At the University of Guelph, we are committed to a common purpose: to Improve Life.

With nearly 30,000 students across three campuses spanning urban hubs and rural communities, we are one of Canada’s leading comprehensive and learner-centred universities.

We Improve Life by nurturing the whole student, developing exceptional thinkers and engaged citizens into the leaders of tomorrow.

We Improve Life by turning knowledge into action — conducting diverse research, making discoveries and creating innovations that make a difference to people and the planet.

And we Improve Life by engaging with our broader community, fostering local, national and global partnerships, and providing opportunities to grow and learn through volunteer commitments and community involvement.

Our capacity to Improve Life also has amazing economic benefits. We recently commissioned KPMG to assess and measure our economic impact locally and province-wide. I encourage you to read this Economic Impact Report to learn more.

Dr. Franco J. Vaccarino
President and Vice-Chancellor
University of Guelph
TOTAL IMPACT

BIG NUMBERS. BIG IMPACT. HERE, AND AROUND THE WORLD.

$7.2 BILLION.

That is the total impact of the University of Guelph’s commitment to improve life through research, teaching, and community-building.

Through investing in our students, faculty and staff, the University contributes $5.6 billion a year in human capital and annual expenditures.

U of G community members return $1.6 billion a year in spending to the local economy through active engagement in the communities in which they live, work and play.

Our innovations and discoveries generate more than $1.6 billion, and the University’s annual capital investments exceed $61 million.

$7.2 BILLION
TOTAL IMPACT
ON THE CANADIAN ECONOMY
Physics professor John Dutcher has developed a greener way to enhance cosmetics, food and drugs — and to drive economic growth and employment in Guelph and Ontario.

Dutcher’s research team discovered nanoparticles in sweet corn that are non-toxic, biodegradable and water-soluble. Called PhytoSpherix, these molecules are an attractive alternative to synthetic nanoparticles that are often toxic and non-biodegradable.

Leading applications are in personal care, with potential uses in nutrition and biomedicine.

In 2018, Mirexus Biotechnologies, started by Dutcher, will open a new 12,000-square-foot R&D and manufacturing facility in Guelph, where the company expects to employ about 70 people within 10 years.
LOCAL IMPACT
U OF G IS AN ECONOMIC DRIVER OF THE REGION’S VIBRANCY AND VITALITY

The University of Guelph is a key player in the economic and cultural life of the City of Guelph and Wellington County.

In 2017, our students, faculty and staff generated $1.6 billion locally, including $789 million in direct expenditures and the creation of 12,379 full-time jobs.

Our students alone spend $370 million each year, which generates more than 5,000 local jobs.

As one of Guelph’s largest employers, U of G has 8,595 full-time, part-time and student employees, with two out of three residing locally.

$1.6 BILLION
TOTAL SPENDING IMPACT ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY

$789 MILLION
DIRECT EXPENDITURES TO LOCAL ECONOMY
TOTAL U OF G MAIN CAMPUS DIRECT EXPENDITURES

$86.4 MILLION
DIRECT SPENDING TO LOCAL BUSINESS AND SUPPLIERS

U OF G ATTRACTS MORE THAN 163,500 VISITORS EACH YEAR TO OUR COMMUNITY

2nd LARGEST EMPLOYER IN THE AREA
EQUALS 8,595 EMPLOYED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

12,379 JOBS GENERATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH, MAIN CAMPUS ANNUAL UNIVERSITY RELATED EXPENDITURES

U of G National Leader in United Way Support

When it comes to supporting community initiatives such as the annual United Way campaign, no university in Canada does it better than the University of Guelph.

U of G has raised more than $8.5 million in total for the United Way of Guelph Wellington Dufferin.

Our annual United Way campaign is one of the most successful university campaigns in the country. We raise more per person than any other university in Canada.

Every year, we set the bar a little higher. For the past nine years, the U of G has raised more than $500,000 each year.

In 2017, we set a new record, raising $650,000. It was the sixth year in a row that our final tally exceeded $600,000.

The United Way supports 54 agencies and 88 programs in the region.

U of G’s United Way campaign deepens connections between the University and wider community, helping meet existing and emerging societal needs in order to improve life.
HUMAN IMPACT

U OF G ATTRACTS THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST TO THE GUELPH REGION.

U of G attracts some of the best and brightest faculty and students to the Guelph region.

Retaining world-class talent in our community benefits everyone economically, culturally and socially.

More than 167,000 U of G alumni are helping turn knowledge into action in 150 countries around the world. In Ontario alone, our 120,700 graduates have a $4.1-billion impact on the province’s GDP.

Our students, faculty and staff also benefit the community through volunteer work and local engagement, from raising money for cancer research and the United Way, to building homes locally and globally, to advocating for the environment and social justice issues.

$4.1 BILLION TO ONTARIO’S GDP

FROM ADDITIONAL INCOME EARNED BY ALUMNI RESIDING IN ONTARIO DUE TO EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

$2.7 BILLION

IMPROVED ANNUAL EARNINGS OF U OF G ALUMNI COLLECTIVE ADDITIONAL EARNINGS EACH YEAR IN ONTARIO

$1.1 MILLION

ADDITIONAL LIFETIME EARNINGS TO EACH UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH GRADUATE

120,718

U OF G ALUMNI RESIDE IN ONTARIO

ONTARIO’S AGRI-FOOD SECTOR HAS 4 JOBS FOR EVERY 1 UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH GRADUATE

167,000

U OF G GRADS LIVE IN 150 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

Sustainably Feeding a Growing Population

Ensuring enough food for the planet’s rapidly increasing population is one of the biggest challenges facing humanity – and Canada’s food university is leading efforts to find solutions.

Sara Bonham, a biological engineering master’s graduate, is co-founder and co-CEO of Willow Cup, a food technology company based in Kitchener, Ontario. The company makes milk from plants that tastes and functions like cow’s milk but is more sustainable than conventional methods using animal agriculture.

While at U of G, Bonham received support for her fledgling Willow Cup start-up from the incubator program in the University’s Centre for Business and Student Enterprise.