

### March 5 (2-4 pm) - Ban Righ 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration



2025 year marks the 100th anniversary of the official opening of the [Ban Righ Hall](#) women's residence at Queen's University. Through an incredible amount of persistence by women's residence enthusiasts, which began as a pilot project in 1901, Ban Righ Hall continues to sit proudly at the corner of University Avenue and Bader Lane.

This [centennial anniversary event](#), coinciding with International Women's Day, will celebrate the achievement of Ban Righ Hall's construction, history, and how the dedication of the Queen's women's community continues to bring the residence to life for generations of women students. Drop-in reception and tours with programming from 3-4 pm. For details, please contact, [edhouse@queensu.ca](mailto:edhouse@queensu.ca)

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### March 7, Winter 2025, Elder Talk sessions



OFFICE OF  
INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES

Join sessions **bi-weekly on Thursdays 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](#)

**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\*

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### March 18-22 - RESEARCH WEEK



Research Week is a celebration of graduate student and postdoctoral fellow research at Queen's and how that research impacts the wider world. Events taking place over the week include the 3-Minute Research competition, student research reception, and the 3-Minute Thesis. Details can be found on the [School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs website](#).

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### March 25-26 – Queen's Micro Summit Series: Toronto



What does the future hold for the media landscape, and how will intellectual property evolve in an age of AI? How will stories be written, lyrics crafted, and art brought to life? Join us for the Queen's Micro Summit Series as we delve into the transformative world of AI and its impact on the creation and consumption of media. Engage with leading Queen's researchers, industry experts, and students. \$65, includes both nights. Visit the [Alumni website](#) for additional details and registration.

Upcoming in-person locations:

- [Vancouver](#) - April 23-24: Innovations in healthcare and patient experience.
- [Calgary](#) - May 28-29: Sustainability and how it will reshape our daily lives.

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### April 2 Good Friday – University closed. Classes will not be held

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



[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](mailto:jessie.mercer@queensu.ca)

## Oct 17-19 – [Homecoming 2025](#)



All alumni are welcome to attend festivities on campus during Homecoming weekend. This is a milestone reunion for classes ending in 0 and 5, and for Tricolour Guard (alumni celebrating having graduated 50 years ago, or more). Mark your calendars, and make sure to book accommodations early. Details will be released as they are confirmed. Questions? Contact [reunions@queensu.ca](mailto:reunions@queensu.ca)

## LEARN AND SHARE

Principal and Vice-Chancellor Patrick Deane has published [Queen's Bicentennial Vision: A Discussion Paper](#)—to begin a campus-wide conversation about how the university can ensure a prosperous and meaningful future as it approaches its 200th year in 2041. Submit your thoughts, ideas, and responses to the discussion paper through our anonymous [online questionnaire](#). Email your feedback to [bicentennial@queensu.ca](mailto:bicentennial@queensu.ca).

**Councillors discussed Queen's alumni paraphernalia at the Council Retreat. For your reference, you can purchase items from:**



- [Alumni Merchandise](#)
- **Licensed Retailers:**
  - [Campus Bookstore](#)
  - [Phase 2](#)
  - [Whit Kingston](#)
- **Student Retailers:**
  - [Campus Equipment Outfitters](#)
  - [Oil Thigh Designs](#)
  - [Tricolour Outlet](#)



- **Preferred Suppliers:** Queen's University has entered into agreements with several suppliers of various goods and services. If product ordered from a supplier is marked with the Queen's University trademarks, please review the [list of university licensed suppliers](#) to ensure that the supplier has a current trademark licensing agreement. Information regarding branded merchandise, can be found on the [Brand Central](#) website.

One of these for specialized merchandise is **Finacée Jewellers**. They provide [Queen's University Rings and Gift items](#).

Show your Queen's spirit or consider gifting and share with your networks!

## Queen's Alumni Review



**"If These Walls Could Talk,"** a regular feature in the [Queen's Alumni Review](#) that looks at houses in the University District through the voices/stories of alumni who lived in them. Check out some featured houses in past QAR publications (ie. Page 38 of the Fall 2024 issue) to give you an idea of the style and idea of these features. These beautifully crafted stories make a great souvenir of your time at Queen's which includes an original illustration published in the QAR, distributed to 109,000 alumni, friends of the university, and campus departments.

If you or someone in your network might like to be featured, please connect with [Ruth Dunley](#) for additional information.

### **Keep your event on Campus** (and invest back into student life!)



As you know, Queen's University's beautiful and historic lakeside campus is the perfect setting for your next [meeting, event or conference](#) and [sporting events/tournaments](#). Venues range from [character-filled banquet halls to state-of-the-art classrooms, performance theatres, sporting facilities](#) and [overnight accommodations](#). And, you've all experienced the delicious [food and beverages](#). Queen's also provides an idyllic setting for your [dream wedding](#) or renewal of vows. [Queen's Event Services](#) is your on-campus logistics partner, offering professional event management services to assist every step of the way. To get started, contact [event.services@queensu.ca](mailto:event.services@queensu.ca) and don't forget to share with your networks. Revenue and services from these units support vital student life programs and contribute to the University's learning environment. Thank you for considering hosting your event at Queen's to [Keep your event on Campus](#) and investing back into student life!

### **COUNCILLOR SPOTLIGHT**



- Please ensure you [update](#) your contact information (mail, email, phone) to stay informed about Queen's.
- Get to know your fellow Councillor members by visiting their [biographical sketches](#).
- Learn more about how you can [support Queen's University](#).
- If you have exciting personal or professional news you would like to share through your monthly newsletter, please send us details to [ucouncil@queensu.ca](mailto:ucouncil@queensu.ca). In addition, [please share](#) your participation with University activities to record the impact of Council. Thanks to the following Councillors for volunteering:

[Councillor Role Description](#) highlight: As an **Ambassador** for Queen's University, Councillors are expected to stay abreast of current events and news from Queen's and in the post-secondary sector in general. Councillors will receive periodic emails from the University regarding special announcements, general updates, or invitations to attend special events. In addition, Councillors are expected to subscribe, review, and share Queen's publications and social media to remain knowledgeable about resources, services, and benefits offered to alumni through the Alumni Association. As ambassadors, Councillors are expected to represent and support Queen's in diverse ways. Each Councillor is requested to actively seek out opportunities and to initiate informal conversations with alumni, students, volunteers, donors, and other supporters of Queen's that encourage them toward deeper engagement with Queen's.

Alumni Gala: **Elaine Wu** has volunteered to help with Alumni Gala planning.

[Black Histories and Futures Month](#): Queen's and Kingston celebrated Black culture, achievements, and futures at on-campus and community events throughout February. A feature in the [Alumni Review](#) and highlighted by the Gazette, by Councillor **Tka Pinnock**, outlines the legacy of "the only Black girl on campus" discovers the long path that Elizabeth Musson Kawaley paved for Black students at Queen's.

Convocation: Join Councillor **Willa Henry** who has already volunteered for Spring Convocation! Opportunities still available (details above).

GradFlix Judge and Reader Panel for Commitment Scholars: **Sandra Kwon**

## STUDENT LIFE



The [Office of the Rector](#) hosts the [Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Awards](#) to recognize students for distinguished service, leadership, character and community impact during their time at Queen's. Please help us congratulate the following recipients who will be inducted into the prestigious [Tricolour Society](#) on April 4th. If you would like to send a congratulations note, please forward to [terri.flindall@queensu.ca](mailto:terri.flindall@queensu.ca). And, watch your inbox for your invitation.



**Hannah Muriel Robb Burrows**, ArtSci'23, MSc'25

Burrows, a curious interdisciplinary master's student, bridges the gap between academia and philanthropy. She co-founded the non-profit To Help You Reach Knowledge and co-authored a textbook to guide students in securing scholarships and financial aid. Burrows uplifts and inspires those around her as a residence don, teaching assistant, and panelist with her innovative thinking and supportive mentorship.



**Zaid Kasim**, Sci'21, PhD'26

Kasim, an enthusiastic doctoral student in Civil Engineering, is a long-time leader and advocate. While AMS President, he brought the JDUC project out of a standstill and into construction. As the SGPS Vice President, Kasim established the most extensive food insecurity programming partnership roster in Queen's history. Through clubs and committees, Kasim advanced structural equity while mentoring other students.



**Ore Maxwell**, HealthSci'26

Maxwell, an inspiring undergraduate student committed to mentorship, advocacy, and building a sense of belonging. She co-founded Queen's Cancer Kids First, supporting pediatric cancer patients and caregivers through awareness and education. As a Commitment Scholar, Maxwell empowers others through inclusive programming and mentorship, serving as an Equity Ambassador, Residence Don, QSuccess Senior Mentor, and tutor for equity-deserving students in Kingston.

### 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](#)



Questions: contact  
[ucouncil@queensu.ca](mailto:ucouncil@queensu.ca)