



COALITION FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE AMERICAS (CAFA)

Fifth Conference

University of Ottawa, Social Sciences Building | FSS4007

120 University Private, Ottawa, ON, K1N 6N5



EVENT SCHEDULE

Ottawa Time Zone GMT-4

OCTOBER 21

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Institutional opening

- Nomi Claire Lazar | Co-chair Senate Committee on Academic Freedom, University of Ottawa, Canada
- Penelope Simons | Human Rights Research & Education Centre (HRREC), Canada
- Camilla Croso | Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)

9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. • Keynote address | Robert Quinn, Scholars at Risk

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Coffee

11:00 a.m – 12:30 p.m. Advancing academic freedom as a right in Canada

- Eya Benhassine | University of Montreal, Canada
- Vannie Lau | University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada
- Érik Labelle Westin-Eastaugh | Université de Moncton, Canada
- Moderator: Joel Westheimer | University of Ottawa, Canada

Photo Session

12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch

Partners of the 2026
CAFA Conference:



2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Academic freedom and gender justice

- Victoria Pasero | Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP), Argentina
- Joyce Alves da Silva | Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ), Brazil
- Joana Flores | Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil
- Marisa Ruiz Trejo | Universidad Autónoma de Chiapas, Mexico
- Moderator: Camilla Croso | Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Coffee

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Promoting an ecosystem of protection for Scholars at Risk

- Jaqueline Bertoldo | Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil
- Encieh Efrani | Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Canada
- Manuela Menéndez Besada-Lombana | Universidad Pedagógica Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
- Pâmella Passos | Instituto Federal do Rio de Janeiro (IFRJ), Brazil
- Moderator: Danielle Pamplona | PUC Paraná, Brazil

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Free to Think Report

- Jack Mayerhofer | Scholars at Risk, USA

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Cocktail

OCTOBER 22

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Defending the right to academic freedom through legal approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anna Santana Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUC-PR), Brazil• Steven Jordan McGill Association of University Teachers (MAUT), Canada• Victor Rescia Center for Civil and Political Rights, Costa Rica• Salvador Herencia Carrasco Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)• Moderator: Rafael Ibarra Garza University of Monterrey, Mexico
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Coffee</p>
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<p>The right to academic freedom of students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elthon Rivera Cruz Iniciativa Puentes por los Estudiantes de Nicaragua (IPEN), Nicaragua• Héctor Ríos-Jara Universidad Central de Chile, Chile• Henry Wright Global Student Forum, USA• Milad Mohebbi University of Nebraska, USA• Moderator: Iveta Silova Arizona State University, USA
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<p>Lunch</p>
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Modes of resistance and change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cristina Burneo Salazar Independent scholar, Ecuador• Fernando Romani Sales Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)• Glenn Mitoma Columbia University, USA• Moderator: Jesse Levine Scholars at Risk, USA
4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Viviana Fernandez Human Rights Research & Education Centre (HRREC)• Camilla Croso Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)