

# Provost's Report to Senate

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**March 2018**

## Sustainability Stewardship Council

The 2018-2012 Sustainability Action Plan has been developed over the past year and a half by the Lakehead University Sustainability Stewardship Council (LUSSC), the Office of Sustainability, and the Sustainability Executive Advisory Committee. The Plan demonstrates commitment on behalf of the University to strengthen our sustainability profile, with high achieving goals in the areas of Academics, Operations, and Engagement. Students, faculty and staff are invited to provide their feedback on the Plan through the following mechanisms:

An online form accessible at:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciLxRF4TLyy\\_klu3op29H3BKmVrEd6d-skqyBB3USEvQjJxw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciLxRF4TLyy_klu3op29H3BKmVrEd6d-skqyBB3USEvQjJxw/viewform)

Or attend in person at one of the following sessions:

- Informal focus group (refreshments available)  
Tuesday, March 20 at 6:00 pm in the Study Coffeehouse, Thunder Bay Campus
- Public Presentation and focus group  
Monday, March 26 at 2:00 – 3:00 in OA 2005, Orillia Campus

Please share your feedback to help support the development of this Plan. We value including the University community in a participatory visioning process. Your voice will help ensure the Sustainability Action Plan reflects the needs and interests of our community.

## Aboriginal Initiatives

The staff of Aboriginal Initiatives were proud to participate in Research and Innovation Week 2018 by hosting the following events:

- a lunch and panel discussion entitled “Strengthening Partnerships with Northern Aboriginal Institutes. Rosie Mosquito, ED for Oshki-Pimache-O-Win: The Wenjack Institute, Brent Tookenay, CEO of Seven Generations Education, and Murray Waboose, Education Director of the Anishinabek Nation Education Institute spoke with the community highlighting their vision of the “third pillar” of post-secondary education and how Lakehead University might partner for both programming and research with their respective Institutes.
- the Indigenous Partnership Research Award 2018. This year yielded two recipients for the prestigious award: Dr. Frederico Oliveira, Associate Professor Department of Anthropology and his community partner, Chief of Lac Seul First Nation Clifford Bull,

- on *A Tridimensional Approach to First Nations' Land Use and Occupancy in Northwestern Ontario: An applied and Cultural Relevant Pilot Study*; and Dr. Ruth Beatty of the Faculty of Education and community partner Christina Ruddy of Algonquin Way Cultural Centre in Pikwakanagan First Nation on *Connecting Anishinaabe and Western Mathematical Ways of Knowing*.

Aboriginal Initiatives supported the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual LUNSA Powwow throughout the weekend of March 9-11. The Powwow had 19 drum groups (local, regional, provincial, and from the United States), and 300 dancers participating and was an important place and space for community to come together. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women were a major focus of the Powwow this year with an Eagle Staff brought from Peterborough. Members of the Bear Clan Patrol also attended and spoke about their role in community safety.

On March 9, a Maadaadizi Feast was held at Confederation College. The Maadaadizi Committee has hosted 3 feasts over the past academic year at Lakehead University, Oshki-Wenjak and Confederation College in an effort to continue to support Indigenous students beyond orientation.

Throughout February and March, students have been participating in a series of Hand Drum Making Workshops. Over 15 students learned to make hand drums and then participated in ceremonies conducted by Elder Beatrice Twance-Hynes.

The Métis Student Liaison Facilitators in collaboration with ACSS, hosted a Métis Cultural Celebration Day on March 7 in the Study-Side Room. The event was a wonderful opportunity to learn about Métis culture, food, traditional fiddle music, jigging and crafts. Senator Ken Simard, a member of the Lakehead University Elders Council, shared his knowledge as a Senator with the Métis Nation of Ontario.

### **Native Access Program (NAP)**

Students attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Undergraduate Exploration Day on March 16, which gave them information to help them decide which undergraduate program to apply for next academic year.

### **Aboriginal Outreach & Recruitment**

Staff have facilitated the Blanket Exercise at the Matawa Education Conference, where participants shared their thoughts on its value as a teaching tool, and at the Pic Mobert Health Conference where discussion centered on Intergenerational trauma and mental health.

In February, ACSS travelled to Sandy Lake with representatives from Confederation College, Oshki-Wenjack, Northern Nishnawbe Education Council, and Science North to speak with students about their post-secondary options, particularly at Lakehead University. Particular interest was expressed in the Indigenous Language Instructors' Program (ILIP) and the Native Access Program (NAP).

The staff will be traveling in the region with Trent University for individual school visits in Sioux Lookout, Dryden, Kenora and Fort Frances at the end of March.

### **Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services (ACSS)**

ACSS, working with Art with Impact Canada, hosted the "Movies For Mental Health" workshop to Lakehead University on March 6. The purpose of the workshop was to reduce stigma and stereotypes surrounding mental health issues and mental illness. Outreach to students and faculty via mass emails, posters, in class visits and word of mouth were ongoing since the beginning of the winter semester. Over 34 students attended.

In addition, ACSS, along with other Aboriginal community agencies, attended a Career Fair in Sachigo Lake. The event, held in the school gym and open to students and community members, was a great opportunity to speak to potential students about the ACSS services and to provide information about programs at Lakehead. A total of 77 individuals stopped by our information table.

### **Toastmaster Storytellers**

In an effort to recruit new members, the Club participated in the All-Club Open House held at the end of February 28 as well as hosting a Club Open House on March 2. Regular scheduled meetings are held bi-weekly.

### **Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP)**

The AMP team will be travelling into Lac La Croix First Nation, Marathon High School and Nipigon-Red Rock District High School to work with AMP youth during the month of March. Our educational focus will be on computer coding and putting together a research project or documentary.

### **Aboriginal Initiatives - Orillia**

The Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP) continues to seek out new university student mentors. Student feedback has shown that Indigenous university students in particular, are looking to receive mentorship before they would feel ready to provide mentorship to others. Two Indigenous Lakehead University alumni from Engineering and Education respectfully, as well as a local traditional knowledge keeper, have been invited to be a part of the program to support university students as well as high school and elementary students.

As part of the on-going work with elementary and secondary schools in the Simcoe County District School Board, the focus for the workshops to be held in March will be the Indigenous Water Crisis. In collaboration with National Engineering Month and Research and Innovation Week at the Orillia campus, AMP will be hosting the Indigenous Water Crisis workshop featuring a Lakehead Engineering alumni as a special guest.

## **Faculty of Business Administration**

The Faculty of Business Administration is pleased to announce the participation of four student groups in the Research and Innovation Week Undergraduate Poster Presentations. In partnership with Resolute Forest Products, the students are studying human resources recruitment and retention issues in three sawmills in Northwestern Ontario. Congratulations to the group of Jordan Ball, Matthew Lento, Matthew McGonigal and Carley Ruggiero who were the Student's Choice Award winners in Business.

## Faculty of Engineering

The 39th annual Ontario Engineering Competition (OEC) was held at the University of Ottawa January 26-28. Lakehead's multidisciplinary team, composed of Software Engineering students Megan Eyben and Zachary Kelly & Mechanical Engineering students Caleb Frisby and Graham Robertshaw, competed against 15 other Ontario universities in the Senior Design category. In the Senior Design Competition, teams were challenged to design and build a prototype robotic arm with maximum reach and at minimum cost, in limited time and using only the material and tools provided. Lakehead's team placed second overall, one of only two teams to successfully design a working robotic arm, and qualified to compete in the Canadian Engineering Competition. The official results are shown here <http://www.essco.ca/the-results-of-the-ontario-engineering-competition-2018/> and a proptype video can be accessed here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=7x3dax9IbNY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=7x3dax9IbNY)

The [Canadian Engineering Competition](#) (CEC) was held at Ryerson University on March 8-11. Eight universities competed in the Senior Design competition, each qualifying by placing first or second in their respective regional division. For the problem, teams were required to design and build a prototype of a remotely operated fire truck which could quickly race to a flaming building and accurately launch "water bombs" at multiple locations. The robot, controlled by a wireless controller, was required to effectively navigate a 3D cardboard city without leaving the road and extinguish simulated fires by dropping/launching ping-pong balls into openings cut into the buildings at various heights and angles. Lakehead's team successfully completed the challenge and won the Canadian Engineering Competition in Senior Design. A practice video of the robot can be accessed here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=di9KDmzqND4>. [Congratulations students!](#)

## Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

The Department of English held their first annual Career Day on March 12. The Department welcomed graduates back to campus to share their experiences working in fields as diverse as health research, transportation policy, finance and media – and how their English degrees had been crucial to that success.

The Department of History, as part of a community partnership, announces the publishing of an online exhibit to commemorate the centennial of the First World War from 2014 to 2018. Led by the Thunder Bay Public Library, project partners including the City of Thunder Bay Archives, City of Thunder Bay Heritage Advisory Committee, the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame, the Thunder Bay Military Museum, and the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society, worked with our Alumni, faculty and students in the Specialization in Public History and Community Placement on this project. The online exhibit can be found at <https://tbayworldwarone.com/>.

The 2018 MacLeod Lecture, delivered in March by activist, scholar and poet El Jones, was entitled "Poetry Defiant: Free Speech in an Age of Racist Reaction". Formerly the poet laureate of the city of Halifax, and currently the Nancy Chair in Women's Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University, El Jones, also did a poetry reading "Live from the Afrikan Resistance" in collaboration with the Lakehead University Student Union (LUSU) and CAMAT (The Caribbean and African Multicultural Association of Thunder Bay).

The following individuals have been recognized for their achievements:

- Drs. Hannah and Leggatt, undergraduate student McKenna Boeckner, English alumni Laura Prinselaar and local artist Merk participated in a well-received roundtable entitled "Comix in an Authoritarian Age: What Graphic Novels Can Tell us About Democracy" at the Thunder Bay Public Library. Thanks to the staff of the Brodie Library, and to the Lakehead University research office for helping to make this event a success.
- Drs. Michel S. Beaulieu, David K. Ratz and Ronald Harpelle edited the newly released "Hard Work Conquers All: Building the Finnish Community in Canada". Published by UBC Press, these insightful essays explore the nuanced cultural identities of Finnish Canadians, their continued ties to Finland, intergenerational cultural transfer, and the community's connections with socialism and labour movements.
- Dr. Ronald Harpelle has been awarded a \$38,000 Avance medias grant from the Conseil des arts de l'Ontario for a documentary film entitled Le tireur d'élite, about a sniper who claimed he was the nephew of Louis Riel.

## Student Affairs

### Academic Advising, Records & Registration

#### 2018 Convocation Dates

- **Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2, 2018** - Community Auditorium in Thunder Bay
- **Saturday, June 9, 2018** - Rotary Place in Orillia

For more information about the ceremonies, visit

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/studentcentral/graduating/ceremony-details-thunder-bay>

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Graduation Fair was hosted on March 1 on both campuses. The Fair is designed to help students to prepare for graduation and Convocation Day.

The Spring Exam Timetable has been posted and is available at

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/studentcentral/exams-grades>.

### Enrolment Services

#### Undergraduate Recruitment

The Recruitment team have attended 29 College Fairs and Events across Ontario's colleges during January and February, 2018.

Applicant Receptions have also been taking place throughout Ontario. Receptions have been hosted in Barrie, Brampton, Newmarket, Hamilton, Cambridge, London, Oshawa, Kingston, Ottawa, and across the GTA (Scarborough, Toronto, Mississauga). These evening events are designed to connect with students (and their parents) who've applied to Lakehead, and who are considering accepting their offer.

Grade 11/12 Day took place on February 23. In the past, Grade 11 Day has been an opportunity for local students in Thunder Bay to visit campus for a day of programming, lectures, and labs to excite them about the prospect of becoming a Lakehead student. Because of the cancellation of Preview Day in December, we incorporated Grade 12 students

(applicants) into the day as well. In total, we had 420 students on campus, including 130 applicants from Grade 12. A sincere thank you to the faculty who participated in this event, and provided information to local students.

### **Student Awards & Financial Aid**

In early March, the first round of Lakehead University Entrance Scholarships were extended to over 1,400 applicants. Included in this, over 200 scholarships were hand-delivered to applicants from the Thunder Bay and Orillia areas. A big thank you to Student Affairs in assisting with this important effort.

Student Awards & Financial Aid presented a Budgeting Workshop to the John Howard Society in conjunction with the Enactus Club on campus. A Financial Literacy presentation was also provided to first year engineering students to help foster financial consciousness.

Any academic units interested in Financial Literacy programming for students, please contact the Manager of Student Awards & Financial Aid, Josh Levac, at ext. 8150.

### **Student Health & Counselling**

Student Health & Counselling continues to offer medical and counselling appointments to students. There are also other resources available to students who may be struggling, including:

- *good2talk* -- 24/7 helpline for post-secondary students [1-866-925-5454](tel:1-866-925-5454)
- *Student Life Assistance Program* -- 24/7 helpline which connects students with counselling sessions in the community [1-877-234-5327](tel:1-877-234-5327)

If you would like cards or posters to display these resources in your office/department, please contact Student Health & Counselling at 343.8361.

In March, Student Health & Counselling will be partnering with the Student Success Centre to host "Stress Less for Student Exam Success"\* -- this will be a four-day event taking place in the Agora - March 26 to 29 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Resources and assistance with exam preparation as well as wellness activities (therapy dogs, yoga, meditation, snacks) will be provided. Please encourage students to attend.

### **Student Success Centre (SSC)**

#### **National Co-op Week - March 19 - 23 (Thunder Bay & Orillia)**

Each day will feature a different theme and promotion of the Co-op program. The schedule includes:

##### Thunder Bay

- March 19 - Co-op Luncheon with Co-op students, faculty and employers in the Faculty Lounge
- March 20 & 21 - The Job Market in the Agora
- March 24 - Co-op Carnival in the Agora

##### Orillia

- March 19 - Co-op Cafe for Environmental Sustainability students & Resumé Workshop in OR 1013
- March 20, 21, 22 - Co-Curricular Record Café in the Learning Commons
- March 23 Resumé Review in R1013

A full schedule can be found here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-success-centre/coop-week>.

**\*Stress Less for Student Exam Success - March 26 - 29 (Thunder Bay)**

A collaborative event held in the Agora with Student Health & Counselling that promotes “being well” during upcoming exams. Activities and events will focus around the Wellness Wheel in terms of students caring for their overall intellectual/academic, physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being. Preparing for exams along with managing stress will also be addressed at the event.

The Student Success Centre has two new staff members certified to administer the Strong Interest Inventory, a career assessment resource for students. As part of our commitment to the Lakehead University Work Study Program (LUWSP), the Centre will be offering this service free of charge to all students on the LUWSP for the month of March.

**Orillia Student Affairs**

**Student Success Centre**

The Centre partnered with Lakehead International to host a career workshop for international students on March 5. This workshop provided information on immigration documents and work permits, finding work in Orillia, and how to prepare a job application.

**Library**

The online version of the [Globe and Mail 1844-2014](#) has been purchased and is now available.

**Teaching Commons**

The Grand Opening of the Teaching Commons will be held on Thursday, April 26 at 11:30 am. The day will feature an Interactive Open House from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and the Distinguished Instructor Award Lecture at 3:15 pm. More details will be announced in the Communications Bulletin or visit [teachingcommons.lakeheadu.ca](http://teachingcommons.lakeheadu.ca).

**Archives**

The Archives is pleased to announce the availability of [Lakehead University Web Archives Collection](#) (<https://archive-it.org/home/LakeheadU>).

Hosted by the Internet Archive, we will be keeping copies of Lakehead official websites and communications, and a variety of associated sites as well, as they appeared at different points in time. Most of this material will be crawled at least once per semester, so even as things change we'll be able to access the information as it was. Web archiving is the process of collecting portions of the World Wide Web to ensure the information is preserved in an archive for future researchers, historians, and the public.

If you have any questions or suggestions of sites that should be crawled please contact Sara Janes, University Archivist ([sjanes1@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:sjanes1@lakeheadu.ca)).

**Makerspaces****Paterson Library**

Work is proceeding on this Makerspace (LI1005) with an anticipated opening in the summer 2018. The Space will include two 3D printers, a 3D scanner, an Oculus Rift (virtual reality headset) and two computers.

**Education Library**

The equipment in this Makerspace is scheduled to be available for use in the Education Library and/or the Digital Media Lab during the summer of 2018. Makerspace equipment will include examples of equipment used in elementary and secondary school makerspaces including: Robotics such as Dash and Dot, Sphero, Ozobot, Osmos, Lego Mindstorm and WeDo; Podcasting equipment; VR glasses; Makey-Makey; Arduino and littlebits.

Funding for this equipment in both Makerspaces is being provided by the Student Technology Fund.

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett  
Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)