

## Senate Report to the Board of Trustees

Highlights from the May, September, October, and November 2025 meetings

Agendas: [www.queensu.ca/governanceportal](http://www.queensu.ca/governanceportal) (select meeting dates on calendar)

### Highlights

Senate's May meeting was a continuation of the unfinished agenda items from the April meeting, along with the approval of the slate of Honorary Degree Recipients for Spring and Fall 2026. Senators considered, but did not approve, changes to the Procedure on Decanal Renewal and Appointments.

At the September meeting, the Principal commented on several government initiatives and their potential impact on a variety of aspects of university operations, including student fees, merit-based acceptance, and bicameral governance structures.

At the October meeting, senators engaged in an Informal Session regarding the Bicentennial Vision draft, providing their feedback to the Principal. During the Question Period, Senators asked about the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence and how such technologies will be used and monitored at the university.

At the November meeting, Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) G. Watson informed Senators of an upcoming consultation process regarding Generative AI and its use at the university. Senators offered suggestions on the questions to be asked during the consultation.

On the recommendation of standing committees, the Senate approved:

- Major Modification – [Life Sciences and Biochemistry](#);
- Major Modification – [Graduate Diploma in Accounting](#);
- Major Modification – [MBA](#)
- Major Modification – [Jewish Studies Minor](#)
- Major Modification – [Bachelor of Commerce – Master of Finance and Master of International Business](#)
- Nomination reports in [September](#) and [October](#)
- Changes to the [membership composition for the Senate Orientation Review Committee](#);
- Revisions to the [Senate Policy on Certificates and Diplomas](#).

### Principal/Provost/Vice-Principal Research Remarks

In his reports, the Principal commended student leaders, notably Rector Boytchuk-Hale, on their efforts in mobilizing students to participate in the provincial election. He also spoke to the ongoing consultations for the Bicentennial Vision and the successful Joint Retreat held in March on that topic. The Principal addressed matters of government relations, noting several pieces of provincial legislation affecting higher education and the potential impact of the federal budget on research funding.

The Provost reported to Senate on a trip taken to Singapore and Hong Kong with several university representatives, with the goal of strengthening Canada-Asia relationships. He also provided his annual budget update to Senate and provided context for the university's enrolment targets, which were approved in April.

The Vice-Principal (Research) was pleased to highlight Dr. Bhavin Shastri, who was awarded a Sloan Research Fellowship in Physics. Queen's has been performing well on all measures related to federal research grants and has outperformed national averages and, overall, there has been an increase in the amount of funding available to the sector, which is positive.

The Senate received:

- The revised [Academic Integrity Procedures](#);
- Faculty Board reports from the [Faculty of Arts and Science](#), [Smith Engineering](#), [Faculty of Education](#), and the [Faculty of Health Sciences](#);
- Notice of Temporary Suspension of Admissions for programs in [German, Hispanic Studies and Italian](#); [Biomedical Computing](#);
- [Five Year Progress Report on the Certificate in Mining Technologies](#);
- Final Assessment Reports and Implementation Plans for the [DAN School](#); programs in [Computing](#); programs in [Law](#); programs in [Smith School of Business](#);
- The [Fall 2025 Honorary Degree](#) report and the [Spring and Fall 2026 Honorary Degree](#) report;
- The [Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan for the Certificate in Academic Writing](#);
- Progress Reports on the [Implementation of Recommendations in English, Religious Studies, and English](#);
- The [Core Sessional Dates 2026-2027](#);
- The [Office of the University Ombudsperson 2024-2025 Annual Report](#);
- The [Student Affairs Annual Report 2025-2025](#).

The next Senate meeting is January 29, 2026.