



Activity Report

May 2022 - April 2023



Université de
l'Ontario français



Voir plus loin

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A word from the President and Vice-Chancellor of l'Université de l'Ontario français

A second academic year comes to an end at UOF, and I am delighted with the work our teams have accomplished. Our faculty, administrative, and support staff work together daily to ensure the sustainability of our university's community.

These past few months have been marked by a whole series of accomplishments. Follow me through the next few pages as I highlight the successes and activities that have enabled us to move naturally from our launch phase to our development phase.

Enjoy the read.



Pierre Ouellette
UOF President and
Vice-Chancellor

1. A New Bachelor of Education and a Higher Number of Applications

The approval of the Bachelor of Education program last November was one of our biggest highlights this past year. The country's critical shortage of teachers was the reason UOF decided to add the Bachelor of Education to its initial four bachelor's degrees. By offering future teachers a 16-month training program in French wherever they are in Ontario, the University becomes part of the solution to this ongoing challenge. The new training program at UOF is generating considerable interest in schools across Ontario. Students will be able to stay in their respective regions to study, work, and live; thus, participating in Ontario's vital francophone community. This achievement allowed us to offer part-time training to a dozen future teachers as of January 2023. In September 2023, we will welcome our first cohort of full-time students.

We also passed the 1,000-application milestone; an achievement I personally celebrated with all UOF's staff members. Increasing the promotion of our programs in the province through collaborations with French-language school boards, institutions, organizations, and associations have been key in our continued development. As such, we are proud to share that these efforts have led to an increase in applications for all our bachelor's degrees.



2. A High-Quality Student Experience and a Growing Student Life

As student integration and experience remains at the forefront of our mission, we are committed to implementing services that are essential to our students' success. The Student Success Centre, overseen by the librarian, offered its first services:

- a writing center;
- a peer support program for student success;
- several workshops to support academic success;
- the development of tools for feedback and evaluation.

In addition, a help desk was opened as an extension of the student services team. Second-year students ran the service counter to provide front-line services and general information on topics such as registration, financial aid, payment options, University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP), employment, housing, and liaisons with other student and community groups.

The Student Experience team — UOF International — offered workshops on Canadian sociocultural adaptation and preparation for the Canadian job market. These workshops are offered every semester to all international students (both new and returning), and aim to facilitate their understanding of Canadian culture and their integration into Ontario life.

With the help of the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP), the UOF offered valuable assistance to students preparing their annual income tax return. A help desk was set up between February 21 and April 21.



"Every student who begins or continues their studies in French in Toronto plays an active role in Ontario's Francophone community.. They are and will be Francophone and bilingual leaders who contribute in their own way to the social, cultural and economic vitality of Ontario."

**- Pierre Ouellette,
UOF President and Vice-Chancellor**

3. Promoting our Programs: A Stronger, More Personalized Presence

Our recruitment efforts increased not only by visiting schools in the Central-Southwestern Ontario, but also by welcoming more Francophone and Francophile students on campus.

For example, on April 27, 2023, in partnership with Collège La Cité, we organized an on-campus event, Métropole Verte, for Grade 11 students from French-language schools in Central-Southwestern Ontario. The students experienced activities related to ecology and technological advancement. This full day of experiential learning was a great success thanks to the collaboration of UOF's faculty, staff, and students.



UOF participated for the first time in the Ontario Universities Fair (OUF). Over 350 people registered at the our booth!



UOF is present at schools, fairs, and exhibitions.

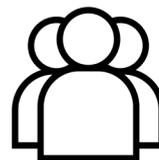
Recruitment



67 schools reached
1 499 students and teachers

54 school visits, 6 campus visits, 7 activities organized as part of Destination réussite

Recruitment



119 activities
6 200 contacts

46 webinars, 29 fairs, 2 virtual fairs, 42 international activities

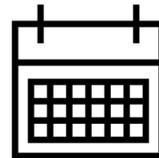
Student Liaisons



+14 900 inquiries

Salesforce, WhatsApp, SMS, E-mails, Phone calls, campus visits

Promoting our Programs



31 campaigns
31 000 people reached

Events, webinars, virtual fairs

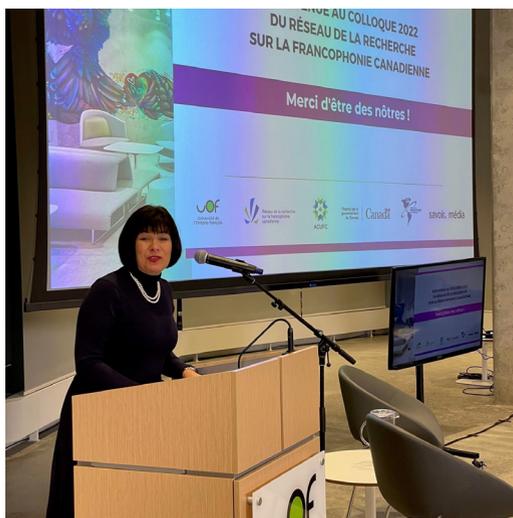
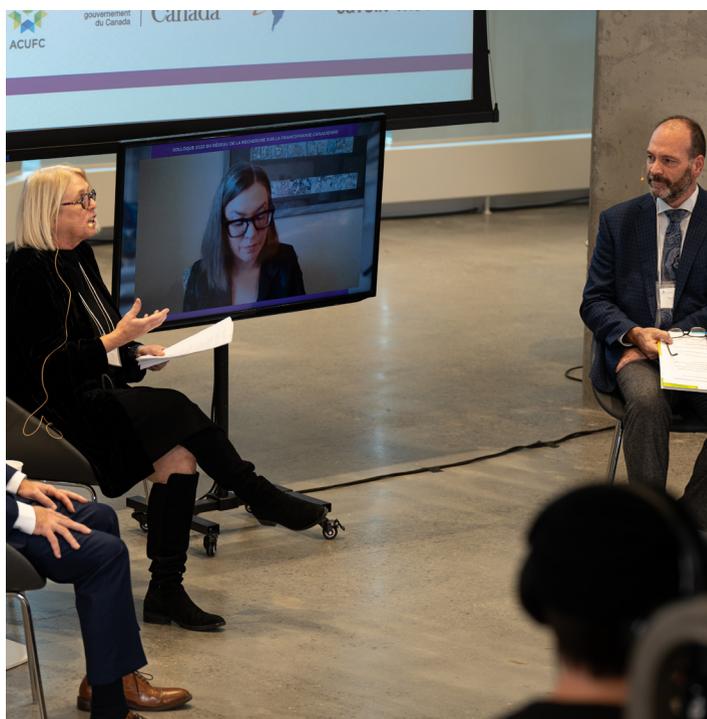
4. UOF, Rooted in Ontario's Francophone community

UOF plays an important role in bringing the community together. Over the past few months, we have become a gathering place for Toronto's Francophone community. Last November, we welcomed the 2022 symposium of the Réseau de la recherche sur la francophonie. In March, we hosted the Toronto Book Fair (Salon du livre de Toronto) for the second time, with 2,000 attendees. This year, UOF also chaired Toronto's Semaine de la Francophonie.

In addition, we had the pleasure of hosting several activities and events that have brought together schools and communities in the Greater Toronto Area. Equally, the year was marked by the development of the Carrefour des savoirs et de l'innovation (Francophone Hub of Knowledge and Innovation) and the creation of Formation sur mesure (UOF tailor-made training division).

UOF in Research:

The 2022 symposium of the Réseau de la recherche sur la francophonie canadienne (RRF) was held on campus, with the theme: “Le rôle et la mission des universités de petite taille au sein de la francophonie.”



Conferences at UOF:

- Cécile Martin-Phipps (Institut de la francophonie pour le développement durable, Quebec), “L’Institut de la francophonie pour le développement durable: Collectivités locales, économie circulaire et environnement urbain” (Francophonie Institute for Sustainability: Local communities, circular economy, and urban environment).
- Odome Angame (Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal), Amal Madibbo (University of Toronto), and Diane Farmer (University of Toronto) “Francophonie et racisme structurel” (The Francophonie and Structural Racism).
- May Telmissany (University of Ottawa), “La francophonie transnationale au sein des industries créatives: l’exemple de Netflix” (The Transnational Francophonie Within Creative Industries: A Case Study of Netflix).
- Alexandre Wolff (Observatoire de la langue française, Organisation internationale de la francophonie) and Richard Marcoux (Université Laval, Observatoire démographique et statistique de l’espace francophone) presented “L’état du français dans le monde” (The State of French In the World).
- The Université de l’Ontario français and Massey College organized the “Récits d’immigration” (Immigration Stories) conference, presented by Raed Hammoud, journalist and director of the “Immigrants de souche” series.

UOF at the Toronto Global Forum:

The President moderated a conversation on the topic of diversity and inclusion as a driver of innovation during economic transitions.



Board of Governors Chair, Jacques Naud, also discussed the economic outlook for 2023 with Jimmy Jean, Vice-President, and Chief Economist and Strategist at Desjardins Group.

UOF in the Francophone Community:

UOF hosted the 30th edition of the Toronto Book Fair (Salon du livre de Toronto) on its campus.



UOF chaired Toronto's Semaine de la francophonie 2023. Nearly 200 members of the Francophone community celebrated the French-language with pride during the launch of its 22nd edition.



The first Café Forum organized by the Carrefour des savoirs et de l'innovation brought nearly thirty community partners together.



5. Other Highlights of the Year

May 11, 2022: Installation of Chancellor Paul Rouleau; President and Vice-Chancellor Pierre Ouellette; and the the first-ever awarding of UOF certificates.



June 23, 2022: Announcement of the end of Dyane Adam's term on UOF Board of Governors; and the election of Jacques Naud as Board Chair and Louise Hurteau as Board Vice-Chair for 2022-2023.



June 29, 2022: Official signing of the collaboration agreement between Collège nordique francophone in Yellowknife and UOF. The two institutions agree to share their expertise on academic interests, including joint courses.



December 9, 2022: Official signing of a 2+2 program collaboration agreement with Collège La Cité, through its “Techniques de médias et communications numériques” program, and UOF’s Digital Culture program.



February 25, 2023: Election of three UOF professors to the new ACFAS-Toronto Board of Directors: Linda Cardinal (President); Thomas Chiasson-LeBel (Treasurer); Sarah Choukah (Representing Advisor for the UOF).



March 27, 2023: At the Délie ta langue contest in Montreal, Nicolas Sefrani, UOF student and president of UOF's student association, was awarded the Eloquence Award, voted by the audience, for having successfully deconstructed and reconstructed the expression «avoir avalé sa langue» (expression: biting your tongue).



6. Our Study and Research Hubs

Digital Cultures Hub

Head of Hub: Hela Zahar, Associate Professor

Where cultures, communications, and media intersect, this program equips students with critical thinking skills to ensure best practices in producing verifiable, equitable, and sustainable communications content.

With two concentrations: digital content production, or content creation and project management, students can pursue careers in journalism, multimedia content production, digital strategy, data analysis, and marketing.



Economy and Social Innovation Hub

Head of Hub: Leandro Vergara-Camus, Associate Professor

Issues examined in this program include social justice, eco-responsibility, globalization, sustainable development, and the economy. In this program students will learn to develop entrepreneurial skills, use practical knowledge, think critically, and exercise leadership to find effective solutions for our society.

With concentrations in either labour relations, or human resources and social enterprise management, students may be interested in pursuing careers as government agents, or in community organizations, public service, and fair trade. They also might become our future political decision-makers, and entrepreneurs.



Urban Environments Hub

Head of Hub: Stéphane Roche, Visiting Full Professor

This program addresses urban environments and human activity from geographical, historical, and sociological perspectives. As change-makers aspiring to build more sustainable and equitable cities, these students seek collective approaches and creative solutions to urban and environmental issues in sectors such as health, technology, and policy.

Possible professional avenues for students include careers in municipalities, government ministries, and organizations concerned with urban climate, planning, and policy; mobility; architecture; and development.

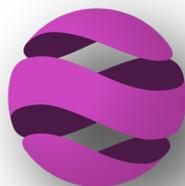


Human Plurality Hub

Interim Head of Hub until December 2022 : Maxime Allard, Visiting Professor.

The Human Plurality Hub focuses on multi-dimensional approaches to the ways individuals and groups are governed. Studying the ways in which contemporary societies interact allows us to better understand the question of human diversity, and therefore, address ethical, political, social, and cultural issues within our society.

The goal in this program is to develop analysis skills, and action-oriented solutions to government, workplace, and community intervention.



Teaching and Learning Hub

Head of Hub: Laurie Carlson Berg, Full Professor

This program supports the training of future elementary school teachers in Ontario, with a focus on teaching the principles and methods of learning, teaching, pedagogical differentiation, and child psychology, in relation to the challenges of education in a minority Francophone environment.

In addition to acquiring the necessary skills to respectfully interact with students and effectively communicate with parents, the program is committed to inclusive education, equitable practices, vitality within francophone communities, reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and sustainable development



7. Looking Ahead

The year is closing with the validation process for new program proposals: bachelor's degree in business administration, in mental health, and in social work. These new avenues will create very timely and valuable career opportunities for our future students.

I wish to extend special thanks to the members of senior management who have supported me in this second year. Thank you for continuously promoting and propelling UOF's mission through your respective projects and teams.

Gilles Fortin
Vice-President, Administration

Édith Dumont
Vice-President, Partnerships, Communities, and International Relations

Carole Nkoa
Associate Vice-President, Communications, Recruiting, and Philanthropy

Paulin Mulatris
Vice President, Academic and Research

Linda Cardinal
Associate Vice-President, Research

Emanuel da Silva
University Secretary

As the UOF continues to take its place within francophone communities provincially, nationally, and internationally, I look forward to what new momentous accomplishments lie ahead for 2023-2024.

Pierre Ouellette,
President and Vice-Chancellor



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