

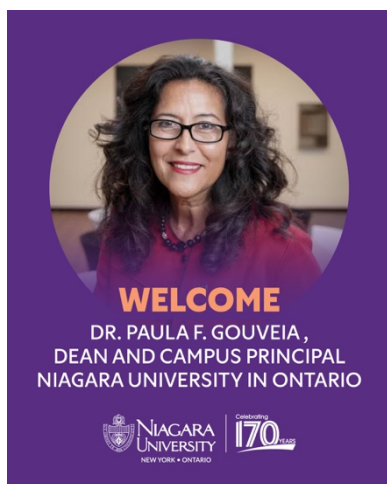


NIAGARA
UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK • ONTARIO



MEDIA RELEASE



Advancing Niagara University's Mission in Ontario

**Dr. Paula F. Gouveia Joins Niagara
University in Ontario
as Dean and Campus Principal**

VAUGHAN, ONTARIO (October 15, 2026) — Niagara University President, the Rev. James J. Maher, C.M., welcomes Dr. Paula F. Gouveia as Dean and Campus Principal of Niagara University in Ontario (NUO), advancing NUO's mission in Ontario.

Dr. Gouveia joins NUO following a career of more than 25 years in Ontario's post-secondary education sector. Most recently, she served as academic vice-president at Conestoga College, and previously held various academic leadership positions at Cambrian College, Humber College (now Humber Polytechnic) and Seneca College (now Seneca Polytechnic).

Throughout her career, Dr. Gouveia has led integrated portfolios within complex, multi-campus institutions. She brings extensive experience in academic leadership, strategic planning, enrolment management, institutional operations, international education, and government and community engagement.

A collaborative and relationship-focused leader, Dr. Gouveia has built high-performing teams and advanced innovative approaches to teaching, learning and student success. Her leadership has supported the creation of academic programs, institutional quality initiatives, integrated planning processes and digital transformation projects.

Dr. Gouveia has also helped increase enrolment, develop educational and community partnerships, and identify opportunities to support institutional growth and long-term sustainability.

“Dr. Paula F. Gouveia joins Niagara at an important time in the continued growth and development of our presence in Ontario. Her extensive experience within Ontario higher education, combined with her background in academic leadership, enrollment, partnerships, and institutional strategy, will be valuable as we continue to strengthen the connection between our campuses and pursue new opportunities to advance Niagara University’s mission in Ontario.”

-Rev. James J. Maher, President, Niagara University

As Dean and Campus Principal, Dr. Gouveia serves as the senior administrative leader for Niagara University in Ontario and a member of the President’s Senior Leadership Team. She will work closely with colleagues in Ontario and New York to guide Niagara University’s continued development in Ontario. Her responsibilities will include strategic leadership in enrolment, academic programming, partnerships, government and community relations, campus operations and the student experience.

“I am honoured to join Niagara University in Ontario as the Dean and Campus Principal. For 170 years, Niagara University has been providing students with an exceptional learning experience. Over the last 40 years, this has included offering baccalaureate and master’s programs in Ontario. This long-standing academic history is coupled with a deep-seated commitment to supporting the community through meaningful civic and community engagement opportunities where our students, faculty and staff live, work and play. These are values to which I am also fully committed.

I look forward to working with Rev. James J. Maher and the other members of the Niagara University team to help advance the University’s mission and continue to expand our presence in Ontario.”

- Dr. Paula F. Gouveia, Dean and Campus Principal, Niagara University in Ontario

Dr. Gouveia holds a PhD and a master’s degree in French language and literature from the University of Toronto. She is also committed to community engagement and serves on the board of directors of United Way Waterloo Region Communities and chairs the board of directors of the Art Gallery of Sudbury.

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For Additional information or to book an interview with Dr. Paula F. Gouveia, please contact:

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ABOUT NIAGARA UNIVERSITY:

Celebrating 170 years of academic excellence, Niagara University is a comprehensive institution, blending the best of liberal arts and professional education, grounded in our values-based Catholic tradition founded by the Vincentian community in 1856. Its colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Nursing, and Hospitality, Sport, and Tourism Management offer programs at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral level.

As the first Vincentian university established in the United States, Niagara prepares students for personal and professional success while emphasizing service to the community in honour of St. Vincent de Paul. Niagara's institutional commitment to service-learning has led to its inclusion on the President's Honour Roll for Community Service every year since its inception in 2006, and its recognition with the Carnegie Foundation's Classification for Community Engagement.

ABOUT DR. PAULA GOUVEIA:

Dr. Paula F. Gouveia is Dean and Campus Principal of Niagara University in Ontario, serving as the campus's senior administrative leader and a member of the President's Senior Leadership Team. Working with colleagues in Ontario and New York, she provides strategic leadership in enrolment, academic programming, partnership development, government and community relations, campus operations, and the student experience.

Dr. Gouveia brings more than 25 years of progressive academic leadership experience in Ontario's postsecondary sector. She previously served as Vice President, Academic at Conestoga College and Cambrian College, where she led academic planning and operations, program development, international initiatives, recruitment, and strategic enrolment management. Her accomplishments include negotiating institutional Strategic Mandate Agreements, leading institutional and program quality audits, launching the first 3-year degree in the public college system, supporting the introduction of a variety of new programs that led to record enrolment levels, and establishing numerous partnerships, including system-leading COIL initiatives with 23 international partners.

Earlier in her career, Dr. Gouveia served as Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Humber College and Chair of English and Liberal Studies at Seneca College. Throughout her career, she has championed operational excellence, inclusive learning, stakeholder engagement, data-informed decision-making, and partnerships that advance institutional innovation and community growth.

Dr. Gouveia holds a master's and doctoral degree in French Literature from the University of Toronto. She also holds a Specialized Honours Bachelor of Arts in French Language and Literature from York University.

Dr. Paula F. Gouveia's Past Work Experience:

Vice President, Academic
Conestoga College
Oct 2023 - Nov 2025

Vice President, Academic
Cambrian College
Aug 2018 - Jun 2023

Dean, Liberal Arts and Sciences
Humber College
Jan 2009 - Aug 2018

Chair
Seneca College
Jan 2004 - Jan 2009