

## **Report to Senate – March 22, 2013 Provost and Vice-President (Academic)**

### **Decanal Reviews**

The Decanal Reviews have been completed. Dr. John O'Meara has been renewed as the Dean of the Faculty of Education. Dr. Andrew Dean, has been renewed as Dean of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies.

### **Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives)**

Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux has accepted the position of Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives). She held the Nexen Chair in Aboriginal Leadership at the Banff Centre in Alberta for the past four years, is a Status Only Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto, and an Adjunct Professor at Carleton University. Dr. Wesley-Esquimaux is the co-founder and current Chair of the Canadian Roots Exchange [www.canadianroots.ca](http://www.canadianroots.ca) out of the University of Toronto. She begins her new role effective July 1, 2013.

### **Faculty of Engineering**

The Faculty of Engineering has been approved for a CRC Chair position (NSERC, Tier II) in the area of Green Mineral Processes. This position will target the engineering challenges associated the development of environmentally-friendly mineral processing. There are already several key faculty members within Engineering with research interests and expertise that will align with the new CRC Chair position. In addition, this research is expected to complement the new Centre of Excellence in Mineral Exploration and Sustainable Mining Development.

The Senate Research Committee has recommended Dr. Pedram Fatehi's CFI proposal for funding. Dr. Fatehi (Chemical Engineering) and his co-applicants, Dr. Baoqiang Liao (Chemical Engineering) and Dr. Matthew Leitch (Natural Resources Management, had previously submitted their application entitled, Laboratory for Forest Biorefinery and Biofuel Production, for internal review.

### **Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies**

Today, March 22, the Faculties of Science, Education and Engineering in collaboration with Youth Science Ontario hosted the third annual Northwestern Ontario Science Olympics. This event was originally scheduled in November 2012 but was postponed due a major snowstorm. The event had close to 90 students from high schools in Thunder Bay and the region. There were 6 events that were divided between teams from grades 9 and 10 and then a final event that everyone took part in. As in previous years, the emphasis was on fun and teamwork. The day could not have gone on so well without all the help from student volunteers from each of the Faculties. Next year it will be held in November, weather permitting of course!

## **Aboriginal Initiatives**

### **Community Relations**

The Aboriginal Partnership Research Award recognizes projects in which Aboriginal individuals, communities and/or organizations have input into the research design and process, and from which both Aboriginal people and researchers gain benefits. This year the award was presented at Research & Innovation Week to Dr. Scott Hamilton, Jill Taylor-Hollings for their work with the Pikangikum First Nation, Lac Seul and Ontario Parks in the study of culture heritage in the Woodland Caribou Pikangikum region.

Approximately 250 students, staff, faculty and community members attended a public presentation on February 27<sup>th</sup> by internationally recognized author and community builder Paul Born. Mr. Born is a social entrepreneur, director of Tamarack and co-founder of Vibrant Communities. He most recently hosted province Aboriginal Peoples and other Albertans in an effort to build engagement and find solutions to the over representation of Aboriginal children in care.

Pow-Wow 101 was held on March 6<sup>th</sup> with approximately 100 people in attendance to come and learn from internationally recognized drum group, Thunder Mountain Singers as they shared their traditional teachings and songs.

### **Aboriginal Student Recruitment**

Matawa First Nations Education Conference, Igniting the Learning Spirit - a general Lakehead presentation was made to post secondary education counsellors, directors and community organizations in relation to Aboriginal Specific programming and student support services.

Native Access Program attended the Ojibway Cultural Foundation Conference in Sudbury to present and display information to post secondary counsellors, educators, community members and prospective students.

The Aboriginal Outreach and Recruitment Officer participated in the Grade 11 Day - 20 students from Ginoogaming and Sandy Lake First Nation students toured the Geology Department, Paleo DNA lab, Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services, Aboriginal Awareness Center and the Student Success area.

### **Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services**

An Ogimaawin Elders Council meeting was held on February 20, 2013.

## **Student Affairs**

### **Admissions & Recruitment**

The Thunder Bay and Orillia Campuses opened up their doors from March 11-15 and welcomed visitors during our March Break 2013 Open House. The Orillia Campus welcomed 138 prospective students and over 231 family members and friends. The Thunder Bay Campus welcomed 104 prospective students and over 98 family members and friends.

The Faculty of Education at the Thunder Bay Campus held a special Education Open House on Monday, March 11, and saw over 50 prospects and their families attend to experience an immersive exploration of Education programs.

Other efforts aimed at moving admitted undergraduate students for Fall 2013 to confirmed students are fully underway. The continued involvement and participation of the university community is critical to our success and greatly appreciated.

### **Student Accessibility Services**

- A series of four Accessibility Workshops were offered on both campuses for all educators and staff.
- The number of students with disabilities continues to increase with 418 students registered with Student Accessibility Services compared to 354 last year – an 18% increase.
- This past month Student Accessibility Services has supervised 391 tests compared to 321 in 2011-2012, representing a 22% increase. As a result space continues to be a challenge requiring the identification and use of multiple rooms outside the SAS area. This, in turn, often necessitates the use of additional invigilators.

### **Student Health and Counselling**

- The Manager of the Centre has been working with faculty colleagues to develop a proposal to support mental health on campus. (Funding opportunity via Bell Community Fund.)
- American College Health Association-National College Health Assessment student survey is underway.
- Senior Counsellor and Aboriginal Culture Support Service's Aboriginal Counsellor co-facilitated a *Management of Anxiety and Depression* interactive session for students
- The Wellness Working Group (WWG) has developed a *Wellness Resource Card* for students in the Faculty of Education about to go on placement. The Education member on the Wellness Working Group will arrange distribution of about 600 cards. WWG thanks Stan Nemecek for his support printing the cards. Similar cards ready for Nursing students and will be printed and distributed at a later date.
- A SafeTALK course was delivered by Health Promoter and TBDHU colleague - attended by 24 students
- Mental Health First Aid training planned for May 1 & 2, 2013 – spaces are still available.

### **Student Success Centre**

Students are now able to book appointments and register for events for the Student Success Centre online through [mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca](http://mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca). In addition, a pilot project for the Co-curricular Record has been launched both in Thunder Bay and on the Orillia campus. Students who are involved in a select number of activities can receive recognition for their involvement on the co-curricular record. An expansion of activities eligible for recognition will be rolled out on both campuses.

Planning for transition programming is underway for summer and fall. EDGE 2013 (Summer Orientation) will take place on July 4<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent to the respective Academic Units in the upcoming months.

A number of employers have been interviewing on campus over the past month, as well as providing information sessions to upcoming graduates and co-op students, including: Odyssey, Andritz Hydro, Engage Education and Graham Group.

The Centre continues to offer Skills for Success Seminars for students, specifically focused at this time, around the summer job search, resume writing, marketing your degree, and also providing a session helping students prepare for Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI) for Medical School admissions.

Requests for peer tutoring, as well as applications to be a peer tutor are now available online at: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/academic-support/tutoring>

#### **Co-op program stats:**

- 154% increase in placed Kinesiology co-op students compared to this time last year for May 2013 term
- 39 new co-op employers (18 local and 21 out of town)
- 175% increase in international student participation in the co-op program

### **Orillia Campus**

#### **Research and Innovation**

Faculty members and students participated in the Research and Innovation Week activities, including the mini-conference. On Monday, February 11, the Top Five Research & Innovation Awards were presented at Lakehead University in Orillia. The recipients of the Top Five Awards were Dr. Ruth Beatty, Dr. Nanda Kanavillil, Dr. Tim Kaiser, Dr. Sree Kurissery and Dr. Syed Serajul Islam. Dr. Paul Carr, Dr. Frances Helyar and Dr. Chris Murray were given an honorable mention.

With the assistance of Student Services, a representative from the Certified Management Accountants (CMA) visited the first year accounting class in February in a pizza and career session. The representative was also available for one-on-one sessions with upper year students. In addition, the Investors Group held a Career Session on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **School of Social Work**

The School is readying for accreditation of the HBSW programs by the Canadian Association for Social Work Education (CASWE) by completing a self-study document, which is due in April 2013. The accreditation visit by CASWE Accreditation Board members will occur in 2014 at both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses. The School will begin readying for an internal program review immediately following completion of the CASWE self-study.

Recruitment of applicants for the 2013/2014 academic year has closed for the One Year Program and for entry into the professional years (Years 3 and 4) of the Four Year Program. The current statistics of applications received are:

- 172 applications for the One Year Program for Orillia only (maximum of 60 spots available)\*\*\*

- 134 applications for the One Year Program who are applying for both campuses
- 37 applications for entry into the professional years of the Four Year Program (maximum of 25 spots available)\*\*\*

### **Student Affairs**

Lakehead University-Orillia Campus's application to join the Ontario College Athletic Association was accepted. In 2013/14, Lakehead - Orillia will begin competing in men's and women's curling. Tentative timeline of additional sports: include men's and women's golf (2014) and men's and women's soccer (2017).

Winter Career Services activities have geared up to include an Education Career Event. Eleven (11) organizations took part (seven organizations participated in 2012) and included representatives from Simcoe County District School Board, NWT government, Cree School Board and several teacher-abroad organizations. The CMA invited the Business students to dinner and presentation. Georgian College also set up a table in the Orillia Academic building on March 5<sup>th</sup> to make students aware of their post-graduate certificate programs.

The Orillia Campus will be sending two student leaders and staff members to the Canadian Conference on Student Leadership (March 7-9). CCSL is an opportunity for student leaders to come together and share ideas, to become inspired, and to leave determined to make a difference on their own campus or in their community.

CampU will return this summer with four weeks of camp programming for children and youth.

Rodney S. Hanley  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)