

Item #10

April 2017

President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President

NOHFC announces \$5 million for CASES

On March 31, Minister of Northern Development and Mines Bill Mauro announced the NOHFC's funding of \$5 million to support our new Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering and Sciences (CASES), which will include space for advanced training programs for graduate students and modern research facilities.

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



Chancellor-elect introduced at Orillia campus

Following her official announcement as the ninth Chancellor of Lakehead University a week earlier, **Lyn McLeod** was formally introduced to members of our Orillia campus and Orillia community at a reception in Simcoe Hall's Alumni Commons on March 22.

McLeod, who currently resides in nearby Alliston, is also a member of the Board of Governors at Georgian College in Barrie.



Women's Hockey Champions

I recently hosted a congratulatory reception in my office for Lakehead University's women's hockey team. In March, the team won the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division Two championship in their first official season in the league.

[Click here for CBC story...](#)



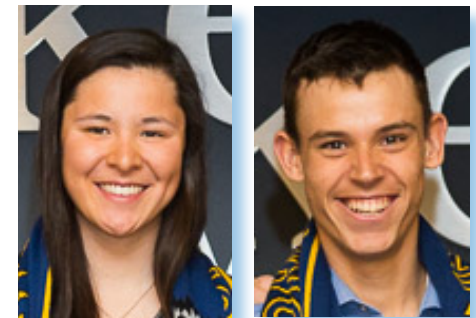
Vice-President (External Relations) contract extended

I am pleased to report that Deb Comuzzi's role as Vice-President (External Relations) has been extended one year with the option to renew at that time. Deb began at Lakehead in 2012, and has since played a pivotal role in establishing the first-ever External Relations portfolio for Lakehead University that includes philanthropy, alumni relations, community engagement, government relations, marketing/branding, and event planning/execution. Her ability to create a strong professional team has allowed our University to experience significant growth in each of these areas for what she is responsible.

I wish Deb and the External Relations team continued success.

Celebrating Athletics and Top Athletes

Our Thunder Bay campus's Lakehead Athletics Annual Awards Gala was held on April 1st in the John N. Paterson Faculty of Law Auditorium at PACI. Our Thunderwolves successfully celebrated the hard work and dedication that the student athletes put in during the 2016/2017 season. **Jenn Jackson** (Nordic Skiing) walked away with the Female Athlete of the Year, with **Kevin Tree** (Cross Country) reclaiming the Male Athlete of the Year once again. Both athletes had outstanding seasons with Tree taking home silver at OUAs and finishing fourth at Nationals. Jackson was a force to be reckoned with as she finished the year a national individual championship.



Our Orillia Campus Athletics Awards Banquet at the Hawk Ridge Golf and Country Club also took place on April 1st. **Kareem Poonah** of the men's soccer program was named Male Athlete of the Year. The Female Athlete of the Year was awarded to **Shai Kemp** as she led the women's soccer team in winning its first game at the regional level to earn a berth at the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association championship. This year, almost 100 athletes competed in eight different sports at the Orillia Campus.



Economic Development & Innovation Office's Research & Innovation Week activities

The Economic Development and Innovation (EDI) office was very excited to have participated in the events and activities during Research & Innovation Week 2017, including an International Women's Day Research Panel discussion, Northern IGNITE, and the presentation of the 2017 Innovation Awards.

International Women's Day Research Panel showcased five of Lakehead University's top female researchers who shared their accomplishments, discussed research challenges, offered advice to students, and were on-hand to answer questions from the audience.

Northern IGNITE was created to highlight the benefit of forming partnerships and collaborations between local industry and Lakehead University students and faculty. Speakers were asked to use the PechaKucha presentation style (20 slides x 20 seconds per slide) while connecting their research to this year's R&I Week theme of sustainability. Presenters included faculty researchers, post-doctoral students, and Lakehead University's Sustainability Coordinator.

Over the past 8 years, the EDI office has presented two awards to celebrate Research and Innovation throughout the previous year: the **Innovation Award** and the **Student Innovation Award**. These two awards are judged using a number of criteria including project impact, alignment to Lakehead University's research themes and strategic goals, and overall contribution to research excellence and innovation. This year's winner of the 2017 Innovation Award was Dr. Alla Reznik, Associate Professor, Physics and the Student Innovation Award recipient was Mr. Sai Swaroop Dalli.



Achieving Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

Lakehead University included in the Queen Elizabeth II Scholars Program

Lakehead University is one of 23 Canadian universities to be included in the new Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Advanced Scholars Program. Nationally, more than 450 researchers at the doctoral, postdoctoral and early-career levels will undertake global research, contributing to improved global talent exchange between Canada and other nations.

An award of \$660,000 has been granted to Drs. Brian McLaren and Chander Shahi of Lakehead's Faculty of Natural Resources Management in collaboration with Drs. Charles Levkoe and Mirella Stroink in the University's Faculty of Health and Behavioral Sciences.

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

**QUEEN
ELIZABETH**
Scholars



Lakehead, TBRHSC Research Ethics Boards align

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) and Lakehead University have strengthened the research ethics review process. A new reciprocal agreement leverages the strengths of each organization's Research Ethics Board.

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

TBRHSC Vice President, Research and Chief Scientist Dr. Abraham Rudnic, and Lakehead University Vice-President (Research & Innovation) Dr. Andrew Dean sign reciprocal agreement.



YMCA/Lakehead University Leadership Program

We recently marked the beginning of a new chapter for the YMCA/Lakehead University (Orillia) Not-For-Profit Leadership Program with **20 participants** being the first to complete all three of its Levels.

The YMCA of Simcoe Muskoka and Lakehead University Orillia launched the collaborative Not-for-Profit Leadership Program in February, 2015. Since then, 113 participants from 46 different organizations have taken part in this Trillium Foundation-sponsored initiative.



Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

Donors meet Students at *Success Through Giving* Luncheon

Lakehead University hosted a luncheon that brought together students who have received bursaries or awards and the donors who have supported them.

Students had the opportunity to thank the donors who have assisted them and share how these contributions have impacted their education and university experience. For many students, these bursaries and awards have made their education dreams a reality.

The luncheon was hosted by Deb Comuzzi, Lakehead Vice-President (External Relations), with remarks from David Tamblyn, Chair of the Lakehead University Board of Governors, and Dr. Michel Beaulieu, President of the Alumni Association of Lakehead University.



Canada's Chief Justice launches *Bora Laskin Distinguished Lecture Series*

On April 3, the Chief Justice of Canada, The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, kicked off our Bora Laskin Distinguished Lecture Series with her talk about the challenges of *Delivering Justice in Canada's North*.

More than 280 people registered for the live-streamed event that included the Chief Justice taking questions from the crowd and plenty of photo opportunities.



Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin speaks to a capacity crowd at John N. Paterson Faculty of Law Auditorium.



Western Canada Alumni Engagement

Lakehead University held alumni engagement lunches in three western cities at the end of March. Events took place in Calgary, Vancouver, and Victoria with alumni from all backgrounds and decades of graduation. The Calgary Chapter of the Alumni Association looks forward to continuing to engage our alumni population in Alberta with several events planned before the end of the summer. Our energetic group in Vancouver is looking forward to the possible formation of an Alumni Chapter, and an Alumni Ambassador has been identified in Victoria.



Board of Governors member and alumna Francis Picherack joined Alumni and Community Relations Director Mark Tilbury at the event.

Strengthen our Commitment to Social Justice

Former Truth & Reconciliation Commissioner visits Lakehead

On March 22, Lakehead University's Chair on Truth and Reconciliation, Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, and the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives hosted a free public talk by **Dr. Marie Wilson**, who spoke of her work as the former Commissioner for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

LUSU President Recognized — Prior to Dr. Wilson's talk, Lakehead University Student Union President Farhan Yousaf was presented with the *Diversity Thunder Bay's Respect Award* (given to those who promote the beliefs, attitudes and behaviours that recognize the importance of human dignity).





Expand our International Reach

MOU signed with CITNOVA

On March 21, Lakehead University welcomed a delegation from CITNOVA (Council for Science, Technology and Innovation of the Government of the State of Hidalgo, Mexico) on March 20th and March 21st.

The delegation consisted of **Jose Alonso Huerta Cruz, Director General**, Alejandro Ordaz Teissier, Director of Talent Management, and Marcela Alvarez Guevara, Director of Entrepreneurship.

The purpose of visit was not only to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions for future cooperation of the international relations in the field of academic, scientific and technological research projects but also to meet with 10 indigenous women from the state of Hidalgo who were studying our English Innovation Programs - Indigenous Stream.



Maple Leaf Schools visit

On March 20-21, Lakehead University's partnership with Maple Leaf Educational Systems (MLES) took another step forward when Mr. James Beeke, Superintendent of Global Education, Executive Director/Vice President: China Maple Leaf Educational Systems Board of Directors, Liaison: BC Ministry of Education for Maple Leaf Schools, Special Advisor to the Chairman visited our Thunder Bay Campus for the second time.

The visit included meetings with the Faculty of Education and Lakehead University International, and reaffirmed our commitment to nurture our existing joint efforts with MLES, and also facilitated explorations on how to grow our partnership through the Maple Leaf-Lakehead Future Teachers Program, new professional development training for MLES teachers, and expanding enriched overseas training experiences for Lakehead teacher candidates.