Our vision
What we aspire to be

We aspire to be, among universities, the essential reference on what Canada represents: a university that is an integral part of its community, open to the world, and distinguished by its search for excellence in research, its high-quality learning environment, its passion for knowledge and innovation, its leadership on language issues, and its openness to diversity. Every member of the institution will take part in our educational mission.

Our values
What defines us and drives us

A university that places its students at the core of its educational mission.
A university whose programs are research driven.
A bilingual university that values cultural diversity.
A university committed to promoting francophone communities.
A university that builds strong partnerships to fulfill its social responsibilities.
A university that offers equal opportunities to its staff.
A university that values its community.
Since 1848, the University of Ottawa has been Canada’s university: a reflection, an observatory and a catalyst of the Canadian experience in all its complexity and diversity. Our university is characterized by its unique history, its commitment to bilingualism, its location both in the heart of the national capital and at the juncture of English and French Canada, its special commitment to the promotion of French culture in Ontario, and to multiculturalism. As a result, and through the groundbreaking work of our community members, we are uniquely positioned among Canada’s research-intensive institutions to give students a remarkable education, to enrich the intellectual and cultural life of Canada and to help the country achieve greater international prominence.

Our mission
Our raison d’être
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE  Summarizing the hundreds of outstanding initiatives and the extraordinary successes of our university community in just a few pages requires considerable reflection. I take great pride in carrying out this annual exercise, since it is the perfect opportunity to report on the progress we have made and to ensure that we stay on course to achieve the objectives we have set.

Vision 2010 plays a key role in this regard. The result of an extensive strategic academic planning exercise, Vision 2010 articulates one fundamental principle: students are at the heart of each and every one of the decisions we make. The Vision 2010 “scorecard” will help us evaluate our progress through a series of indicators.

In light of advances in knowledge, we recently reviewed and consolidated the four strategic areas of development in research identified in 1998. The role of these areas is to provide guidance for all our endeavours, particularly those related to health studies (a key concern for Canadians), the understanding of the social, cultural and legal repercussions of the e-society, the study of Canada’s role in the world, and the analysis of the ethical and legal impacts of molecular sciences. These areas of priority ensure that our research activities have tangible and timely impacts on Canadian society.

Drawing on our experience and achievements, the University of Ottawa is better equipped than ever to fulfill its promise as one of the country’s leading universities. I will let you judge for yourselves the remarkable accomplishments that we have made in the past year.

Gilles G. Patry
President and Vice-Chancellor

Officers of the University

Chancellor
HUGUETTE LABELLE

Chair of the Board of Governors
MARC JOLICOEUR

President and Vice-Chancellor
GILLES G. PATRY

Vice-President Academic and Provost
ROBERT MAJOR

Vice-President, Research
HOWARD ALPER

Vice-President, University Relations
DAVID MITCHELL

Vice-President, Resources
VICTOR SIMON

Secretary of the University
PIERRE-YVES BOUCHER

PHOTO: COLIN ROWE
In September 2006, the University will offer Ontario’s first biomedical mechanical engineering program. This program will train engineers specialized in the design of medical devices, as well as specialists in biomechanics, rehabilitation engineering and robotics for medical applications.

The Student Academic Success Service, a leader in its field, has set up 14 student mentoring centres in various faculties, all of which are tailored to the specific needs of the students they serve.

With the help of a scholarship from the Canadian Space Agency, biomedical science student Prateek Khatri was able to take part in a six-week training program at NASA, where he studied the cardiovascular physiology of astronauts returning to earth.
A LABORATORY WITH RHYTHM Each day, budding pianists practise scales, play chords and spend hours trying to master their instrument. It is a long and sometimes discouraging process. Luckily, Professor Gilles Comeau and his team believe that there is an easier and more efficient way to learn to play the piano. The Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory, the first of its kind in Canada, attracts graduate students from around the world. Funded by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation and the Ontario Innovation Trust, the laboratory cost $1.2 million, but its true value lies in the multidisciplinary research that is carried out there. It brings together researchers from Canada and abroad, who specialize in music, psychology, cognitive sciences, neurosciences, education, communication, health sciences, engineering, and information technology. The laboratory’s state-of-the-art equipment allows experts to study the cognitive, auditory, motor and visual aspects of piano playing and learning.

A GOLDEN APPRENTICESHIP Shortly after receiving her MBA, Mélanie Pilon flew to Vancouver to become the right-hand assistant to Ian Telfer, president and CEO of Goldcorp Inc., a major international mining company. Inspired by magnate Donald Trump and the American television show The Apprentice, Mr. Telfer (MBA 1976) set-up a paid apprenticeship program at Goldcorp; he then earmarked the position of apprentice to the president and CEO for recent graduates of the University of Ottawa’s MBA program. Ms. Pilon’s profile caught Mr. Telfer’s attention (she also holds a degree in communication), and he was convinced that she would bring new skills to a field that is mostly made up of geologists and engineers. During her 12-month apprenticeship, this talented young woman will be on the front lines of business, attending all executive meetings and participating in highly confidential negotiations.

IMMERSION ... EVEN AT UNIVERSITY! In Canada, more than 300,000 young anglophones study in French immersion programs at elementary and secondary schools each year. Beginning in September 2006, the University of Ottawa will give many of them the opportunity to pursue their education in French at the university level, becoming the first university to offer French immersion studies, which will be available in more than 50 programs and will be tailored to the language goals of each individual. Some courses will include a weekly tutorial session for small groups, led by a language professor, in order to help students better understand the material, improve their knowledge of the French language, and make it easier for them to write their assignments in Mollier’s language. Their efforts will be rewarded with the “French immersion” designation on their diplomas and, more importantly, by their level of bilingualism, an indisputable asset in the national and global job market.

THE “NOBEL” OF TEACHING

>> The 3M Fellowship — the “Nobel” of Canadian university teaching — is awarded each year to ten professors, who display excellence in interdisciplinary teaching and exceptional leadership. Since it was established in 1986, this award has been conferred eight times upon outstanding professors at the University of Ottawa. The latest recipient is Aline Germain-Rutherford, director of the Centre for University Teaching, in recognition of her work in integrating speech technologies into teaching and learning. Find out more at www.report.uOttawa.ca.
Discoveries in the Making

From the first flicker of imagination to the realization of their dreams, the University of Ottawa’s researchers are hard at work in laboratories, in their offices and in the field. The results of their discoveries, full of promises and achievements, enrich our daily lives.

DID YOU KNOW?

>> In his final year with the Faculty of Engineering, Ryan Anderson spent time in the Utah desert taking part in a Mars Society research project designed to simulate life on Mars in various terrestrial environments.

>> In the new Biosciences Complex, one of the most energy-efficient buildings in Canada, professors and students alike are challenging the boundaries of knowledge in greenhouses and laboratories equipped with the latest technology.

>> The prestigious Harvard Medical School chose biochemistry student Mario Morin to participate in its Four Directions Summer Research Program, which welcomes about ten students of Aboriginal descent each year.
MICE AS A WEIGHT-LOSS AID  A team of researchers may have found a solution to obesity, a serious public health problem according to the World Health Organization. Working out of Professor Michael Rudnicki’s lab at the Ottawa Health Research Institute, molecular biologist Anthony Scime noted that some genetically altered mice did not store fat in spite of the rich food they were fed. In fact, these mice had brown fat cells, which are normally found in large quantities in newborns, the homeless, the Inuit and even hibernating mammals — in other words, those who must produce their own heat in order to survive. However, these brown cells are rarely found in the average adult. By identifying the gene linked to the production of these brown cells, Anthony Scime and Michael Rudnicki are a step closer to discovering a molecule that could disable normal fat cells and transform them into brown cells that burn fat rather than store it.

NURSING: A RICH PAST AND A PROMISING FUTURE  The School of Nursing is home to Canada’s first academic research unit dedicated to studying the history of nursing. Established through the generosity of Associated Medical Services Inc. (AMS), the AMS Nursing History Research Unit conducts research into the lives of nurses and past nursing practices, and supports graduate students in nursing and history. In addition to promoting the study of the history of nursing, the unit will also provide critical background for present and future health care challenges, including policy-making. Prior to the research unit’s opening in 2005, Director Meryn Stuart and Associate Director Cynthia Toman worked with the Canadian Museum of Civilization to create, “A Caring Profession: Centuries of Nursing in Canada,” the first national exhibition about the history of Canadian nursing. The AMS Nursing History Research Unit is linked with other departments and institutes at the University, as well as with Library and Archives Canada, the Canadian War Museum and the Canadian Museum of Civilization. It also has ties with parallel units in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

THE PATHS OF FRENCH

How does French travel through time and across continents? How does the language reflect social change? Under the direction of Professor France Martineau (departments of Lettres françaises and Linguistics), “Modelling Change: The Paths of French,” a major research project, will try to answer these questions in collaboration with a large international team and $2.5 million from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Find out more at www.report.uOttawa.ca.
National Reach

Whether they are hunched over a microscope, thrust into the national political spotlight, sitting at a piano keyboard or facing an opponent with a sword in hand, members of the University of Ottawa community leave a lasting mark on Canadian society and beyond our country’s borders.

DID YOU KNOW?

>> The University of Ottawa is the only Canadian university to offer an intensive training program in conference interpreting, also known as oral translation.

>> For the second consecutive year, the Faculty of Law received more applications for admission than any other Canadian university.

>> Krista Power and Stacey Warren, members of the Gee-Gees women’s soccer team, represented Canada at the 2005 World University Games in Ismir, Turkey.
THE PEN AND THE SWORD  Sherraine MacKay (née Schalm) is Canada’s top women’s épée fencer. She is also the best in the world after winning the Saint Maur World Cup Grand Prix, in France, in February 2006. This University of Ottawa English and education graduate has recently published her first book, Running with Swords: A native of Brooks, Alberta, she now lives in Budapest, where she is training for the 2008 Olympic Games. While a student, Ms. MacKay was a member of both the National Women’s Épée Team and the Gee-Gees Fencing Team. Her desire to excel and to contribute to the community explains why she participated in the 2005 CBC Radio book panel, “Canada Reads,” a national broadcast that encourages the love of reading.

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN MEDICINE: A DOUBLE DOSE!  Two of the 21 Networks of Centres of Excellence in Canada are now found on campus. The research conducted here focuses on medical issues that concern us all. Buoyed by an impressive $26 million in funding, the Canadian Stroke Centre is targeting the prevention and treatment of strokes, which are a major cause of disability and death in this country. It is hoping to reduce the physical, mental, social and economic impacts of strokes, and at the same time help the health care system deal more efficiently with strokes. For its part, the Stem Cell Network is an ambitious Canadian initiative that brings together more than 80 scientists, clinical practitioners, engineers and ethicists. It is mandated to explore the possibility of using stem cells in the treatment of incurable diseases. As the home base of these influential partnerships, the University is actively exploring how the results of scientific innovation can be carried over into our everyday lives.

THE CLASSROOM — A MIRROR OF SOCIETY  The classroom is a miniature replica of our universe, where political, religious, ethnic and racial diversity are prevalent and academic achievement varies from one individual to the next. A new research chair in Canadian Francophonie hopes to achieve an understanding of the inclusion and exclusion processes in relationships between students, parents and teaching staff, particularly in a minority French-language environment. Chair Nathalie Bélanger, a professor with the Faculty of Education, is overseeing this project that will help address the lack of information about inclusion problems in Canada’s French-language communities, including those in Ontario. Under Professor Bélanger’s watchful eye, the classroom becomes a dynamic and complex society, where laws rule daily life and all points of view are considered.

BACH VIRTUOSO

>>  Drawn to the University of Ottawa by the presence of renowned pianist Jean-Paul Sevilla, Angela Hewitt has emerged as one of the world’s most acclaimed concert performers. Her recordings of the major keyboard works of Bach are considered among the outstanding recordings of our time. The University of Ottawa Alumni Association publicly expressed its pride in Ms. Hewitt and her achievements by awarding her the 2005 Meritas-Tabaret Award, presented annually to alumni of the University of Ottawa, who have distinguished themselves by their achievement of excellence in their chosen fields. Find out more at www.report.uOttawa.ca.
Marketing students have designed and launched a campaign to increase awareness about the food crisis in Niger. The goal of the project is to raise $100,000 and to help students gain a better sense of business ethics.

Thanks to a bequest from the late Mitchell Sharp, who was part of the Canadian political landscape for half a century, a Steinway piano is available to music students in the Mitchell Sharp Studio.

By participating in internships in Kenya, nursing students provide much needed help to local nursing staff, who are overwhelmed by the AIDS pandemic.

The Campaign for Canada’s university is on target thanks to generous individuals like Marie des Anges Loyer, alumna and former dean of nursing. She has provided support to a number of nursing students like Sylvie Corbeil. To find out more about the largest fundraising campaign in the history of the University, visit www.campaign.uOttawa.ca

Prominent community members — individuals as well as organizations — provide unwavering support for the University of Ottawa’s continued growth and expansion. This vote of confidence, in turn, means that the University of Ottawa accepts significant responsibilities: paving the way for new areas of human knowledge, carrying out research that benefits society as a whole, and helping students excel. With increased momentum, the University of Ottawa is now heading into the final stages of its $200 million fundraising campaign.

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JEWISH HERITAGE IN CANADA

Although several Canadian universities offer programs in Jewish studies, the program recently launched by the University is unique: it is a secular program focusing on the Jewish diaspora in Canada. The “Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program” is named in honour of the outstanding philanthropic leadership of the Vered family of Ottawa. The program explores a wide range of topics, including contemporary Jewish culture, the Canadian Jewish community’s relations with its non-Jewish environment, the social, economic and cultural contributions Canadian Jews have made in Canada and the major East European migrations at the beginning of the twentieth century. The Vered Program is part of the University’s Institute of Canadian Studies.

PIONEER, MENTOR, PHILANTHROPIST

When they left the University’s law school in the mid-1970s, Shirley Greenberg and her fellow female students represented only 20 per cent of the graduating class — a percentage that was considered remarkable at that time. Today, women account for nearly 60 per cent of all law school graduates. Ms. Greenberg played a major role in opening the doors of the legal profession to women. Indeed, several of Ontario’s successful female lawyers began their careers in her law office, one of the first in Canada to employ only women. Now retired, Ms. Greenberg is, today, the philanthropist who has bestowed upon the University of Ottawa its largest individual gift. Her generous contribution created the Shirley E. Greenberg Chair for Women and the Legal Profession in the University’s Faculty of Law, Common Law Section. This inspirational alumna was also responsible for establishing the Shirley E. Greenberg Centre for Women’s Health, at the Riverside Campus of The Ottawa Hospital.

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AT THE CROSSROADS OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNANCE

It has been said that Canada’s “two solitudes” are actually represented by the often separate worlds of business and government. In order to bridge the chasm of misunderstanding that often characterizes the complex relations between the private and public sectors in Canada, an innovative new research chair has been established: the CN-Paul Tellier Chair in Business-Government Relations. Supported through a generous donation by CN, this innovative chair is named in honour of one of the University’s most distinguished alumni, Paul Tellier, whose extraordinary career has spanned the most senior ranks of both government and business.

DID YOU KNOW?

>> Follett Corporation, which co-manages the University of Ottawa Bookstore, has contributed $500,000 to the Father Roger Guindon Fund in support of the University’s top priorities.

>> The newly established Community Service Learning Program, which gives students the opportunity to perform volunteer work in their field of study, already has 800 participants working with 70 community organizations.

>> University of Ottawa students will perform with the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra as part of a new graduate certificate program in orchestral studies. The format is unique in Canada, coupling practical training with professional experience.
Of full-time undergraduates, 91.4% completed their degree within one year of their expected graduation date. Source: Maclean’s University Rankings 2005

The incoming grade average for University of Ottawa students is 83%. Source: Maclean’s University Rankings 2005

The University ranks among the top universities in Canada for multimedia availability. There are more than 240 multimedia facilities on campus, including 103 multimedia classrooms.
PHOTO: COLIN ROWE

Among respondents to a survey from the Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium, 89% were satisfied or very satisfied with their decision to attend the University of Ottawa.

Among Canadian PhD students who attend the University of Ottawa, 80% received entrance scholarships.

The University of Ottawa is a recognized leader in energy efficiency, with demonstrated lower energy use and lower greenhouse emissions than most other post-secondary institutions in Canada.
The University of Ottawa ranks among the top ten eligible Canadian institutions with 66 Canada Research Chairs. 

Research intensity: the University of Ottawa ranks ninth among Canada’s top 50 research universities with $194,800 per full-time faculty position. Source: Research Infosource Inc. 2005

Total research income (2003-2004): with $190,343,000, the University of Ottawa ranks tenth among the top 50 Canadian research universities. Source: Research Infosource Inc. 2005

The University of Ottawa ranks first in dollars per award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) when compared to universities across Canada.

The University of Ottawa ranks third in dollars per award among Canadian universities in funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

CIHR funding per award except for Canada Research Chairs and for studentships at universities with medical schools and affiliated institutions. Source: CIHR

SSHRC funding per award excluding Canada Research Chairs and research training at the top ten funded universities. Source: SSHRC

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Formal Disclosures (Inventions in Progress)

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STAYING THE COURSE

A scorecard has been developed to measure the annual progress of Vision 2010, the new strategic academic plan that outlines the University of Ottawa’s directions and objectives for the coming years. The scorecard indicators are organized according to four areas of activity. Two of these areas deal directly with the University’s mission as it relates to the student population, the community and academic excellence. The other two — the commitment and quality of staff, as well as resources — are essential in helping the University fulfill its mission. Visit www.uOttawa.ca/vision2010 to view this scorecard.
On leadership

Recipients of the University of Ottawa’s 2005 Distinguished Canadian Leadership Awards share their thoughts on leadership with the University community. Find out more at www.canadianleadership.uOttawa.ca.

EXPANDING OUR NOTION OF COMMON HUMANITY  “Nearly all great leaders are what I like to call ‘hope leaders.’ They share the conviction that with enlightened leadership people are capable of great unselfishness, common decency and simple kindness. They believe that over time we can expand our notion of common humanity.”

LOUISE FRÉCHETTE, distinguished fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation, at the University of Waterloo and former United Nations deputy secretary-general

INSPIRING OTHERS WITH OPTIMISM AND COURAGE  “Leadership is practiced every day by thousands of faceless, nameless people who go about their lives in service to others, asking nothing in return. These ordinary people make extraordinary leaders by staying close to their passion, inspiring others with their optimism and courage in the face of life’s challenges.”

RICK HANSEN, president and CEO of the Rick Hansen Man in Motion Foundation

CREATING A VISION  “Leadership begins by looking within yourself; it comes from knowing what you are about and what you stand for. From this inner conviction comes the capacity to create a vision and persuade others to join you in making that vision a reality.”

BOB RAE, former Ontario premier and author of the Postsecondary Review, “Ontario: A Leader in Learning”