



UNIVERSITÉ  
SAINT·PAUL  
UNIVERSITY

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24

[ustpaul.ca](http://ustpaul.ca)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A Word from the Chair of the Board of Governors . . . . . 2
- A Word from the Rector . . . . . 4
- Saint Paul University . . . . . 5
- Board of Governors . . . . . 6
  - Members in 2023–2024 . . . . . 6
  - Administrative Committee . . . . . 6
- Senate . . . . . 7
  - Members in 2023–2024 . . . . . 7
- SPU Celebrates 175 Years! . . . . . 9
- Chantal Beauvais’s Mandate Draws to a Close . . . . . 10
- Report on the Strategic Plan . . . . . 11
  - 1. A distinctive experience . . . . . 12
    - Student satisfaction at SPU . . . . . 12
    - Convocation . . . . . 12
    - The Governor General’s Academic Medals . . . . . 14
    - Our graduates, our pride! . . . . . 14
  - 2. Excellence . . . . . 16
    - Research grants . . . . . 16
    - Internal competitive scholarships . . . . . 21
    - 2023 fundraising campaign: 175 Years to Celebrate Together . . . . . 21
    - Paying tribute to Chantal Beauvais:  
Generosity that is changing lives at Saint Paul University . . . . . 22
    - Pastoral services . . . . . 23
    - Launch of the School of Leadership, Ecology and Equity . . . . . 24
  - 3. Engagement and eco-responsibility . . . . . 25
    - SPU becomes a Blue Community . . . . . 25
    - Investment portfolio policy . . . . . 25
    - Activities of the Indigenous Initiatives Service . . . . . 26
  - 4. Effectiveness and efficiency . . . . . 29
    - Parliamentarian in Residence . . . . . 29
    - Employee well-being initiatives . . . . . 30
    - Employee recognition . . . . . 30
    - Financial statements . . . . . 30





## A WORD FROM THE **CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The past year was marked by a series of significant events that sparked achievements, emotions and inspiring projects.

We recently said farewell to our long-time rector, Chantal Beauvais. This was an opportunity to celebrate her remarkable legacy and her transformative impact on our University. Her enlightened leadership, bold vision and dedication to education profoundly shaped SPU. We honoured her by naming the indoor courtyard in Guigues Hall “Cour Chantal-Beauvais Courtyard” – a symbolic expression of gratitude for her invaluable contributions and a commitment to the continuity and the memory of those who built our institution.

We warmly welcome Patrick Leroux, our new rector, and offer him our sincere congratulations and our best wishes in his new role. His dedication to the fundamental values of our University and his innovative vision inspire us with confidence. We are eager to work with him.

This year we also celebrated our University’s 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This historic milestone shines a light on our long tradition of leadership in education and our commitment to academic excellence, innovation and service to society. We are also grateful for our ongoing collaboration with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate of Notre-Dame-du-Cap Province in continuing the mission of this work.

During this time, the Board of Governors welcomed several new members who bring with them their expertise and their engagement. We thank them for their valuable contribution to the effective governance of the University.

We would like to offer our special thanks to the members of the team in the Rector’s Office for their work promoting excellence and the success of our institution. Their dedication and their professionalism are essential to the proper functioning of the University, especially in times of transition like the one we are experiencing.

To the members of the University Senate, we salute your commitment to dialogue and collaboration, as well as your valuable contribution to the various tripartite and quadripartite committees. Your participation and your ideas enrich our discussions and broaden our perspectives.







We offer deep gratitude to the 1,200 students who chose SPU to continue their studies and help to change the world. Their passion, their determination and their commitment are for us a source of inspiration and hope.

As we look to the future, we find inspiration in the wisdom of Saint Paul, who reminds us of the importance of faith, hope and love. May we keep moving forward with boldness, humility and trust, while remaining faithful to our values and our mission to change the world.

Together, we are Saint Paul University. With determination and resilience, we continue our journey toward a promising future.

Sincerely,

**Marie-Michèle Laferrière**  
**Chair of the Board of Governors**







## A WORD FROM THE **RECTOR**

As I arrived only in mid-March, I can't take any credit for the activities in this 2023-2024 annual report, which witnesses to ongoing, focused and sustained academic activity. I am now taking up the torch of my predecessor, Chantal Beauvais. The outgoing rector was able to carry this university community for fourteen years, encouraging it to grow naturally toward a constant renewal of programs, of its positioning, while staying the course. We are part of a university that asserts its social role and the space it must give to the head, the heart and the hands. The intellect, sensitivity, social responsibility, a healthy spirituality and know-how are all needed to make a useful and substantial contribution to society.

That is the kind of university that we are and that we will continue to be as we explore the possibilities of growth, of movement toward a new community of mind and spirit here and abroad, and openness to programs that meet students' needs at different times in their lives. We will be here for them.

**Louis Patrick Leroux**  
Rector





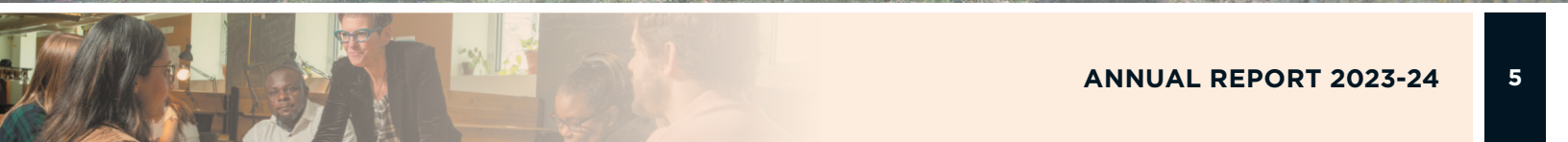
# SAINT PAUL UNIVERSITY

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.



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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 2023-2024

- **Marie-Michèle Laferrière**, Chair
- **Marc Tassé**, Vice-president
- **Louis Patrick Leroux**, Rector (since March 11, 2024)
- **Chantal Beauvais**, Rector (until March 2024)
- **Carole Breton**, Vice-Rector, Governance and Secretary General
- **Iva Apostolova**, Interim Vice-Rector, Academic and Research
- **Éric Martin**, Vice-Rector, Administration
- **Soukaina Boutiyeb**, Executive Director, Alliance des femmes de la francophonie canadienne (AFFC)
- **Mark Chatel**, President, Balestra Productions Inc.
- **Elia Eliev**, Executive Director, Fondation Baxter & Alma Ricard
- **Shannon Gallagher**, Student representative (SPU)
- **Andrzej Jastrzebski**, OMI
- **Jérémie LeBlanc**, Chief Librarian
- **Sharon Letovsky**, Leadership professional
- **Hashem Mawlawi**, Director, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)
- **Jean-François Rioux**, Professor
- **Darlene Upton**, Vice President, Parks Canada
- **Daryold Winkler**, Pastor, St. Basil's Parish, Ottawa, and member of M'Chigeeng First Nation

## Administration Committee

- **Louis Patrick Leroux**, Rector (since March 11, 2024)
- **Chantal Beauvais**, Rector (until March 2024)
- **Iva Apostolova**, Interim Vice-Rector, Academic and Research
- **Éric Martin**, Vice-Rector, Administration
- **Carole Breton**, Vice-Rector, Governance and Secretary General
- **Jean-Marc Barrette**, Vice-Rector, Academic and Research







# 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 it exercise its powers.

## Members in 2023-2024

- **MGR Marcel Damphouse**, Chancellor
- **Louis Patrick Leroux**,  
Rector (since March 11, 2024)
- **Chantal Beauvais**,  
Rector (until March 2024)
- **Iva Apostolova**,  
Interim Vice-Rector, Academic  
and Research
- **Éric Martin**,  
Vice-Rector, Administration
- **Carole Breton**,  
Vice-Rector, Governance and  
Secretary General
- **Chad Glendinning**, Dean
- **Aurélie Lacassagne**, Dean
- **Christian Dionne**, Dean
- **Wojciech Kowal**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of  
Canon Law
- **Richard Feist**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of Philosophy
- **Amanda Wilson**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of Human  
Sciences
- **Christian Bellehumeur**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of Human  
Sciences
- **Michaël Séguin**, Elected professor,  
Faculty of Human Sciences
- **Mark Slatter**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of Theology
- **Sarah Johnson**,  
Elected professor, Faculty of Theology
- **Michael Nobel**,  
Secretary, Faculty of Canon Law
- **Monique Lanoix**,  
Secretary, Faculty of Philosophy
- **Stephanie Weibe**,  
Secretary, Faculty of Human Sciences





- **Hazel Markwell,**  
Secretary, Faculty of Theology
- **Jérémie Leblanc,**  
Chief Librarian
- **Alain St-Amant,**  
Vice-Provost, Academic Affairs
- **André Beauchemin,**  
Vice-Provost, Graduate and  
Postdoctoral Studies
- **Kim Lavigne,**  
Elected student
- **Diana Mbonga,**  
Elected student
- **Sue-Anne Hess,**  
Elected student





# SPU CELEBRATES **175 YEARS!**

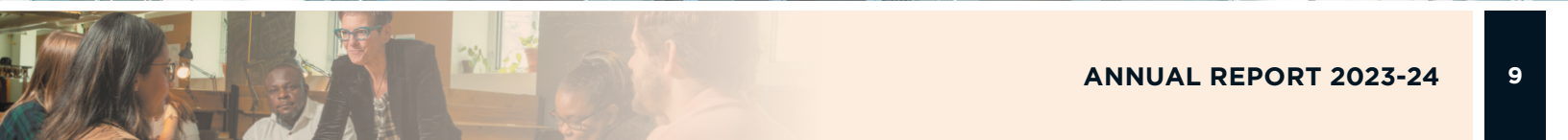
Founded on September 26, 1848, Saint Paul University celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023.

On September 19, 2023, members of the university community - including graduates, partners, faculty and staff - came together for an ecumenical celebration. Presided over by Archbishop Marcel Dampousse, Chancellor of the University, the celebration was an opportunity to honor and give thanks for this important anniversary.

Following the ceremony, participants gathered for a reception to continue the celebration. While honoring the University's rich past, the Rector's speech also focused on the institution's bright future.

*"Not only can we be proud of our past achievements, but we can also be confident of a generous and abundant future. Our University has undergone many transformations over the years, and we're sure to welcome many more in the future. Why? Because we are naturally inclined to be attentive to the signs of the times, to society's dilemmas and challenges, and we have been able to respond to them with astonishing agility,"* said Chantal Beauvais, Rector of Saint Paul University. *"I am in awe of the creativity of this institution, and I marvel at the immense talent at work in our community. A better world is possible, and together we can make it happen."*

The 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations continued through December, with corporate and community events.







## CHANTAL BEAUVAIS'S MANDATE DRAWS TO A CLOSE

The Saint Paul University community gathered to celebrate the tenure of longstanding Rector, Dr. Chantal Beauvais.

As the first woman and layperson to serve in the position, her rectorship ushered in a transformative period in the University's history.

*"From the moment she was appointed, Chantal's rectorship has been marked by boldness and daring," said Jean-Marc Barrette, Vice-Rector, Academic and Research, during his speech. "The result of this daring was the modernization of our University. It was this radical transformation to which Chantal devoted herself."*

During her 14 years as Rector, Dr. Beauvais led many changes that have positively impacted every facet of the University, all while honouring and respecting the roots of the 175-year institution.

From the complete renovation of the Jean-Léon Allie Library and Archives, to the creation of new spaces like the Indigenous Centre and Student Life Centre, the SPU campus is now a testament to the importance of academic excellence and the desire to foster a welcome environment for all.

Through the creation of new schools and innovative programs, Dr. Beauvais also helped create academic opportunities that respond to the needs of our time and reflect the University's mission of creating a more peaceful, humane and just world for all.

*"All this was possible because Chantal believed in it, because she was able to convince others, because she passed her dynamism and energy to everyone," shared Barrette.*

In recognition of all Dr. Beauvais' contributions, the University unveiled the new Chantal Beauvais Scholarship. Named in her honour, the scholarship will be awarded annually to an Indigenous student. It is a fitting honour for her legacy of fostering accessible education and her commitment to reconciliation with the First Peoples in Canada. The Alumni and Development Office continues to accept donations to this scholarship fund. Anyone who wishes to contribute can do so by following [this link](#).

Thank you, Chantal!



# REPORT ON THE **STRATEGIC PLAN**

SPU's strategic plan presents the institution's vision for remaining relevant in the years ahead. It does this by interpreting the needs, realities and expectations of the entire community as well as the context in which the institution is evolving.

The 2020-2025 strategic plan outlines 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 First Peoples in Canada

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

- 1 A Unique Experience
- 2 Excellence
- 3 Engagement and Environmental Responsibility
- 4 Effectiveness and Efficiency

This 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.



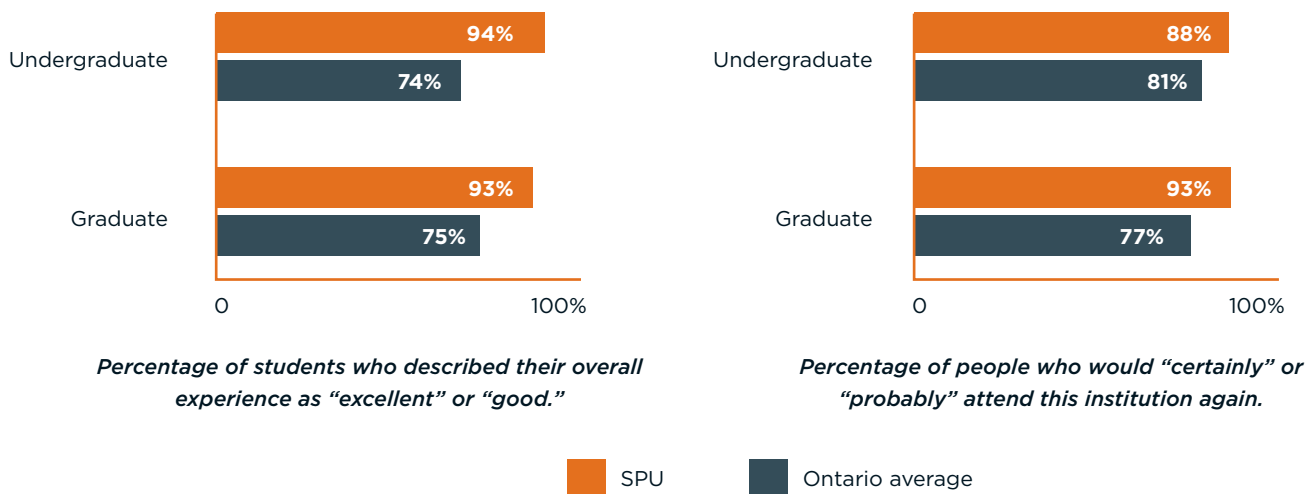
1

## A Unique experience

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

### Student satisfaction at SPU

Student satisfaction at Saint Paul University increased significantly between the two NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) surveys of 2020 and 2023. The results show notable improvement in several key areas, especially the quality of teaching, academic engagement, and student support services. This improvement reflects the University's ongoing efforts to enhance the student experience by putting in place targeted initiatives and responding to the changing needs of its student community. The data show a marked increase in overall satisfaction rates, highlighting the success of strategies adopted to foster a rewarding and inclusive learning environment.



### Convocation

In June 2023, SPU held two separate ceremonies – one in the morning and one in the afternoon – as the University celebrated 379 new graduates, the largest graduating class in the University's history. For the first time since the pandemic, SPU professors, graduates and their families were able to gather on campus to celebrate a new graduating class. In each ceremony, the valedictorians acknowledged the perseverance and resilience of each student and the support they received from their friends, loved ones and professors.

In her speech, valedictorian Caitlin Sigg, who recently earned her doctorate in Counselling and Spirituality, said:







*Whether we realize it or not, each and every one of us pursues an existential quest for meaning and purpose, seeking to understand our place in the world. Yet, “we live in a culture that encourages us to find happiness by directing our energies outwards” while avoiding looking for the answers within ourselves. Because our cultural norm places so much emphasis on the realization of objective ideals, it’s important, as human beings, to avoid projecting our deepest desires and spiritual aspirations into a materialistic way of life.*



**Caitlin Sigg**  
**Ph.D. in Counselling and Spirituality**

To congratulate the new graduates, members of the Indigenous Centre offered each of them a pouch of medicinal plants that they had made by hand. This gift was to recognize and honour the resilience and perseverance the graduates had shown throughout their university career. Each pouch contained sage, sweetgrass, tobacco and cedar, which are sacred plants for First Nations and Métis.

## The Governor General Academic Medals

Each year, SPU awards two graduates with the Governor General’s Academic Silver Medal and Gold Medal. These medals are awarded to the students who achieve the highest academic standing at the undergraduate and graduate level, respectively.

Marsha Masseau, who earned an Honours B.A. in Social Communication, received the Silver Medal.

The Gold Medal was awarded to Sylvain Maurais, who earned a master’s in Theology.





## Our graduates, our pride!

### Rym Ben Berrah: A voice of engagement and excellence

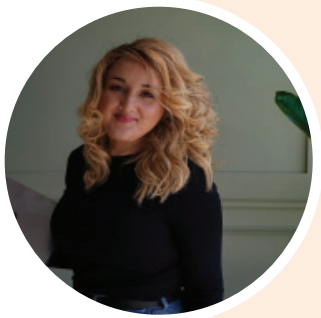
Since getting her degree on June 17, 2019, Rym Ben Berrah has become a symbol of civic engagement and academic excellence. Her time at Saint Paul University was marked by exemplary dedication to her community, as well as by outstanding involvement in various international organizations and platforms. As an active member of the board of directors of several prestigious institutions, she demonstrated an exceptional ability to influence strategic decisions and support causes that were close to her heart, such as la Francophonie, support for immigrant communities, and the rights of francophones and visible minorities.

When asked what motivates her to do this work, Rym sincerely expressed her desire to help those who are going through difficulties similar to her own, seeing civic engagement as a duty and an opportunity to enhance one's own learning through this experience. Her academic path, which began at La Cité, found fertile ground at SPU, thanks to the 2+2 program. She was won over by the personalized approach to teaching, which allowed her to explore her passions for social communications and conflict studies.

Rym emphasizes the huge impact that SPU had on her life, both personally and professionally. The University offered her a refuge, a safe space, while she went through a challenging time on a personal level. She attests to the support and listening ear she received from professors such as Xavier Émile Kauffman, Matthew MacLellan and Enkelejda Sula Raxhimi, whose teaching shaped her curiosity and her desire to learn. The feeling of being treated as a person, not just as a number, strengthened her engagement with the university, along with the family vibe, the student association, the administrative staff and senior management, especially Rector Chantal Beauvais.

Her involvement on the board of directors of the Student Association and as a student representative on the Board of Governors and the Senate gave her solid experience with the protocols and policies of postsecondary institutions, enhancing her career development. In combining her active engagement with her leadership skills, she not only left a lasting impact within the student community, but she also acquired the skills and the confidence she needed to excel in her professional career.





*Growing up in a university family like Saint Paul that recognizes the value and the importance of the human person allows us to equip ourselves to be mindful of our neighbour, to be someone who has an impact on and contributes to society.*

**Rym Ben Berrah**

*Photo credit: Emmanuel Ndongo Djengue*

Today, Rym continues to develop her abilities at the House of Commons as a political attaché. She recognizes that her degree and her skills in public relations and communications, which she got at SPU, opened many doors for her in the areas of politics and governance. She imagines a future where she will keep serving her community at different levels, from provincial to national and international, working for inclusivity and the rights of her province and her country.

A superb ambassador, Rym Ben Berrah leaves a legacy of determination, engagement and excellence. Saint Paul University is proud to have supported this distinguished graduate throughout her university journey and will continue to follow with admiration her future accomplishments. Rym Ben Berrah truly embodies the spirit of SPU as both a change agent and a source of inspiration for future generations.



2

## Excellence

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

### Research grants

In 2023, Saint Paul University was awarded more than \$695,305 in research funding. These grants were provided to our researchers through various funding programs.

#### Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grants

**Insight Development Grants** is a program for early-stage research aimed at emerging scholars and established scholars who want to pursue a new research direction.

Title	Développement d'une campagne vidéoludique francophone d'éducation et de prévention des violences sexuelles au postsecondaire	
<b>Principal researcher</b>	Bem, Caroline	Saint Paul University
<b>Collaborators</b>	Therrien, Carl	Université du Québec à Montréal
	Albury, Katherine	Swinburne University of Technology
<b>Duration</b>	June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2025	
<b>Funding</b>	\$51,584	

#### Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Development Grants

**Partnership Development Grants** provide funding over one to three years to teams or partnerships led by a project director with the aim of:

- developing research and/or related activities in the social sciences and humanities: these can include knowledge mobilization and the meaningful involvement of students and emerging scholars by fostering new partnerships with existing and/or potential partners;
- designing and testing new partnership approaches for research and/or related activities that can result in best practices or models: these can either be adapted by others or have the potential to be scaled up to a regional, national or international level.





Title	Developing and Testing New Approaches to Peace Professionalism	
<b>Principal researcher</b>	Onguny, Philip	Saint Paul University
<b>Co-leaders</b>	Breedyk, Gordon	Civilian Peace Service Canada
	Voigt, Toni E.	Civilian Peace Service Canada
	Funk, Nathan C.	Conrad Grebel University College
<b>Collaborators</b>	Levesque, Lauren Michelle	Saint Paul University
	Maweu, Jacinta M.	University of Nairobi
	Arnold, Jobb D.	Menno Simons College
	Snyder, Anna C.	Menno Simons College
	Monroy-Santander, Louis	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Bogotá
	Moore, Richard	MDR Associates Conflict Resolution Inc
<b>Partenariats</b>	Alliance for Peacebuilding	Washington, DC
	Civilian Peace Service Canada	Ottawa, ON
	Conrad Grebel University College	Waterloo, ON
	Peace Academy Foundation	Bosnia & Herzegovina
	PEGASUS Institute	Waterloo, ON
	Saint Paul University	Ottawa, ON
<b>Duration</b>	March 22, 2023 - March 21, 2026	
<b>Funding</b>	\$197,558	

## Three Research Funding Organizations New Frontiers in Research Fund – Exploration stream

The **New Frontiers in Research Fund** supports Canadian-led interdisciplinary, international, high-risk, high-reward, transformative research that can result in rapid responses.

Grants in the Exploration stream support projects that push boundaries in new and exciting areas. Researchers are encouraged to “*get off the beaten path,*” to do research projects that challenge current paradigms, bring together disciplines in unexpected ways and based on bold and innovative perspectives, and have the potential to disrupt or be a game changer.

Title	Detecting emotion activation using wearable biosensors and developing an application to promote emotion regulation using smartwatch feedback: Promoting effective parenting for children with ADHD	
<b>Principal researcher</b>	Jiang, Yuanyuan	Saint Paul University
<b>Co-principal researcher</b>	Harley, Jason	McGill University







<b>Co-researchers</b>	Climie, Emma	University of Calgary
	Mah, Janet	University of British Columbia
	Corkum, Penny	Dalhousie University
	Oberlander, Tim	University of British Columbia
	Rogers, Maria	Carleton University
	Browne, Dillon	University of Waterloo
<b>Collaborators</b>	Mikami, Amori	Psychology, University of British Columbia
	Hinshaw, Stephen	Psychology, University of California, Berkeley
	Pfiffner, Linda	Psychiatry, University of California, San Francisco
	Robaey, Philippe	Psychiatry, University of Ottawa
	Boerner, Katelynn	Pediatrics, University of British Columbia
<b>Duration</b>	March 31, 2023 - March 30, 2025	
<b>Funding</b>	\$196,741	

## Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) SSHRC Institutional Grants

**SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIGs)** fund small-scale research-related activities – through postsecondary institutions’ own review practices – led by faculty and students in the social sciences and humanities. For SPU as a small university, SIGs are a major source of support to help strengthen research excellence in our researchers’ work.

This funding offers, internally, Explore Grants and Exchange Grants (for knowledge sharing).

SIGs come under the office of the Vice-Rector, Academic and Research, who is the University’s main representative in this area and ensures that applicable policies and regulations are respected.

Applications to the SIG program are evaluated by the Saint Paul University Research Committee.

2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Total
\$25,183	\$25,183	\$25,183	\$75,549





## Three Research Funding Organizations – Research Support Fund

The **Research Support Fund (RSF)** aims to help Canadian postsecondary institutions with the costs involved in managing their research and maintaining a world-class research environment.

At **Saint Paul University**, the Research Support Fund is used to support activities such as the acquisition of library holdings and assistance with and management of grant applications.

Expense categories	2020-2021	%	2021-2022	%	2022-2023	%	2023-2024	%
<b>Research facilities</b>			\$41 481	58%				
<b>Research resources</b>	\$9,318	32%	\$10,000	14%	\$10,000	9%	\$60,000	40%
<b>Management and administration of the University’s research (salaries of the Office of Research and Ethics staff and the library)</b>	\$20,000	68%	\$20,000	28%	\$106,146	91%	\$89,422	60%
<b>Total</b>	\$29,318	100%	\$71,481	100%	\$116,146	100%	\$149,422	100%

### Mitacs Accelerate

**Mitacs** helps organizations reach their commercial goals, fund cutting-edge innovation and create job possibilities for students and postdoctoral candidates. It helps to train the next generation of researchers who will move forward the knowledge economy in Canada.





<b>Title</b>	<b>Socially Innovative Entrepreneurship Across Cultures</b>	
<b>Academic supervisor</b>	Wilson, Amanda	Saint Paul University
<b>Student intern</b>	Brkic, Tatjana	Doctoral student Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation
<b>Partner organization</b>	10086145 MANITOBA LTD.	
<b>Duration</b>	January 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024	
<b>Funding</b>	\$100,000	

## Funded research projects (internal funding)

<b>Développement d'une campagne vidéoludique francophone d'éducation et de prévention des violences sexuelles au postsecondaire</b>	
Grantee	Bem, Caroline
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	Social Communications
<b>Perceived stress in laboratory</b>	
Grantee	Durand, Guillaume
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	School of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Spirituality
<b>"What Feather?": The Possibilities and Limitations of an Art Installation for Contributing to Truth-telling and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in Anglican Congregations in Canada</b>	
Grantee	Johnson, Sarah Kathleen
Faculty	Faculty of Theology
School	Theology
<b>Pour une éthique de l'abjuration. Pier Paolo Pasolini et la question de l'engagement</b>	
Grantee	Paquette, Julie
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	Élisabeth-Bruyère School of Social Innovation
<b>De l'égalité en emploi à l'ÉDI en contexte canadien: retour sur une croisade morale transfrontalière</b>	
Grantee	Séguin, Michaël
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	School of Leadership, Ecology and Equity
<b>Actions collectives de travailleurs et travailleuses dans l'économie de plateforme : analyse comparative de l'Amérique du Nord, de l'Asie de l'Est, de l'Europe et de l'Amérique latine</b>	
Grantee	Yoon, Cheolki
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	Social Communications
<b>Silent no more; surviving male rape: Journey to healing and recovery.</b>	
Grantee	Yagi, Ines
Faculty	Human Sciences
School	School of Counselling, Psychotherapy and Spirituality
<b>Generative AI and Academic Libraries: an environmental scan across Canadian institutions</b>	
Grantee	Samokishyn, Marta
Faculty	Jean-Léon-Allie Library and Archives



## Internal competitive scholarships

The Alumni and Development Office (ADO) at Saint Paul University is responsible for engaging alumni as well as fundraising within the University. Its primary mission is to strengthen ties between alumni and the University, as well as among alumni themselves, while mobilizing philanthropic support, which is crucial to advancing SPU's strategic priorities.

The ADO's mandate is very broad. It includes promoting philanthropic opportunities that are aligned with SPU's priorities and programs, proposing engagement programs, and offering benefits and services exclusive to alumni. Also, it aims to show donors the concrete impact of donations received. Furthermore, the ADO is actively engaged in supporting students, especially through its competitive scholarship program.

This year, thanks to the generosity and commitment of our donors, Saint Paul University was able to grant more than \$66,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students. These scholarships were given to individuals who demonstrated exceptional engagement and outstanding performances at SPU.

## 2023 fundraising campaign: 175 Years to Celebrate Together



To mark its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Saint Paul University (SPU) launched an unprecedented fundraising campaign, symbolizing its commitment to innovation and ongoing improvement of the student experience. Under the visionary direction of the rector, Chantal Beauvais, this campaign not only met with resounding success but also enhanced the University's ability to shape the future of education. The celebrations of SPU's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary coincided with the conclusion of the mandate of Chantal Beauvais, which ended in March 2024, after 14 years as SPU's rector.

Thanks to the generosity of 77 donors, the Alumni and Development Office collected an impressive total of \$82,000, supporting three crucial major priorities for the University and our community.

The first pillar of this campaign, the Technology Improvement Fund, aims to modernize the technological infrastructure to offer a first-class hybrid learning environment. This initiative will allow students to prosper in a constantly changing world.







The second pillar, the Jean-Léon-Allie Safeguarding Fund, is tied to preserving the rich academic heritage for future generations. Thanks to this fund, the University guarantees access to our collection of rare books and historic manuscripts.

Finally, the International Students Scholarship Fund shows SPU's commitment to diversity and inclusion by offering financial support to talented students from around the world.

This campaign goes far beyond simply collecting funds. It embodies the collective commitment to the future of SPU and its students. The Alumni and Development Office would like to express its deep gratitude to all who contributed to this initiative, which will allow us to build a better future through education and SPU's transformative leadership.

## Paying tribute to Chantal Beauvais: Generosity that is changing lives at Saint Paul University

The Alumni and Development Office (ADO) is thrilled to share news about the creation and impact of the Chantal-Beauvais Scholarship.

This scholarship, which honours the exceptional leadership of the outgoing rector, Chantal Beauvais, was launched with the ambitious objective of supporting Indigenous students in their academic journey. The ADO is pleased to report that thanks to the generosity and support of donors, the funds received exceeded our initial financial objective.

The ADO collected an impressive \$28,603, showing the community's deep commitment to the vision and legacy of Chantal Beauvais. Every dollar collected will be used to create educational opportunities for Indigenous students, carrying forward Chantal Beauvais's positive impact within the University.

The official presentation for the creation of the scholarship was announced on December 12, 2023, when the ADO was honoured to publicly recognize the contribution of Chantal Beauvais and all those who made this scholarship possible. This event was an opportunity to celebrate not only the rector's past achievements but also the transformative potential of education for Indigenous communities.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to the donors and supporters of this initiative. Your generosity and your support have already had a significant impact on students' lives and will continue to do so for many years to come.



## Pastoral services

Pastoral Services at Saint Paul University is committed to maintaining an inclusive and welcoming environment for everyone during liturgical activities and at the Oasis. Throughout the academic year, the department worked with the various faculties to develop meaningful activities in keeping with the University's mission.

One of these initiatives is the Dialogue Circle on Coexistence, a forum created by the School of Leadership, Ecology and Equity in collaboration with Pastoral Services. This forum offers an interfaith and intercultural space where members of the University community can reflect together on peaceful coexistence and other global issues. The group, made up of faculty, support staff and students at Saint Paul University, meets every two weeks at the Oasis to talk about a specific text. Participants share their own perspectives on the text, building on their personal experiences and ideas shared during the gatherings.

The Circle managed to create a platform for respectful expression and constructive engagement, fostering a culture of peace within the University community and beyond. The Circle's efforts are aligned with Saint Paul University's commitment to create a new face of change.

Another noteworthy initiative undertaken by Pastoral Services in collaboration with the Faculty of Theology is a series of ecumenical liturgies based around sharing a meal. This inclusive Christian service, made possible by a Vital Worship, Vital Preaching Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, allows members of the University community to celebrate together across Christian traditions. These monthly prayer gatherings focused on different themes, such as celebrating unity during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and remembering our loved ones who have died in connection with All Souls Day. The group organizing the meal liturgies also collaborated with the Indigenous Centre to plan a gathering focused on building trust as a step toward truth and reconciliation.

The ecumenical liturgies based around sharing a meal generated enthusiastic participation among members of the University community. These successes left a positive impression on the University and continue to witness to Pastoral Services' commitment to promote inclusivity and foster a culture of peace.





## Launch of the School of Leadership, Ecology and Equity

With interdisciplinarity as a foundational commitment, the School seeks to give individuals ways of making significant changes in their communities. Thanks to its innovative programs, possibilities for hands-on learning and range of research projects, the School aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills and ethical points of reference they will need to tackle the complexity of social inequalities and ecological challenges.

The School offers two graduate programs that are available in English and French: a Graduate Diploma in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and a Master's in Leadership, Ecology and Equity. The School is working on expanding its offer to include undergraduate programs in the years ahead.



## Engagement and eco-responsibility

A commitment to society and the planet inspires the entire University.

### SPU becomes a Blue Community

Saint Paul University has made a significant commitment by becoming a Blue Community and by adopting a series of key principles. These principles include recognizing water and sanitation as fundamental human rights, as well as a commitment to raising awareness of these rights. The University also prohibits the sale of bottled water on campus while actively encouraging community members to choose tap water over bottled water whenever possible. Efforts are being made to ensure the sustainable use of water by improving infrastructure within the University's facilities. Finally, the University has committed to advocate for sustainable global water policies and to promoting water as an indispensable public good, with particular attention paid to the rights of marginalized groups and communities.

### Investment portfolio policy

Social responsibility is an integral part of our investment philosophy. It manifests itself in various ways throughout the management process. Thus, among the considerations, analyses and criteria used in the decision-making process leading to the purchase of the company to be added into the Fund's portfolio, responsibility criteria must be used.

The guiding ethical criterion for our investments is that of respecting life. Consequently, the following guidelines:

- Not to invest in companies that do not meet the criteria retained by groups similar to RRSE (Rassemblement pour la responsabilité sociale des entreprises).
- Not to invest in companies that do not respect the people they employ.
- Not to invest in companies that do not respect the environment.
- Give priority to social justice, respect and quality of life.





## Activities of the Indigenous Initiatives Service

The Indigenous Initiatives Service had an eventful year, from the retirement of our first rector, to the installation of the new rector, to our participation in Saint Paul University's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary festivities.

The Service works with the faculties and schools of Saint Paul University through presentations by the Knowledge Keepers in courses offered in various fields of study and through working together on special projects, such as the one organized during the winter session with the Faculty of Theology: a workshop on issues of trust, truth and reconciliation.

The Service was proud to learn, in fall 2023, that one of its Indigenous students had received the Jane Younger Scholarship and, in winter 2024, that another had also received the Jane Younger Scholarship and that she would return, after getting her undergraduate degree, to do her master's.

As many of the Indigenous Initiatives Service activities happen through/in the Indigenous Centre, we highlight a few of these below.

In addition to giving presentations to students in class throughout the year, the Knowledge Keepers are available daily at the Centre, and the doors are open all week for students, professors, staff or visitors who want to come in for a chat, a purification ceremony (smudge), a teaching or simply a safe space to study, talk, read and/or eat. During the school year, the Centre strives to maintain students' motivation by organizing activities such as:

- Kokom and Choom tea and bannock gatherings: the entire student community, current and former, can meet up at the Student Life Centre during the fall and winter terms to talk with the Knowledge Keepers about traditions, protocols, stories, facts about Indigenous issues, as well as Indigenous scholarships that are available.
- Celebration of the Light: in December, the Centre invited Inuk Elder Reepa Evic-Carleton to light a qulliq at this event, which was held on December 6. This was the first time an Inuk woman came to give a traditional teaching at Saint Paul University on the qulliq and on its importance for people living in the North;
- Seasonal gatherings in the Centre: each stage in the Indigenous cycle of seasons is celebrated with a feast, which is an opportunity for eating traditional foods and listening to traditional teachings and stories related to the season, as well as learning more about the history and current activities that happen during the celebrations of spring, summer, fall and winter.



- Observation of important dates: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day (September 30), Louis Riel Day (November 16).

Le Service participe également aux activités autochtones communautaires à l'extérieur de l'Université afin de mieux se faire connaître et d'y tisser des liens pour des collaborations futures, entre autres, en participant à l'événement 2024 Indspire Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering - Soaring.

Au cours de l'année 2023-2024, le Centre a accueilli des centaines de visiteurs (de la communauté de Saint-Paul et de membres de communautés extérieures du monde entier). Le Centre a eu l'honneur de recevoir la visite de l'ambassadeur du Japon, de la sénatrice canadienne Michèle Audette, de divers membres de différents niveaux du clergé catholique et de membres de l'Ordre des Oblats, dont le supérieur général des Oblats, Padre Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, O.M.I., et le provincial de la province de Notre-Dame-du-Cap, le père Jacques Laliberté, O.M.I.. Chaque visite enrichit l'esprit du Centre alors que nous discutons ensemble des prochaines étapes pour marcher ensemble, côte à côte, sur ce chemin vers la réconciliation.

## Some statistics from the Indigenous Initiatives Service

Visits to the Indigenous Centre: **222** visits (individuals and groups) for a total of

**862** people reached

In-class presentations: **16** (students and professors) for a total of **313** people reached

Total number of people reached: **1,084**

The most active faculties with the Service:

- Human Sciences (all specializations), most through the mandatory First Peoples of Canada course (English and French)
- Theology
- Canon Law

Federal institutions (heard about the Indigenous Centre and came to see it; heard about how we do things): Bank of Canada, Justice Canada (EDI), Public Service Commission of Canada, Service Canada.





## International visitors

- Luis Ignacio Rois Alonso, “*Padre Chicho*,” OMI, Superior General of the Oblates, Rome
- Kanji Yamanouchi, Japanese Ambassador to Canada

## Local and noteworthy visitors

- Paul-André Durocher, Archevêque de Gatineau
- Jacques Laliberté, O.M.I., provincial de la province de Notre-Dame-du-Cap
- Sénatrice Michèle Audette
- Conseil des Canadiens Communauté bleue
- Conseils scolaires locaux
- Conseil des écoles catholiques - Centre-Est (CECCE) - Programme FOCUS

## Language breakdown

- English: 56%
- French: 44%



## Effectiveness and efficiency

The University is broadening the scope of its action by focusing on a collaborative and innovative approach.

### Parliamentarian in Residence

Saint Paul University and the Faculties of Philosophy and Human Sciences are proud to announce the Honourable Marie-Paule Charette-Poulin as the University's inaugural Parliamentarian in Residence. The former senator began her year-long residency on September 6, 2023.

*"We are excited by this new appointment within the faculties," said Aurélie Lacassagne, Dean of the Faculties of Philosophy and Human Sciences. "Her political expertise and professional experiences in the media sector will contribute greatly to students' learning experiences. Our partnership is also an excellent affirmation of our Franco-Ontarian history and identity."*

During her residency, Charette-Poulin will act as a resource person and lecturer for courses related to communications, ethics, social justice, public service, business development and the Canadian Parliament. She will also facilitate the creation of institutional partnerships with other parliamentarians and professional firms in the region.

*"It is a pleasure to be associated with Saint Paul University, which is recognized for the excellence of its programs, its innovative approaches and its diverse student community," shared Charette-Poulin.*

Charette-Poulin is a proud Franco-Ontarian who brings a wealth of experience to the role. She has worked in the public sector in numerous capacities, including as a senior public servant working in the media sector, and as a parliamentarian in the Canadian senate. In addition to her public service, Charette-Poulin has leadership experience in the non-profit sector, as well as a background in broadcast media.

*"We are very happy to welcome the Honourable Marie-Paule Charette-Poulin as Parliamentarian in Residence," said Chantal Beauvais, Rector of Saint Paul University. "Her commitment to community service, the richness of her background and her passion for education will certainly inspire and enrich our University community."*







## Employee Well-Being Initiatives

Several initiatives aimed at improving employee well-being and experience have been put in place, including the variable work week, which consists of four working days and one free day. The University and Administrative Support Personnel of Saint Paul University (ASPSPU) also signed a new collective agreement in February 2024, which ratified the variable work week.

A Well-Being Committee was also established to promote employee well-being. The committee has been responsible for the signing of the Okanagan Charter and has delivered wellness workshops at various levels.

The Institutional Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Committee, whose mandate is detailed in document [RHR-226](#), is also in place to ensure an inclusive culture within the university community.

At the same time, SPU is focusing on aligning its operations to provide a better employee experience, while also planning information sessions on various topics to inform and educate employees and supervisors.

## Employee recognition

The University participated in National Employee Appreciation Day by closing all departments to celebrate and show its appreciation to all employees for their work and contributions.

To establish this new annual tradition, the unions representing faculty and staff collaborated with the University to recognize long-time colleagues by organizing an afternoon of festivities consisting of refreshments, a performance by a popular Franco-Ontarian improv group *Improtéine*, and a toast to end the day!

## Financial statements

The audited financial statements of SPU comprise the statement of financial position, the operations, changes in net assets and cash flow statements and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial statements are available on [our website](#).

