

A page in time: Gilles Patry becomes president of the University on August 15, 2001

On August 15, 2001, Gilles Patry, vice-president, academic, became the 28th president of the University of Ottawa. Initially named acting president, he was soon appointed head of the institution. The distinguished professor and researcher had joined Canada's University in 1993 as dean of the Faculty of Engineering.

As head of the institution, Mr. Patry displayed great talent as a leader and builder. An open and motivating management model, a strategic plan (*Vision 2010*), an annual review that involved making the rounds of the faculties and services, and performance indicators meant that the University as a whole was working toward a common goal. Each member contributed to the institution's educational mission. In practical terms, the student population grew by 50% under his leadership.

True to the University's bilingual status and its commitment to promoting Ontario's Francophone culture, Gilles Patry also made special efforts to attract Francophones and Francophiles. In short, throughout his entire mandate, which ended in 2008, Gilles Patry was a president who was valued by all.