

# 2001 - 2006

## Into the New Century, 2001-2017

In the first decade and a half of the 21st Century, Sheridan has continued to evolve and grow at a rapid rate. In April 2001, Robert Turner started his eight-year tenure as Sheridan's fifth President. Under his direction, Sheridan earned the designation Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, increased enrolment and laid the foundation for a new campus in Mississauga. Turner also guided Sheridan as the college completed its journey to become a degree-granting institution. In 2011, Turner's successor, Jeff Zabudsky, set Sheridan on a new journey – to become an undergraduate teaching university. Over the last seven years, Sheridan also re-emphasized and systematized what had always been at the heart of the college's development – creativity. One of the architects of Sheridan's Creative Campus, Mary Preece, now serves as Sheridan's seventh President and she continues to foster a culture of creativity and innovation at the college.



## April 2001:

Robert Turner took over as Sheridan's fifth President. His first priorities included addressing the lack of government funding, rising tuition costs and lowered enrolment. Building on the work started by Sheldon Levy, Turner also continued to invest in the revitalisation of Davis Campus.

“Are we underfunded? Absolutely. Have the students been part of the solution through rising tuition costs to try to keep educational quality up? Absolutely...The government has asked us to be more efficient and to teach more students. But we are the worst funded jurisdiction in Canada. It is painful. There is not enough fund money coming into the system.”

Robert Turner, *Sheridan Sun* | April 12, 2001.

“One of the key pillars of Oakville’s economic growth is Sheridan College...A key part of Sheridan’s success stems from the college’s willingness to ensure that the programs that it offers are grounded in the real world... When all things are considered, it’s clear that Sheridan is one of Ontario’s most innovative and dynamic educational institutions...”

College Continues to Make the Grade, *The Globe and Mail* | May 2001

## Spring 2001:

*The Globe and Mail* ran a story on Sheridan, praising the college's role in Oakville's economic, social and cultural development.

## Summer 2001:

Key Performance Indicators released by the Ontario Government showed that the college had a graduate employment rate of 93% – perhaps because 92% of companies reported their satisfaction with the Sheridan graduates on their payrolls.

## September 2001:

Enrolment at Sheridan reached 13,000 full-time and 37,000 continuing education students. Some of the full-time students found a home in Sheridan's brand new Davis Campus Residence.



## October 13, 2001:

Sheridan celebrated its first homecoming – better late than never!



## October 10, 2002:

Queen Elizabeth II toured the Sheridan Centre for Animation and Emerging Technologies (SCAET) and unveiled a commemorative plaque naming The Golden Jubilee Journalism New Media Centre.

## February 10, 2003:

The Ontario Government announced that Sheridan (along with Humber and Conestoga) would be designated as an Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, replacing the old name of College of Applied Arts and Technology. The designation recognized Sheridan's involvement in applied research and its partnerships with industry, and allowed the college to offer 15% of its programming as applied degrees.

“Sheridan will continue to become a unique, professional and significant postsecondary institution for Ontario and Canada, but we will never lose sight of the ‘Sheridan’ name that means so much to so many. Indeed, the ‘Sheridan’ name is our brand, and remains so.”

President Turner, *Traditions* | Spring 2003.

## April 2003:

The official launch of Sheridan SPARK – the first digital media incubator in Ontario.

## 2003:

Sheridan and seven other Canadian colleges, institutes of technology and polytechnics founded Polytechnics Canada.



## September 2003:

The opening of the 2003-2004 school year proved a landmark month for Sheridan. The college offered its first applied degrees: Bachelor of Applied Arts (Animation); Bachelor of Applied Arts (Illustration); Bachelor of Applied Health Sciences (Athletic Therapy).

The Sheridan Elder Research Centre (SERC) opened at Trafalgar Campus with a mission to create a greater awareness of the unique psychological and social needs of the elderly.

Sheridan's Board of Governors also adopted a new Values Statement for the college: “Sheridan values student learning, graduate success and lifelong education achieved through: academic excellence, innovation and creativity, exceptional service, authenticity, integrity, and accountability, passion, pride and commitment.”  
Sheridan Values Statement | September 2003

## 2004:

Sheridan was voted in as one of four Canadian full members of the Centre International de Liaison des Ecoles de Cinéma et de Télévision (CILECT). CILECT is “deeply committed to maintaining the highest possible educational standards of audio-visual teaching and learning in its member schools.”

## September 2004:

Sheridan launched its next applied degree: the Bachelor of Applied Information Sciences (Information Systems Security).

## March 2006:

The third faculty-strike in Ontario's community college system lasted 18 days.

## October 2006:

Sheridan College officially opened the Centre for Advanced Manufacturing & Design Technologies at its Davis Campus in Brampton.

“Sheridan sees itself as a true polytechnic institution. We are committed to offering a full range of programming from certificate and apprenticeship programs to diploma, post diploma and applied degrees.”

Maureen Callahan, Vice President, Academic, *Traditions* | Spring 2003.

# 2007-2009

“With these major investments, Sheridan has contributed significantly to building the human capital advantage in the Greater Toronto region and has served as a contributing catalyst in the restructuring of the manufacturing sector of Brampton in the regional economy.”

Susan Fennell, Mayor, City of Brampton | May 13, 2009

## January 2007:

Opening of the Centre for Internationally Trained Individuals with locations in Oakville and Brampton to assist newcomers to Canada who required a higher level of English proficiency.

## April 2007:

The official opening of the Trafalgar Campus A-Wing, including Sheridan's new Animation Centre – many industry representatives from across Canada and the U.S. attended the event.

“They are world leaders in quite a number of areas... That is a history of excellence we should all celebrate, but that we have come to expect from Sheridan.”

Chris Bentley, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, *Oakville Beaver* | March 30, 2007.



## September 2007:

Sheridan celebrated its 40th anniversary.

“We’re innovators, we’re trend setters, we’re connectors and we’re idea generators... We’re a powerful partner in the educational landscape of this region and across the country.”

President Robert Turner, *Oakville Beaver* | March 30, 2007.

## February 14, 2008:

The official opening of the 84,000-square foot Centre for Healthy Communities at Davis. The unique centre brought together Sheridan's applied health programs in physical, mental and psychosocial health and the 10,000-square foot Athletic Therapy Clinic, which has been in operation since 1973.

## June 2008:

Sheridan's total number of alumni reached 100,000.

## March 2008:

Sheridan's Men's Basketball team won another OCAA championship, while Women's Basketball won its first title – they would win again in 2009 and 2010.

## July 2008:

The completion of Trafalgar Library Learning Commons, which provided new computing workstations and enclosed areas for group work. In December 2009, a similar commons area was completed at the Davis Library.

“The facility is more than an open area; it's a functional space. We tend to become segregated within our own programs, so it's great to have a space to interact with students from other disciplines.” James Vorstenbosch, 3rd year Media Arts student, *Ovation* | 2008

## September 2008:

Sheridan launched another degree program: Exercise Science and Health Promotion.

## Fall 2008:

The launch of Sheridan TV, an information pipeline for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

## June 2009:

The Screen Industries Research and Training Centre (SIRT) was founded through a \$2.3 million federal grant.



“[The Screen Industries Research and Training Centre] was created to establish a hub of collaboration and knowledge sharing among film, television, and interactive media specialists, where technology experts, craftspeople and creative content-producers can interact in order to foster technological innovation, commercialization, and adoption of new workflows.”

John Helliker, Professor and Faculty lead at the Centre | June 22, 2009

# 2009 - 2011

## September 2009:

Sheridan launched its next degree: Bachelor of Applied Business (Global Business Management).

## November 6, 2009:

Sheridan's Performing Arts – Preparation students perform for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

## December 2009:

President Turner retired from Sheridan at the end of the Fall Term. During his tenure, enrolment grew by 42%, \$150 million worth of new facilities were constructed, Davis Campus was revitalized and Sheridan became a degree-granting polytechnic. Turner also prepared Sheridan to expand into Mississauga – the same month he left the college, the official groundbreaking occurred for the new campus.



## 2009-2010:

Sheridan joined the Student Partners Program – a partnership between Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges – to improve the approval rate for international student study permits. By 2010, Sheridan had 1,247 international students: 68.9% from India, 7.9% from China, 3.5% from South Korea, 2.1% from U.S., 1.3% from Pakistan.

## February 1, 2010:

Sheridan's sixth President, Jeff Zabudsky took office. Amongst his first priorities were technology improvements across the college, enhancing student life, the development of more degree programs and finishing the campus in Mississauga.

“There is a real opportunity for Sheridan to create a new reality, a new bold and creative vision: To be the top-ranked teaching-oriented university in Canada. We are proposing a unique form of university that has yet to be seen in Ontario – a university that’s focused on undergraduate education and will carry forward the diplomas, certificates, advanced diplomas, small class sizes, and applied education that we are known for.”

Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, President and CEO | August 31, 2011

## February 2010:

Sheridan created the first ever real-time auto-stereoscopic 3D game that did not require 3D glasses – called “IC3D” – and showcased the game at the Ontario House Pavilion at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

## July 5, 2010:

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip visited SIRT, where they witnessed the latest in 3D production processes.



## Summer 2010:

In late 2009, the Creative Campus Task Force started to explore the influence of creativity on Sheridan's curriculum. Six other Academic Innovation Strategy Task Forces also examined the design and delivery of curriculum in the 21st Century. Together, their work led to the launch of Sheridan's Creative Campus academic plan in the summer of 2010.

## September 2010:

The college welcomed 16,000 students to its campuses in Oakville and Brampton – an increase of 12% over 2009. Some of these students were enrolled in Sheridan's new degree program – the Bachelor of Applied Arts (Interior Design).

## Summer 2011:

In June, Sheridan's Board of Governors approved Sheridan's new vision to become a unique undergraduate teaching university. At the end of August, President Zabudsky announced the plan at the Welcome Back Breakfast.



## September 2011:

The official opening of the Hazel McCallion Campus.

“We are proud to celebrate the opening of this state-of-the-art facility, and to provide exceptional business programs as well as specialized programming for newcomers, right here in the heart of the city centre.”

Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, President and CEO.

## October 2011:

Sheridan established the Canadian Musical Theatre Project to foster the development of new musicals. The first two works to be developed at CMTP were *Come From Away* and *Central Park Tango*.

## September 2011:

Sheridan launched the Bachelor of Applied Arts (Early Childhood Leadership), Bachelor of Applied Arts (Music Theatre – Performance) and Bachelor of Applied Arts (Photography).

September also brought a strike by the support staff at Ontario's colleges.

“Establishing a permanent headquarters for the development of new musicals is a culturally significant event in Canada. Sheridan is Canada’s largest arts school and this ground-breaking initiative continues its proactive role as the country’s centre for creative innovation.”

Michael Rubinoff, Associate Dean of Performing Arts at Sheridan