

Provost's Report to Senate

May 2019

Dean, Faculty of Education

I am very pleased to report that Dr. Wayne Melville has been appointed Dean, Faculty of Education effective July 1, 2019. I look forward to working with Dr. Melville and the faculty and staff to continue to build on the successes of the Faculty of Education.

I would also like to thank Dr. John O'Meara for his passion and dedication to the Faculty of Education. Dr. O'Meara started at Lakehead in 1988 and became Dean in 2008. He leaves many legacies including his work on creating the Department of Native Studies (now known as the Department of Indigenous Learning) and the Department of Aboriginal Education. Dr. O'Meara is also well known for his work in the area of Aboriginal languages, linguistics and second language learning.

Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies

It is also my pleasure to report that Dr. Chander Shahi has been renewed as the Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. In support of our Academic and Strategic Plan goals, and in consultation with the Deans, Graduate Coordinators and staff of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Dr. Shahi will continue his efforts to develop graduate education at Lakehead University. Dr. Shahi has already demonstrated success in the recruitment of graduate students and a commitment to supporting students, both academically and financially, as they pursue their education.

Dean, Faculty of Business Administration

The search for the Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration is underway. I encourage all faculty, staff and students to participate in this search by attending the public presentations and providing feedback.

Dr. Bahram Dadgostar is possibly the longest serving Dean at Lakehead. Starting at Lakehead in 1983 in the Economics Department, he became Dean in 1995 and since then, has been unequivocally dedicated to the faculty, staff and students. In 2015 the Faculty received the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation and in 2016 earned the Chartered Professional Accountants accreditation. Both of these accreditations were a result of the hard work of faculty and staff and the strong leadership of Dr. Dadgostar. They place the Faculty of Business and Lakehead amongst the top business schools in Canada and even across the world.

Deputy Provost

Dr. Nancy Luckai will be stepping down as Deputy Provost effective July 31, 2019. Dr. Luckai arrived at Lakehead as an undergraduate student over 40 years ago. As a faculty member for 29 years in the Faculty of Natural Resources Management, she served as Program Chair and was the Director of the Forest Resources and Soil Testing Lab. She was also Chair of the Animal Care Committee for many years. In 2014, Dr. Luckai was appointed Deputy Provost

and for the past five years has been the lead on Quality Assurance at Lakehead, including leading the Academic Audit in 2016.

The search for a new Deputy Provost will begin later in the Spring.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management

On Saturday, April 6, the NRM Faculty celebrated the undergraduate theses research efforts by a judged full-day moderated thesis symposium – 63 theses were included with both internal and external evaluators.

The well-attended annual Canadian Institute of Forestry Ring Ceremony was held on Saturday, March 23 at the Victoria Inn. Silver Rings were presented to all 4th year graduating students as a welcome into the profession.

In April, a three (3)-day Certificate UAV Pilot Training workshop was conducted for 15 members representing all 6 Keewatinook Okimakanak (KO) First Nations – the training included both field-based exposure and regulations instruction.

In April-May the NRM Faculty conducted its first nine (9)-day spring professional field school for course-based MScF students – the event included ecology and silviculture field trips, soils investigations, industrial mill visitations, tactical provincial fire-fighting, bird banding and wildlife trapping, archeology significance, forest management with indigenous participation as well as UAV training.

Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies

The 2nd Science Olympics (Simcoe/Muskoka), will be held at Lakehead's Orillia campus on (Simcoe/Muskoka) on May 10. Science Olympics is a one-day event, for grades 9 ,10, 11 & 12 students, made up of a series of problem-solving events that require teams to apply their knowledge of science and engineering in creative and fun ways. Compete in a team of four, and win a prize! There's an Olympian in everyone! Thank you to Dr. David Law for his planning and coordination of the event.

Science Olympics (Simcoe) is a parallel version of the Northwestern Ontario offered annually in Thunder Bay during the month of November. Science Olympics is a joint venture among the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, the Faculty of Education, and the Faculty of Engineering at Lakehead University.

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) joined Dr. Ruth Beatty, Faculty of Education, in welcoming over 200 educators to the Wiikoodaadying Gikinoomaagewin: Gindaaswin Kendaaswin- Relationships and Reciprocity, Indigenous Mathematics and Education Conference held May 3-5 in Orillia. <https://ec.lakeheadu.ca/iemc/welcome>. Educators from First Nation, Public and Catholic schools from across the province came to learn in a forum designed to develop relationships, and share experiences, practice, knowledge and ideas about connections between the mathematical content knowledge of the Ontario curriculum and the mathematics inherent in Indigenous technology, design, and artistry.

The Aboriginal Programs Open House, held on April 25, at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, was attended by over 60 people. The keynote speaker was Stephanie Seymour, an Anishinaabe Kwe from Garden River First Nation and graduate from the MSc in Forestry (Lakehead). She is currently conducting research for her PhD in Forestry at the University of Toronto.

Orillia Campus Aboriginal Initiatives

On March 22nd, Aboriginal Initiatives partnered with LUSU to host 'Indigenous Solidarity Day' which included our Annual Spring Drum Social, followed by a community discussion on Indigenous solidarity.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services (ACCS)

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services has moved to their new location in UC 1007, next to the Agora. Their offices and the Aboriginal Student Lounge are all now located together. An official open house will be held in September 2019.

ACCS hosted a Pipe Ceremony on April 12 in the Elders Room with five (5) participants.

ACCS will hold a Summer Feast in July and celebrate the change of season with Indigenous Language Instructor Program students, in addition to providing these students with various supports during their time on campus. Details of the Feast will be included in a Communication Bulletin.

Coming Together to Talk

In collaboration with the Diversity Thunder Bay Committee, the Coordinators of the Native Access Program and Indigenous Outreach and Recruitment presented Michelle Derosier's Coming Together to Talk on Tuesday, April 30. Approximately 200 students (from the various high schools in Thunder Bay) were welcomed to Lakehead to view the film and then broke out into 10 groups to discuss the film and to give feedback about the Thunder Bay they want as youth. A report will be developed from these conversations as recommendations from the youth.

Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP)

AMP is winding up another very busy and productive academic year. The Program continued weekly visits into local high schools and maintained regional school visits throughout the school year. Some new ventures and highlights from the past years' events include a very successful new March Break Job Shadow Program; partnership with a local public high school to provide the Indigenous science-based learning (for a grade 10 for-credit land-based science course).

In April, AMP held a successful Indigenous Career Expo on the Thunder Bay campus. Over 40 businesses, corporations, government agencies and community organizations interested in hiring Indigenous youth or to offer employment skills training, attended. Workshops were offered throughout the day on career decision making, resume writing, and tips for success during job interviews.

Aboriginal Recruitment and AMP held the AMP Project Fair and Indigenous Preview Day on campus on April 24. This very successful day saw almost 200 youth on campus and 19 AMP youth compete in the Research Project Fair. Participating schools included St. Ignatius, St. Patrick, Westgate, Superior, Dennis Franklin Cromarty and Long Lake # 58 Secondary School.

Library

Karen Keiller will be leaving Lakehead, effective June 30, to take the position of Dean of Libraries at MacEwan University in Edmonton. Karen came to Lakehead as the University Librarian in May 2015 and was appointed as the Vice-Provost (Teaching & Learning) in January 2017. Karen has made a huge impact both within the libraries and across the University. Her leadership in establishing the Teaching Commons, the launch of a new library website, and most recently, the development of the Summer Institute are just a few of the legacies that Karen will leave at Lakehead. A search for a new Vice-Provost (Teaching & Learning) and University Librarian will begin later in the Spring.

[Library Website](#)

The Library officially launched its new website on April 23 after the soft launch in January. There is a feedback form on the left-hand side.

On April 9, the Alumni Association hosted a coffee/treat station for students studying for exams. This coincided with the last visit of our therapy dog, and both events were extremely popular.

The OTELA (Ontario Teacher Education Library Association) held their annual meeting on the Thunder Bay Campus on May 2 and 3. Delegates attended from Queen's University, OISE/UT, Nipissing University, Trent University, and Brock University. Attending virtually via video-conference were delegates from UOIT; University of Ottawa; OISE; and guests from the Ontario College of Teachers, and Cube for Teachers. Gisella Scalese and Chris Tomasini represented Lakehead University.

Archives

Working in partnership with the Thunder Bay Finnish Canadian Historical Society, Lakehead University has concluded the Documentary Heritage Communities Program (DHCP)-funded "Increasing Access to Finnish-Language Archives" project. This work resulted in new finding aids, digitized materials, and translations of Finnish-language historical records in our collections. More information can be found on the project blog:

<https://finnisharchivistbay.wordpress.com/>

Teaching Commons

The Teaching Commons continues to grow its resource blog daily as well as providing faculty with multiple instructional consultations on D2L, tests/exams and marks management, teaching awards, peer-teaching evaluations, preparations for conference presentations, active-learning, eCampus Ontario, supplemental technical resources such as MySimpleShow, etc.

The Teaching Commons did a presentation to the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) – a presentation which will be repeated in May for both the Social Sciences and Humanities Faculty Council and the Deans' Council.

The University community is reminded that students, faculty, and staff have access to [Lynda.com](#) - an on-demand learning solution designed to help users gain new skills and advance their careers.

Summer Institute

The 2019 Summer Institute, to run from August 13 - 15 will feature the theme “Teaching Your Students to Think: Tips, Tools, and Techniques.”

Student Affairs

Academic Integrity Code *NEW* – May 1

The Academic Integrity Code was approved by Senate at the March 18 meeting and comes into effect May 1. The Office of Student Affairs has been working towards the development of a new webpage, and resources including templates and forms for use by faculty members/instructors. Yuk-Sem Won, Manager of Student Conduct is available to meet with anyone interested in learning more about the process, resources available and how we can best support you. Please contact Yuk-Sem at studentconduct@lakeheadu.ca or extension 8163.

Connecting with our Applicants

Throughout the month of April, the Lakehead Recruitment team returned to 200+ high schools across the province to reconnect with our applicants. Over 800 students and influencers also attended the various on and off campus recruitment/conversion events we hosted. Thank you to all faculty and staff who continue to contribute towards supporting our recruitment initiatives!

If your academic unit is interested in connecting with applicants or discussing ways you can be involved in conversion, please contact Chad O’Halloran, Manager of Undergraduate Recruitment at chad.recruit@lakeheadu.ca or extension 7290.

Student Health & Wellness – Change in Summer Hours

Student Health & Wellness (Thunder Bay) continues to remain open for the summer months for both medical appointments and counselling. Due to demand, summer hours will be in effect. Daily the Centre will close from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm and will close on Thursdays at 3:30 pm. If a student is in need of immediate assistance during the times of closure, they can access a Registered Nurse at Telehealth Ontario 1-866-797-0000. For a mental health concern, they can access Good2Talk at 1-866-925-5454 or Crisis Response at 1-888-269-3100.

Convocation 2019 – RSVP Reminder

Convocation will take place on Friday May 31 and Saturday June 1 (Thunder Bay) at the Community Auditorium. In Orillia, Convocation will take place on Saturday June 8 at Rotary Place. It is not too late to send in your RSVP if you are able to attend.

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett
Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)