



March
2014

President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY





OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Meeting with Ministers Gravelle and Duguid about Teacher Education Changes

On February 26, I met with the Minister of Northern Development and Mines, Michael Gravelle, and the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, Brad Duguid, to discuss Lakehead's unique situation regarding the teacher education changes. During our meeting, I shared with them how profoundly the impact of these changes would be at our University.

Food Services Contracts Awarded

On February 28, the Committee announced that the contract for food services in Thunder Bay was awarded to Aramark Canada Ltd., and the contract for food services for our Orillia campus was awarded to the Madison Food & Beverage Company.

Our cross-functional Food Services Committee hosted a Town Hall allowing for consultation, questions, ideas and input from the entire University community. The RFP was built on the need to reflect the varying palates of numerous countries and cultures that are representative of our student population. It demanded high quality and good value and provided for considerations of sustainability, sustainable foods and other food security initiatives, effective merchandising, and promotional programs.

Student Juried Exhibitions at Thunder Bay Art Gallery

I had the pleasure of attending this year's annual Juried Student Art Exhibition Opening Reception and Gala Awards Presentation, March 14, where projects from 90 Lakehead Visual Arts students are being showcased until April 6 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery. With hundreds attending, the event celebrates the department and the strong ties between our University and the community. Among evening's awards recipients was **Alexander Borghesan**, who was selected for the President's Award for his sound sculpture titled *The Music Maker*.

Alexander Borghesan and his sound sculpture, The Music Maker.





EXTEND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

PACED Simcoe Introduced in Orillia

In the interest of further contributing to the economic growth and development of Orillia and Simcoe County, I announced, on February 13, the establishment of the President's Advisory Council on Economic Development for Simcoe County, or PACED Simcoe. PACED Simcoe's members were selected based on individual skill sets, and include representatives from the City's and region's municipal, business, and the Aboriginal communities.

[*Click here for media release...*](#)



Some of PACED Simcoe's initial members (see media release for complete list).

Employee & Retiree Donors' Luncheon

On February 27, I joined our Office of Donor Events' luncheon to thank Lakehead employees and retirees who have given generously to our University over the past year. Plaques given to each donor to acknowledge their 2012-2013 donation feature spaces to add future' contributions beneath their name.

Research & Innovation Week 2014

From March 1-7, Lakehead brought its research and researchers out of the labs and classrooms and into the community to offer a glimpse of the important ideas and questions being explored and studied at our University. On March 6, the University's annual Research & Innovation Awards Reception celebrated the dedication and hard work of our researchers and students.

[*Click here for Thunder Bay campus media release...*](#)

[*Click here for Orillia campus media release...*](#)

[*Click here for R & I Awards Reception media release...*](#)



Dr. Krishnamoorthy Natarajan, Acting Dean of Engineering, launches Research & Innovation Week in Thunder Bay.



EXTEND OUR INTERNATIONAL REACH

Mexican Roundtable Yields Agreements with Three Indigenous Intercultural Universities

During a visit to Mexico, February 17-21, our Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives), Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, and I signed three memoranda of understanding (MOU) with three Indigenous Intercultural Universities.

The agreements between Lakehead and the Intercultural University of the State of Mexico, the Mayan Intercultural University of Quintana Roo, and the Intercultural University of Chiapas outline plans to develop mutually beneficial education opportunities for each of the universities' students while promoting internationalization at their respective institutions. Dr. Wesley-Esquimaux is delighted to be our point person for all three MOUs.

MOU's Areas of Understanding:

- 1. Intercultural University in Estado de Mexico**
 - Student exchange
 - Short term research opportunities for students and faculty
 - Short term cultural programming for students
 - Joint programming with an aboriginal focus

- 2. Intercultural University in Maya de Quintana Roo**
 - Student exchange
 - Short term cultural programming for students
 - Graduate education for Quintana Roo faculty at Lakehead University
 - Short term research opportunities for students and faculty
 - Joint programming with an aboriginal focus

- 3. Intercultural University in Chiapas**
 - Lecture series delivered by distance on academic and cultural themes
 - Student exchange
 - Short term research opportunities for students and faculty i
 - Short term cultural programming for students
 - Joint programming with an aboriginal focus



Intercultural University of the State of Mexico



ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING, LEARNING, AND RESEARCH

Letter from Georgian College and Lakehead University sent to Minister Duguid

On February 26, Georgian College's President & CEO, Dr. MaryLynn West-Moynes, and I sent the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, Brad Duguid, a letter and documents expressing our joint interest in Major Capacity Expansion.

The letter explained how our institutions have collaborated to develop a realistic, sustainable, fiscally responsible plan to increase undergraduate degree enrolment in central Ontario. Building on our individual and shared strengths, we will utilize existing capacity in the short-term to establish Lakehead at Georgian, in Barrie. Further, through a combination of integrated Lakehead-Georgian University Partnership Centre baccalaureate degrees and Georgian College applied degrees, we will expand access to degrees across all seven Georgian College locations.