

Senate Research Committee Report
R. Harpelle, Chair

The Senate Research Committee exists to support research activities and to promote the interests of researchers at Lakehead University. Responsible to the Lakehead University Senate and acting with the assistance of the Office of Research, the SRC has had an active year. By providing a voice for researchers, the SRC sought to engage the administration on several fronts to maintain and increase Lakehead University's support for research. The SRC was active in raising concerns with the new administration about several issues raised by individual researchers. For example, the SRC has engaged the administration on the issue of Release Time Stipends. The SRC has also been working with the administration with regards to the Canada Research Chair program and its constant evolution as a vehicle to support research at Lakehead University. The SRC is currently engaged in developing a new Strategic Research Plan, and it is involved in a number of other initiatives aimed at maintaining and improving Lakehead University's research capacity. Recent changes in Tri-Council funding programs present new challenges to researchers at Lakehead University and the SRC is working hard to develop strategies and policies that will maintain and improve Lakehead University's competitiveness.

During the 2010/2011 academic year the Senate Research Committee dealt with a number of ongoing programs and initiatives related to the promotion of research. A variety of competitions were held for internal research funding and decisions were made to support SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR research at Lakehead University. A summary of expenditures on these competitions is listed below. In addition to the annual internal competitions for funding, the committee also dealt with a variety of other research funding decisions, such as the competition to decide which project at Lakehead would be put forward by the university for an SSHRC Aid to Small Universities grant.

Senate Research Committee Internal Competitions 2010-2011*

<u>Program</u>	<u>Awards</u>	<u>Total</u>
NSERC Conference Travel Grants	12	\$4,600.00
NSERC Publication Assistance Grants	3	\$14,48.00
NSERC Research Development Fund	14	\$60,090.00
NSERC Special RDF Competition	7	\$33,400.00
SSHRC Conference Travel Grants	38	\$16,603.00
SSHRC Publication Assistance Grants	4	\$12,50.00
SSHRC Research Development Fund	12	\$52,956.00
SSHRC Visiting Scholar Grant	4	\$2,291.00
Totals for 2010-2011	94	\$172,638.00**

* Please note that the spring 2011 competition for Conference Travel Grants is not included in this list because the competition has not yet been held.

** Total amount requested in all competitions was \$228,711. (\$50,073 more than was awarded.)