

New College 2023-24 Impact Report

A year of success and growth for New College students, programs and alumni

A message from Principal Gazzale,

Greetings from New College! I am Robert Gazzale, or Bob for short, a Teaching Stream Professor in the Department of Economics and, as of July 1st, 2024, the Principal of New College. As we thank [Interim Principal Dickson Eyoh](#) for his exceptional leadership over the past two years, I am pleased to share this year's report on the activities and supports that have led to the continued success and growth of New College students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Our students demonstrated excellence, perseverance and growth, excelling in their studies inside and outside the classroom. With over 6,300 registered students and more than 1,000 graduates this year, we prioritized meeting their needs by increasing academic advising support, offering personalized services at the Writing Centre, providing workshops and seminars on academic skills learning, and organizing events to foster connections and community. Student health and wellness remained a top priority for the College, with the Office of Residence and Student Life introducing a new staff role focused on wellness supports, services and programs for the NEW community.



Robert Gazzale, New College Principal
Photo Credit: Supplied

We also celebrated various outstanding achievements of our faculty, staff, academic programs and associated centres. Assistant Principal and Registrar Kerri Huffman received a [2024 Northrop Frye Award \(staff category\)](#) for her work on the Academic Advisor Training Program, a collaborative project with colleagues to mentor the next generation of academic advisors. Local and national media recognized College Librarian Mikayla Redden for her instrumental efforts in creating the [Indian Residential School Survivors' Storybase](#), an online tool designed to educate Canadians on the legacy of residential schools through storytelling from survivors' accounts. The Critical Studies in Equity and Solidarity Program, celebrating its 25th anniversary, saw its Director, Prof. Anne McGuire, awarded the Faculty of Arts and Science Teaching & Learning Fellowship as part of the [2024 A&S Outstanding Achievement Awards](#). Another highlight was the [historic \\$5M gift to the African Studies Centre and Centre for Caribbean Studies](#) from alumnus Richard Rooney (BA 1977 NEW). This milestone investment will enable these programs to attract top experts, energize the next generation of researchers, and engage students in advanced scholarship.

We cannot forget to acknowledge our alumni, who continue to engage in extraordinary endeavours that shape and influence both industry and civil society while addressing the challenges of our time. In areas such as [environmental sustainability](#), [transportation and infrastructure](#), [space exploration through astrophotography](#) and even [water park design](#), New College alumni around the world are leading the charge on change.

Thank you for your continued support of New College. Donations from our alumni and community members contributed to \$850,000 in scholarships, awards and bursaries this past year – supports that have a lasting impact on our students' success. We are always grateful for the generosity of our donors, whose contributions not only provide the resources needed for our students to thrive but also help to build and strengthen our vibrant community.

We look forward to keeping you up to date about our work and the impact of your support.

Best wishes,

Robert Gazzale, PhD
Principal, New College

Learning outside of the classroom empowers New College students

Experiential learning outside of the classroom offers students opportunities to actively engage with concepts and theories in real-world settings. Students can apply their knowledge in practical situations, develop critical thinking skills and gain valuable hands-on experience that enhances their academics and prepares them for their future careers.

At New College this past year students went beyond the typical lectures and coursework through two unique experiential learning opportunities.

[Indigeneity, Sustainability and Food Experiential Learning Program](#) sent a small group of students to participate in an 8-day multi-disciplinary learning program that engaged with Indigenous farmers, activists and scholars in Belize. Students explored food justice and sustainability while visiting field sites, immersing in three Indigenous communities and interacting with organizations focused on food policies and practices.

Closer to home, students in our Community Engaged Learning Program and first-year foundations program, New One, participated in a [community/social justice fair](#) where they met with guests from community-focused organizations who shared their work. Students learned about social justice issues and challenges facing society and how they can get involved locally – bringing their in-class learning into real-world opportunities.

“Indigeneity, Sustainability and Food Experiential Learning Program sounded like such an impactful and exciting opportunity. I have found such importance and value in community-based learning, so I was very excited to see how we were going to be learning issues and topics from the communities who are deeply impacted and who have experienced them.”

Calista Barber

New College Student; Major in Critical Studies in Equity and Solidarity and double minor in Psychology and Psychology, Buddhism and Mental Health

Indigeneity, Sustainability and Food Experiential Learning Program group dinner. Photo Credit: Anahita Feredounnia-Meawasige



Historic gift in support of African Studies and Caribbean Studies programs

In February 2024, [a historic \\$5M gift was announced to the African Studies Centre and Centre for Caribbean Studies](#), two long-standing U of T programs, from Richard Rooney (BA 1977 NEW). Both programs originated at New College, a hub for some of the University's most successful interdisciplinary and social justice-oriented fields of study. This milestone investment will help attract top experts in the field, energize the next generation of researchers, engage students in advanced scholarships, and foster an ecosystem of discovery and innovation for generations to come.



New College Plaza. Photo Credit: Supplied

New College Leaders Awards recognize student community development

New College celebrates students who have demonstrated leadership and contributed to the growth of our community in various ways, such as participating on the Student Council, mentoring new students, building community through Orientation and events, engaging in student groups and more. Each year, the College presents the New Leaders Awards to three exceptional students who exemplify leadership, community involvement and academic achievement. Learn how [Sera Gandhi, the 2024 Gold Leader recipient](#), left her hometown of Pune, India and thrived in her new home by building a new community through her student life experiences.



Sera Gandhi. Photo Credit: Supplied

Mentorship inspires connections between students and alumni

For over 30 years, the New College Career Mentorship Program has paired students with alumni mentors to explore career trajectories, offer invaluable insights into the job market and develop networking skills. As alumni share their paths to success, students gain trusted guidance and support, empowering them to take steps toward building fulfilling careers after graduation. In early 2024, New College hosted a [Mentorship Program Reception](#), which welcomed students and alumni to an evening of celebration and networking, providing opportunities to connect, share experiences and grow.

Interested in becoming a New College Mentor? [Learn how you can apply.](#)



*New College Mentorship Reception.
Photo Credit: A.Rodrigues*

Thank you for all your support to New College!

Donations from alumni and community members have contributed in the College providing over \$850,000 in scholarships, awards and bursaries this year. Through scholarships and financial support, students can focus on their studies, participate in College life and have impactful opportunities to engage in their communities as future leaders.

But don't just take our word for it – read below what students have to say about the difference your support has made in their academic journeys.

“Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness in supporting university students. Before U of T, I came from a high school in an underserved community where many students’ hesitation for pursuing further education came from their inability to finance it, me included. This has stopped or paused many my peers from pursuing their dreams. Your contribution to my education has helped me remove the stress of financing for it, allowing me to focus on my academics. My appreciation for it is more than I am able to put into words, I really am so grateful for this award, thank you so much for providing it, thank you.”

Emily Huynh

3rd year, Honours Bachelor of Science

“As a young researcher, your award has provided me with a renewed sense of motivation to continue working toward my academic and professional goals...It has reinforced my belief in the importance of hard work and has shown me that dedication and commitment can be rewarded [and] also relieved financial burden, allowing me to contribute to research projects without the constant concern for immediate financial returns.”

Xiao Wu

4th year, Honours Bachelor of Science



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
NEW COLLEGE

6,300+

Undergraduate students
enrolled from 100 countries

\$493,254

Scholarships & Awards
534 Awarded

\$356,829

Bursaries
149 Awarded

\$850,083

Total funding provided
683 Awarded

For more information, please contact:

New College
300 Huron Street, Room 124
Toronto, M5S 3J6
Belmira Montenegro
Associate Director, Advancement at the
University of Toronto
b.montenegro@utoronto.ca
www.newcollege.utoronto.ca

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