

The background of the cover is a photograph of the Senate Building in Concordia, Quebec, taken from a low angle looking up. The building's facade is covered in a grid of windows, and its roofline is visible against a clear sky. The image is overlaid with a blue gradient. A thin red diagonal line is in the top left corner, and a white diagonal line is in the bottom right corner.

SENATE

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

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CONCORDIA

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The Annual Report of the Senate of Concordia University provides a snapshot of important events and accomplishments from the 2025-26 academic year. During this period, Concordia achieved many successes in teaching, research, innovation and, as a result, reached new heights in terms of our international reputation.

Bloomberg Businessweek named the John Molson School of Business the #1 MBA program and business school in Canada, overtaking perennial favourite the Ivey School at Western and placing ahead of Desautels and HEC here in Montreal. Meanwhile, the Gina Cody School ranked top 40 in the world for Civil Engineering.

The University closed its most-ambitious fundraising campaign ever, having brought in over \$365 million! The total exceeded the campaign's goal of \$350 million, an extraordinary accomplishment that speaks to the University's support across various networks and communities.

Space Concordia became the first group to launch a rocket from Canadian soil in 25 years. And in May, astronaut and entrepreneur Mark Pathy donated \$15 million to establish the Mark Pathy Space Institute. Students in Political Science won major public policy case competitions and national Moot Law Society competitions.

Concordia celebrated a \$5-million investment by the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the *Ministère d'économie, innovation et énergie* in the Genomic Foundry. Thanks to this funding, Loyola Campus will soon be home to a state-of-the-art digital and robotic research platform in genomics and synthetic biology—infrastructure that is unrivalled in Canada.

Last fall, graduates Jessica Lee Gagné and Barry Julien took home Emmy awards. In fact, Gagné became the first woman to win television's top honour for best cinematography in recognition of her work on the hit series, *Severance*. Julien, a long-time co-executive producer of *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, won for best late-night show. Also, John-Daniel Arauz, Emma Biernat and Laura Venditti won daytime Emmys in the Outstanding Main Title and Graphic Design category for their work on *Hack Your Health: The Secrets of Your Gut*. Let's add in the Oscar for Best Short Animated Film that was made by a team that included seven Concordia graduates. These achievements are only a few examples of Concordians who are doing amazing work in their respective fields.

Although our community generates positive news stories every day, Concordia—as is true for our sector as a whole—also continues to face critical challenges, ranging from budgetary constraints to geopolitical turmoil. These challenges will continue to require an investment of time and attention, not just by the University's administration, but our community as a whole. Faculty, including many members of Senate, have provided invaluable leadership in helping tackle these and other issues — as formal or informal advisors to the administration, in departmental and faculty roles, and in their classrooms, labs and studios.

In addition, following almost two years of extensive community consultations, the work of [STRIVE: Standing Together against Racism and Identity-based Violence](#) concluded with the release of its final report in April 2026.

An implementation and community response committee has been struck and its recommended actions will begin to rollout this fall as we lean into the next phase of our efforts to prevent and tackle identity-based violence.

Thank you to all senators — incoming, returning and outgoing — for your steadfast commitment to Concordia's efforts to prioritize accessibility, inclusivity and excellence in all areas of our academic mission.



Graham Carr
President and Vice-Chancellor

MANDATE

Senate is responsible for the academic governance of the University, including matters related to research, faculties, departments, libraries, programs and courses, academic standards, regulations, policies and procedures, and the granting of degrees, diplomas and certificates (excluding honorary degrees). The functions and powers of Senate are listed in [Section 13](#) of the By-Laws.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The work of Senate is supported by its standing committees which regularly report to Senate and bring forward recommendations as required. A full description of each committee's composition and mandate is included in the [Membership and Functions of Senate Standing Committees](#).

ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (APPC)

Reviews planning priorities and provides input as appropriate, supports the academic planning function of the University and makes reports and recommendations to Senate on academic planning and academic priorities.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC)

Coordinates and makes recommendations to Senate regarding credit programs and undergraduate academic regulations.

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITI AND DISTINGUISHED LIBRARIAN EMERITI COMMITTEE

Assesses and reviews nominations and recommends to Senate the awarding of the titles of Distinguished Professor Emeriti and Distinguished Librarian Emeriti.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Oversees and enforces the application of the *Code of Ethics and Conduct Applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate* ([US-1](#)).

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Acts as an advisory body to the University Librarian and Senate in connection with library objectives, policies and budget, and the development of its services and collections.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Studies and makes recommendations to Senate concerning the development, administration, guidelines and policies regarding research and the support thereof.

SPECIAL GRADUATION AWARDS COMMITTEE

Solicits and reviews nominations and recommends recipients to Senate for the eight special graduation awards.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Reviews Senate Agendas and ensures that the documentation forwarded to Senate is appropriate and in a form that permits effective debate.

MEETINGS

Six regular meetings of Senate were held during the 2025-26 academic year:

October 3, 2025	February 6, 2026
November 7, 2025	March 27, 2026
December 12, 2025	May 15, 2026

All Senate meetings were held in person, with the option to join remotely.

The highlights of the main topics discussed during those meetings are summarized below.

POLICIES AND PROCESSES

Revisions and updates were made to the following policy as part of periodic update and revision of policies: *Revisions to the Policy on Research Units and Infrastructure Platforms (VPRGS-8)*, which was renamed the *Policy on Research Entities* ([VPRII-8](#)).

PROGRAM AND OTHER APPROVALS:

Senate approved the following new programs in 2025-26:

Certificate in Black and African Diaspora Studies in the Canadian Context: The 30-credit program is structured similarly to the Minor in Black and African Diaspora Studies in the Canadian Context and was developed in response to the considerable interest from the community that the minor has garnered, creating an opportunity for graduate students and those not currently enrolled at the University to complete a certificate program in this field.

Bachelor of Commerce in Business Analytics:

The John Molson School of Business created a 90-credit Major in Business Analytics, envisaged as an integrated program to the management of big data applicable to all business areas. The program will aim to expose students to Business Intelligence concepts and Data Analytics theory, methods, tools and techniques, providing them with the skills and abilities to become effective business analysts and managers.

Master's in Science (M.Sc.) in Athletic Therapy:

The Department of Health, Kinesiology, and Applied Physiology proposed a new M.Sc. degree in Athletic Therapy, with the intent to phase out the current Bachelor of Science, Athletic Therapy (BScAT) and restructure the program to the master's degree level. Changing to an M.Sc. corresponds to the higher education environment and the accreditation landscape in Quebec, Canada, and the United States. This development enhances the established curriculum to a higher level, meeting the increasing responsibilities of the Athletic Therapist (AT) as a healthcare specialist, and is directly aligned with the national educational trends in the field.

Microprogram in Production Accounting for Film and Television:

The John Molson School of Business will offer a 6-credit microprogram in collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts. The program will provide learners with the necessary applied accounting knowledge skills to work as Production Assistants in the film and television industry, and was developed based on industry feedback, program benchmarking, the analysis of job postings, and information gathered through hosted focus group meetings with the *Association québécoise de la production médiatique*.

Bachelor of Engineering in Artificial Intelligence Engineering ("BEng in AIE") and Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence ("BSc in AI"): Both programs were developed to respond to the urgent need for skilled professionals in a rapidly evolving job market. The BEng in AIE will be the first integrated AI engineering pathway in Québec, combining hardware, software, systems integration, and engineering ethics within a single accredited degree. The BSc in AI is a comprehensive program covering all theoretical foundations of AI, designed for students seeking a targeted education in specialized AI training that can be completed in a shorter timeframe than the BEng in AI.

Minor in Artificial Intelligence: The 25-credit minor program consists of computer science courses that are within the field of artificial intelligence, combining mathematical foundations, programming skills, algorithmic thinking, and applied AI methods.

Microprogram in Economic Policy: This program aims to attract professionals in the private sector and public sectors - including community organizations - who wish to understand economic policy frameworks affecting taxation, trade policy, immigration policy and demographic challenges, institutional and international relationships and those requiring skills in government writing.

Microprogram in Computational Physics: Designed for learners who have already obtained a Science DEC or equivalent, this program will combine training in scientific approach to problem-solving, quantitative rather than qualitative science focus and practical programming skills, with the focus on specific problems and methods that are particularly relevant in sciences and engineering.

Microprogram in Religious, Cultural and Ethnic

Literacy: The aim of this program is to create partnerships with organizations through which professionals in specific industries may be recruited to register in the Microprogram. Special interest has been taken in the area of healthcare, but this Microprogram should also be relevant to other kinds of professionals who work regularly with diverse populations, including HR professionals, social workers, tech product & UX designers, hospitality/tourism/airline staff, school administrators & teachers, and postsecondary faculty and student-services staff.

Microprogram in Jewish Studies: The target audience for this program is adults, primarily in the Jewish community, who take adult education courses and may be attracted by the sophistication and advanced level of university courses and by the quality and reputation of Concordia's faculty in the field of Jewish Studies.

Minor in Physics: The program is designed for students whose primary program is in Mathematics, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, or Psychology, but will be open to anyone possessing appropriate prerequisite knowledge, normally in the form of a Science DEC or equivalent.

Microprogram in Songwriting and Music

Production: The Department of Music and the Faculty of Fine Arts are expanding offerings in songwriting and music production, targeting prospective students not yet ready to commit to a full BFA, as well as professionals seeking to further develop their skills. The Microprogram develops competencies in songwriting, beat-making, arrangement, recording, editing, mixing, and digital distribution through a strongly practice-based approach, culminating in a portfolio of original works suitable for professional release. It responds to growing demand driven by the accessibility of home studio technologies, streaming platforms, and self-production practices.

Graduate Microprogram in Global Health

Entrepreneurship: This program will be offered through a hybrid model designed to be attractive to professionals and graduate students. It responds to the need to think differently to overcome the biggest challenges and harness the greatest opportunities in health. While traditional medical and public health schools have major roles to play, their mandates often limit the capacity of graduates to mobilize knowledge for scientific and operational breakthroughs in health performance. There is an urgent need for bold thinkers who are equipped to tackle the sector's toughest challenges including unequal access to care, rising safety and security risks, system inefficiencies and the struggle to keep pace with transformative new technologies.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCHOOL OF PERFORMANCE:

Senate recommended the approval of the merger of the departments of Music, Theatre and Contemporary Dance and the establishment of the School of Performance to the Board of Governors on October 3, 2025.

RENAMING OF THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (CIISE) TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CYBERSECURITY AND INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS ENGINEERING:

Senate recommended the approval of the renaming of the *Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering (CIISE)* to the *Department of Cybersecurity and Intelligent Systems Engineering* to the Board of Governors on May 27, 2026.

OTHER REPORTS:

The following individuals gave presentations throughout the year to keep Senators apprised of ongoing activities, projects and initiatives:

Amy Fish and Aisha Topsakal presented the highlights of [the Ombuds Office Annual Report](#) and [the Office of Rights and Responsibilities Annual Report](#), respectively.

Félix-Antoine Jolicoeur and Béatrice Girardin from VOLUME10 gave a short presentation on the importance of international students.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Senate for 2025-26
(as of May 1, 2026) included:

VOTING MEMBERS

Ex-officio

Graham Carr

President and Vice-Chancellor

Effrosyni Diamantoudi

Provost and Vice-President, Academic

Tim Evans

Vice-President, Research, Innovation and Impact

Pascale Sicotte

Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science

Mourad Debbabi

*Dean, Gina Cody School of Engineering
and Computer Science*

Annie Gérin

Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts

Anne-Marie Croteau

Dean, John Molson School of Business

Véronique Pepin

Interim Dean, School of Health

Geoff Dover

Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Amy Buckland

University Librarian

Faculty of Arts and Science

Theresa Bianco

Patrice Blais (PT)

Ariela Freedman

Steven Henle

Moshe Lander

Maggie McDonnell

Peter Morden

Xavier Ottenwaelder

Mireille Paquet

Sina Queyras

Rosemary Reilly

Aphrodite Salas

Anna Sheftel

Roberto Viereck-Salinas

Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science

Catherine Mulligan

Ramin Sedaghati

Reza Soleymani

Ahmed Soliman

Radu Zmeureanu

Faculty of Fine Arts

Robin Chemtov (PT)

Roy Cross

Cynthia Bruce

Christopher Moore

John Molson School of Business

Onur Bodur

Fabienne Cyrius (PT)

Alexandra Dawson

Kamila Sobol

Professional Librarian

Andrea Harland

Undergraduate Students

Saraluz Barton-Gomez

Seif Bedair

Narmine Boubasla

Lina El-Bakaye

Zoe Erika-Okoye

Eléanore Handsone

Vanessa Massot

Isabella Providenti

Isabelle Ranger

Adam Semergian

Huu Thien Tran

Graduate Students

Michael Gillis

Muhammad Ilyas Nadeem

Sanaz Naghdi

Preethi Srikanth

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Ex-officio

Philippe Beauregard
Chief Communications Officer

Paul Chesser
Vice-President, Advancement

Stéphanie de Celles
University Registrar

Michael Di Grappa
Vice-President, Services and Sustainability

Frederica Jacobs
Secretary-General

Kathleen Lizé
Chief Financial Officer

Brad Nelson
Deputy Provost

Administrative and Support Staff representatives

Frederica Martin
Olivia Ward

GCS part-time faculty member

Tom Hughes

SECRETARY OF SENATE

Karan Singh

GOVERNANCE TEAM

Caroline Leamon



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