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With the enormous challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 will certainly go down in history! Change, transformation and resilience marked day-to-day life during this extraordinary year. Amid this upheaval, Saint Paul University (SPU) remains faithful to its fundamental values relating to engagement, humanity, openness and spirituality:

**Engagement:** SPU is supportive and determined to make a positive and concrete impact in the community. It believes that each person, through their well-thought-out and resolute action, together with others, contributes to improving how people live together harmoniously. That is why the teaching that is offered here combines theory and practice and prepares students to be agents of change.

**Humanity:** SPU recognizes the ephemeral nature of human existence. By admitting the limits and vulnerability of this existence, it promotes the search for one’s ultimate purpose in their relationships with nature, others and God. In an era of globalization, this search for meaning is reflected in university research and teaching and allows it to carry out the modern undertaking of humanizing the planet.

**Openness:** SPU offers an inclusive environment and a safe space, where no one is a stranger or excluded. All those who are motivated by a desire to learn with others, to discover, to go beyond their limits, to put themselves at the service of others and to grow feel at home here.

**Spirituality:** SPU creates a learning environment that allows students to reflect on existential questions and that is rooted in the great Catholic intellectual tradition. It helps them understand today’s pluralist society and interact with it confidently.

It is these values, among others, that allowed us to discern the possibilities available to us despite the many obstacles we encountered and to successfully navigate the turmoil of the pandemic.

Indeed, the university community as a whole was able to mobilize the energy needed to ensure continuity and maintain the quality of our institution’s education and support services. It did not give up despite the magnitude of the challenge. On the contrary, the community rolled up its sleeves and refused to let despair and cynicism paralyze its desire for justice and peace.
As Kierkegaard said, hope is passion for what is possible. In cultivating this hope, Saint Paul University will continue to explore and deepen this creative passion that allows it to achieve what can at times seem impossible.

I hope that everyone will consider the strength, resilience and courage that dwells within us. We must always remember that we can count on the community spirit that unites us and that makes Saint Paul University a true family.

I am confident that we will continue to innovate and to set ourselves apart through our engagement with the communities we serve and that together, we will succeed in being the face of change.

Take care and be safe,

Chantal Beauvais
Rector
Located in the heart of the nation’s capital, Saint Paul University (established in 1848) is the founding college of the University of Ottawa, with which it has been federated since 1965. A bilingual institution, it offers undergraduate and graduate study programs.

Proud of its rich heritage, over the years Saint Paul University (SPU) has evolved into an institution whose primary focus is on the multiple facets of the human experience. Not surprisingly, that priority is reflected in our current programs of study: in addition to our founding disciplines – canon law, philosophy and theology – we offer courses in social communication, social innovation, transformative leadership, counselling and psychotherapy, public ethics, conflict studies, and human relations.

Besides its academic programs, Saint Paul University offers a number of complementary services, including support and guidance to help students succeed academically and personally, conferences, lectures and workshops with distinguished specialists on issues facing today’s society; a student residence; and a library with an outstanding collection of documents and books on a range of specialized subjects.

SPU is known for its small class sizes, personalized service, diverse student population and international vision, solid reputation, rich history and Catholic intellectual tradition.
The Board of Governors (BG) is responsible for the University’s overall governance and management. In practical terms, the Board makes the financial decisions and implements the policies and procedures that the University needs to operate efficiently, in accordance with the educational policies established by the Senate. The Board can strike committees to help it exercise its powers. The Board of Governors appoints its members in accordance with a delegation of authority by the Superior of the Notre-Dame-du-Cap province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in consultation with that organization’s council.

**Members in 2020–2021**

- **Marie-Michèle Laperrière**, Chair of the BG (CECCE)
- **Bonnie MacLellan**, Vice-President of the BG and General Superior, Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie
- **Daniel Berniquez**, pastor of Sainte-Marie Parish
- **Manon Harvey**, alumna of Saint Paul University
- **David Perrin**, professor, St. Jerome’s University
- **Francis Reardon**, retired professor, University of Ottawa
- **Gordon Rixon**, Canadian Theological Society, member of the Executive and treasurer and elected Vice-Chair, Academic Council, Regis College
- **Marc Tassé**, MBA, CPA, CA
- **Anna Sheftel**, professor, Saint Paul University
- **Chantal Beauvais**, Rector
- **Jean-Marc Barrette**, Vice-Rector, Academic and Research
- **Normand Beaulieu**, Vice-Rector, Administration
- **Michael McLellan**, Interim Secretary General
- **Marie-Josée Martel**, retired from the Public Service
- **Darlene Upton**, Vice-President, Parks Canada
- **Margaret Moriarty**, retired professor, University of Ottawa
- **Andrzej Jastrzebski**, o.m.i.
SENATE

The Senate sets Saint Paul University’s educational policies and is responsible for the sound management of academic issues on campus. For instance, subject to the approval of related expenses by the Board of Governors, the Senate has the power to create and abolish faculties, schools and institutes. In addition, the Senate creates or abolishes academic regulations and programs of study; sets admission, degree and diploma requirements; and confers certificates, degrees at all levels and, with the approval of the Board of Governors, honorary doctorates. Finally, the Senate can strike committees to help exercise its powers.

Members in 2020-2021

- Most Rev. Terrence Prendergast, Archbishop of Ottawa, Chancellor (until December 10, 2020)
- Most Rev. Marcel Damphousse, Archbishop of Ottawa, Chancellor (since December 11, 2020)
- Chantal Beauvais, Rector
- Jean-Marc Barrette, Vice-Rector, Academic and Research
- Normand Beaulieu, Vice-Rector, Administration
- Michael McLellan, Interim Secretary General
- John Renken, Dean, Faculty of Canon Law
- George Smith, Interim Dean, Faculty of Human Sciences and Faculty of Philosophy
- Michel Andraos, Dean, Faculty of Theology
- Wojciech Kowal, elected professor, Faculty of Canon Law
- Richard Feist, elected professor, Faculty of Philosophy
- Jean-François Rioux, elected professor, Faculty of Human Sciences
- Yuanyuan Jiang, elected professor, Faculty of Human Sciences
- Kelly Kilrea, elected professor, Faculty of Human Sciences
- Mark Slatter, elected professor, Faculty of Theology
- Christian Dionne, elected professor, Faculty of Theology
Valère Nkouaya Mbandji, secretary, Faculty of Canon Law
Julie Paquette, secretary, Faculty of Philosophy
Simon Tremblay-Pepin, secretary, Faculty of Human Sciences
Andrea Spatafora, secretary, Faculty of Theology
Jérémie LeBlanc, Chief Librarian
Aline Germain-Rutherford, University of Ottawa
Claire Turenne Sjolander, University of Ottawa
Stéphane Vézina Gaudreault, elected student, undergraduate
Rainari Castro-Mejia, elected student, undergraduate
REPORT ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN

In September 2018, Saint Paul University (SPU) engaged in a renewal process for its strategic plan, entitled Dare to Change. The new version of the plan was launched in 2020.

Our objective was to determine how we could remain relevant in the years ahead. This meant interpreting the needs, realities and expectations of the entire community as well as the context in which the institution is evolving.

The development of our strategic plan was guided by a shared vision, which is to support transformative leadership on the part of individuals and communities for:

- The well-being of the planet;
- The healing of broken human relationships; and
- A respectful dialogue with Canada’s First Peoples.

The 2020–2025 strategic plan is centred on the following four priorities:

- Each person is welcomed into a strong learning community, develops a real sense of belonging and has a unique holistic experience.
- Saint Paul University fills a unique niche in the post-secondary environment and plays a leading role in the region, in Canada and abroad.
- Engagement with society inspires all experiences at Saint Paul University.
- Saint Paul University extends its action by focusing on a collaborative and innovative approach.

This new strategic framework allows us to take action and to embrace opportunities to better meet the needs of our university community and the broader community. It also gives us the opportunity to strengthen the innovative nature of our institution.
A Unique SPU Experience

Each person is welcomed into a strong learning community, develops a real sense of belonging and has a unique holistic experience.

Registrations in September 2020

Saint Paul University experienced the strongest growth in its history in September 2020. The number of registered students went from 1057 to 1255, an increase of 19%. While annual growth has been between 4% and 5% since 2011, this year’s strong growth was due to the revitalization of the institution, especially the creation of programs that address the needs of our current society.

The new programs, especially the Certificate in Ethics and Contemporary Social Issues: Immigration and Integration; the Master’s in Social Innovation; the Graduate Diploma in Catholic Bioethics; and the Doctorate in Interdisciplinary Research on Contemporary Social Issues attracted a good number of students. Also, some of our programs that have been in place for years saw a significant increase, especially the Bachelor’s and Master’s in Conflict Studies, as well as the Master’s in Public Ethics.

Furthermore, this growth happened among Canadians (+17%) and international students (+23%) alike. The linguistic balance between anglophones and francophones was also maintained.

New programs

- Certificate in Ethics and Contemporary Social Issues
- Certificate in Ethics and Contemporary Social Issues: Immigration and Integration
- Certificate in Human Relations and Spirituality
- Honours B.A. with Major in Faith, Ethics and Justice
- Graduate Diploma in Catholic Bioethics
- M.A. in Social Innovation
- Doctorate in Interdisciplinary Research on Contemporary Social Issues
New micro-programs

- Safeguarding Minors and Vulnerable Persons
- Skills Development in Conflict Resolution
- Social Justice, Interpersonal Relations and Immigration
- Serving Diversity: Settlement and Integration Needs and Challenges
- New Tech Ethics
- Leadership
- Community Engagement
- Social Marketing Communication
- Group Facilitation

National Survey of Student Engagement 2020

The 2020 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) showed that 92% of first-year students describe their experience at Saint Paul University as excellent or good. For fourth-year students, the satisfaction rate is 91%. In comparison, students at the 26 Ontario universities that took part in the survey gave an average rating of 76% and 75%, respectively.

The NSSE also reveals some of Saint Paul University’s greatest strengths:

- The possibility of having quality interactions with professors;
- Connections between learning and social issues;
- The presentation of different perspectives (political, religious, racial / ethnic, gender, etc.) during in-class discussions or assignments.
Graduates

In September 2020, Saint Paul University celebrated its 304 new graduates during a virtual ceremony. On campus, members of the University administration were joined by a small group of professors in the de Mazenod Chapel, where the ceremony was held. It was broadcast live for the students and their families.

Not only was this SPU’s first virtual graduation ceremony, but the 2019–2020 cohort was the largest in the University’s history.

Because students could not attend the ceremony in person due to physical distancing guidelines, Saint Paul University used a creative approach to shine a light on its graduates.

A slideshow featuring photos of the graduates was shown during the ceremony as their names were announced. The University had sent out printed diplomas in July and invited graduates to submit a photo of themselves with their diploma for the slideshow.

A wall of 304 balloons was another prominent feature in the chapel. Each graduate was represented by a balloon, whose colour indicated the faculty in which each one had studied. At the end of the ceremony, the balloons were released to the sounds of the song “Rise Up,” by The Parachute Club. These balloons will be used in an artwork that will commemorate the class of 2020.

Excellence

Saint Paul University fills a unique niche in the post-secondary environment and plays a leading role in the region, in Canada and abroad.

Saint Paul University received more than $300,000 in research grants in 2020. The funds were granted by the following three programs:
**Insight Development – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)**

*Insight Development* is a foundational research program aimed at emerging scholars and established scholars who wish to pursue a new research direction.

Saint Paul University’s success rate in this program was 50%, compared to the national success rate of around 45%.

**Three researchers obtained a grant from this program:**

**Amanda Wilson**

**PROJECT TITLE**
Mapping Sites of Contestation and Possibility for Transformative Food (In)Justice in Canada’s Carceral Food System

**FUNDING**
$50,122

**Simon Tremblay-Pepin**

**CORESEARCHERS**
Bengi Akbulut (Concordia University), Jonathan Durand Folco (Saint Paul University), Mathieu Perron-Dufour (Université du Québec en Outaouais); collaborator: Julia Posca

**PROJECT TITLE**
Concevoir la planification démocratique de l’économie à partir de la couverture des besoins de base

**FUNDING**
$73,392

**Enkelejda Sula-Raxhimi**

**PROJECT TITLE**
In the Midst of Violence and Insecure Futures: Displacement, Politics and Climate Change in Haiti

**FUNDING**
$69,462
Partnership Engage – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

The Partnership Engage program connects one or more researchers with an organization for one year. This relationship aims to respond to the organization’s research questions through the researcher’s or their team’s expertise. This is a program that the Vice-Rector, Academic and Research particularly encourages, as it develops the foundations for strong collaborations with community partners.

Amanda Wilson
CORESEARCHER
Monika Korzun (postdoctoral student, Saint Paul University); collaborators: Charles Levkoe (Lakehead University), Patricia Ballamingie (Carleton University)

PARTNER
Tides Canada Vancouver BC

PROJECT TITLE
COVID-19: Municipal Food Policy and Community Food Systems Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic

FUNDING
$24,967

Mitacs

Mitacs is a non-governmental organization supported by the federal government that offers research and training programs. Its focus is on student internships, research and supervision by a university professor-researcher. Partners must contribute financially to the graduate student’s or postdoctoral fellow’s internship, generally in the social and human sciences. Mitacs adds an amount equivalent to the organization’s contribution.
1) Mitacs Accelerate:

Amanda Wilson
Monika Korzun, Postdoctoral fellow

**PROJECT TITLE**
Tackling Food Insecurity through Innovations in Collaborative Food Systems

**PARTNERS**
Makeway Charitable Society and the Faculty of Human Sciences – Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation.

**MULTI-YEAR FUNDING**
$135,000 ($15,000 and $120,000)

Julie Châteauvert
Rana Annous, Postdoctoral fellow

**PROJECT TITLE**
Surdité et sécurité en situation d’urgence : le cas de l’Outaouais

**PARTNERS**
Association de l’ouïe de l’Outaouais (ADOO), le Centre de recherche sur les innovations et les transformations sociales (CRITS) and the Faculty of Human Sciences – Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation

**FUNDING**
$45,000
2) Mitacs Research Training Award (RTA):

Catherine Clifford
Paul Utser, doctoral student

**PROJECT TITLE**
Inventory - Fonds Vatican II: Canadian Perspectives

**PARTNER**
Centre for Vatican II and 21st Century Catholicism

**FUNDING**
$6,000 ($3,000 from Mitacs and $3,000 from the Vatican II Research Centre)

Laura Armstrong
Robert Fabes, doctoral student

**PROJECT TITLE**
Meaning-Based Mental Health Programming for, and Derived from the Expressed Needs of, People Experiencing Homelessness

**PARTNER**
Centre of Excellence for Research in Psychotherapy and Spirituality (CERPS)

**FUNDING**
$6,000 ($3,000 from Mitacs and $3,000 from CERPS)
Engagement and Environmental Responsibility

Engagement with society inspires all experiences at Saint Paul University.

Indigenous Initiatives

Saint Paul University’s Centre for Indigenous Students was designed as a gathering space for students, professors, staff and the entire community to facilitate understanding of Indigenous culture and history, provide support and a culturally welcoming and safe space for Indigenous learners and, in many ways, serve as a home away from home for Indigenous students from rural and remote communities. The Centre includes an entrance hall, two offices, an elders hall, an area for group activities and recreation, a small library, a shared working space and a storage room.

Funded in large part by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Centre for Indigenous Students will officially open its doors in 2021.

In parallel with the construction of the Centre, the University also developed several strategic partnerships with the community to renew its relationships with Indigenous peoples and to walk with them toward reconciliation.

Among others, we established a partnership with Kiuna Institution, the only First Nations college in Quebec, and the Victoriaville Cégep to offer a new DEC-BAC option that makes it possible for graduates to obtain an Honours B.A. in Social Innovation from Saint Paul University. A similar agreement is in development with Oshki-Wenjack, a college in Thunder Bay, Ontario, to offer this option to graduates, which will allow them to pursue bachelor studies in human relations at our institution.

Finally, a consultative committee for Indigenous initiatives was set up to work with the faculties in creating programs that are appropriate for First Nations, Inuit, Métis and their respective communities.
COVID-19 Emergency Fund

On April 9, 2020, Saint Paul University launched the COVID-19 Emergency Fund for students who were financially affected by the pandemic. The fundraising campaign raised over $33,000, more than triple the original goal of $10,000.

Most of the funds were raised through donations from SPU faculty and staff. Contributions were also made by the Saint Paul University Students Association (SPUSA), the Professors Association, the local chapter of part-time faculty affiliated with the Public Service Alliance of Canada, administrative support staff represented by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation and, finally, by the University itself.

Funds were distributed to more than 80 students, both international and Canadian. The students have reported using these funds to pay their rent and their bills, buy groceries or buy a computer so they could continue their studies online.

National Newcomer Navigation Network

The School of Ethics, Social Justice and Public Service has partnered with the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) to develop a new online educational program: the National Newcomer Navigation Network (N4).

The N4 Online Program was developed for service providers who help newcomers to Canada navigate social and health care services. Throughout the year-long program, participants learn about ethics, social justice and how to provide culturally sensitive care. The program’s first cohort, a group of 30 professionals from across Canada, began their online courses in January 2020.

In addition to online learning, the program includes two practicum placements. During these placements, participants are able to apply their knowledge in real work settings.

“The N4 program opened my eyes to so many things. How we define a disability; the importance and the development of multiculturalism in Canada; feminist theory, its modern topics and the role that women of colour play; and the daily application of ethical concepts.”

- Fatemeh Yousef Zadeh
  National Newcomer Navigation Network Graduate
Effectiveness and Efficiency
Saint Paul University extends its action by focusing on a collaborative and innovative approach.

Office of the Associate Vice-Rector, Student Enrolment Management

The service formerly known as the Office of Admissions, Registrar and Student Services (OARSS) was renewed over the past year. The management team of the Office, which is now called the Office the Associate Vice-Rector, Student Enrolment Management, includes the Associate Vice-Rector, Student Enrolment Management; an administrative assistant; three coordinators and their teams; and the academic advisor of the Faculty of Theology and the Faculty of Canon Law. The Office of the Associate Vice-Rector, Student Enrolment Management, is now the central point for all academic activity related to student life.

The service now includes five sectors. A restructuring of sectors and the revision of some job descriptions was done to reflect this new structure.

Admission and Recruitment Service

While respecting the established requirements, the Admission and Recruitment sector determines the best candidates for SPU, in Canada and abroad. It then provides effective, open and ongoing communication with interested candidates and ensures rapid follow-up on admission dossiers while respecting the established conditions.

International Office

The International Office is now an integral part of the admission and recruitment sector. It is the point of contact for international students for all questions related to studying at SPU.

Registrar

In collaboration with the faculties and university services, the Registrar ensures that all procedures are in place to allow students to complete their program of study under the best conditions and in a timely manner. It also ensures the integrity of data and program requirements in student dossiers.
Communication, Web and Marketing Service

The Communication, Web and Marketing Service tells the story of the institution’s diverse modern-day presence and of its deeply rooted origins. It communicates with members of the general public, faculty members, students, the media and the academic community to share news and information about the University.

Academic Counselling Service (Faculty of Theology and Faculty of Canon Law)

The Academic Counselling Service (Faculty of Theology and Faculty of Canon Law) supports students in these faculties throughout their academic endeavours. It ensures that students are equipped and informed so they can be successful in their university studies.

Course offerings during the COVID-19 pandemic

In response to the rapid progress of the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 16, 2020, the University made the decision to change the way all courses in the winter 2020 term would be delivered. SPU professors and support staff worked diligently to set up online learning within a matter of days. Most of the courses for the spring and summer 2020, fall 2020 and winter 2021 terms were also given online. As not all professors were familiar with this way of delivering courses, many of them redesigned their lectures to adapt to online learning. These remarkable efforts have been incredibly successful.
ANNEX A
INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES