

Provost's Report to Senate

October 2018

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) and Indigenous Curriculum Specialist presented “Building Better Understandings: an intercultural training session” on September 18, 2018 to the Senior Management Team. The session focused on the topics of Indigenous worldview, treaty, residential school, identity, government policies, and reconciliation. In preparation for the follow-up sessions, to be held late October and early November in Thunder Bay and Orillia, the Indigenous Curriculum Specialist and Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) have developed a discussion-based format to encourage reflection, consolidate learning and determine action by the respective participants.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services (ACSS)

ACSS has hosted several Lakehead and Indspire bursary application workshops throughout the month. We have also hired 11 tutors to support Aboriginal students in various programs including Native Nurses Entry Program and Native Access Program.

ACSS participated in the *Getting to Know Us Fair* and the *Educator's Seminar*. These events provided an opportunity for ACSS to share information on programs and services.

ACSS hosted the *Canadian Coast Guard, Canada Revenue Agency, and Indigenous Services Canada/Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada* in the Aboriginal Student Lounge for job information sessions geared specifically to Aboriginal students.

A Fall Feast, celebrating the change of season, was held on October 18. Elder Ma-Nee Chacaby shared teachings and an opening prayer and smudge.

Mijjim Noongom (monthly student potluck) was held on October 24th and our monthly Sweat Lodge Ceremony was held on October 25th.

Native Access Program (NAP)

The NAP students had the opportunity to see Mr. John Stackhouse, Senior Vice-President RBC. Students attended his presentation on “Humans Wanted”, shared lunch and then had a one-on-one session with him in the NAP classroom. Students asked him thought provoking questions, and appreciated the way that Mr. Stackhouse allowed them to talk openly and honestly. It was a great event!

Humanities 101

The Indigenous Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator and the NAP Coordinator will be attending the Humanities 101 Pathways session. The session is offered to students of Humanities 101: A Lakehead University Community Initiative, who want to talk about educational opportunities. Educators from across Thunder Bay have been invited to share pathways for continuing students' educational journeys.

Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP)

The Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP) provided an InSTEM activity for the Achievement Program and Ron MacLean's visit to Lakehead University in late September. Youth in grade 8 through 11 learned about the science and engineering behind the birch bark canoe and built mini canoes.

The AMP program is in the midst of gearing up to begin weekly visits into local high schools, recruiting Lakehead University student volunteers, planning our fall cultural training event and regional school visits as well as designing new curriculum/activities for the academic year.

Indigenous Outreach/Recruitment (IOR)

IOR participated in the Fall recruiting season as a member of the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program. IOR coordinates week one and a portion of week two of the tour. This Fall saw eleven institutions, both colleges and universities, participate in week one and nine institutions in week two. Visits to the northwest region included Sioux Lookout, Dryden, Kenora, Whitefish Bay First Nation, Grassy Narrows and Fort Frances and reached almost 800 Indigenous students in grades 9 through 12. Week two included Thunder Bay, Nipigon, Red Rock, Geraldton, Longlac and Constance Lake communities and reached approximately 300 Indigenous students. This year, the IOR experienced concerns voiced from both students and educators regarding student safety in Thunder Bay. Since 2013, the concerns for Indigenous student safety have been growing and now include concerns from students in communities as close as Nipigon.

International Indigenous Relations

IOR continues to work on the Canada Mexico Roundtable on Indigenous Higher Education conference coordination for Canadian Delegates.

Christmas Art Show

IOR will be assisting with planning and internal coordination of the Aboriginal Artworks Group of Northern Ontario Christmas Fine Arts and Crafts sale that will be taking place on the Thunder Bay campus in the Fieldhouse. The sale is expected to host almost 200 Indigenous artisans over 3 days.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management

The Faculty recently received a full six-year renewal of its national accreditation for the forestry degree program.

Field school activities were once again organized for all our undergraduate and course-based MScF students – besides local and regional 2-week events, students visited Manitoba, Ohio, South India and Estonia for exposure to unique adaptations to natural resources management. In addition, some students are participating in other international experiences linked to a full semester abroad or 4th year theses – including Ecuador, Finland, Australia and Norway.

Recently many Ontario and western Canada organizations have travelled to Lakehead to recruit our students for summer employment and career opportunities.

The Naysmith Scholar Award was awarded to Erin Kielt during the recent Alumni events. Ms. Kielt is currently enrolled in a graduate degree with NRM. The Award is in recognition of the late Dr. John Naysmith's impact on the forestry profession, Lakehead University and the NRM Faculty in particular.

Brelynn Howard was awarded the inaugural four-year Forest Ecosystem Sustainability Award. She was selected for her dedication to excellence for a young person in communicating and demonstrating realistic engagement in sustainability. Before she came to Lakehead she did a TED-talk on Canada's potential for Climate Change mitigation.

Institutional Planning and Analysis

Data Repository

Over the past two years, the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis (IP&A) has developed and shared data related to actual and projected enrolment, geographic origin of students, retention and engagement of students, and information related to graduation rates and related graduate outcomes. As we continue to develop a data-informed culture to inform strategic enrolment management (SEM), over the coming weeks, Chairs/Directors and Deans will receive an invitation to a google drive from IP&A, where this information will be available.

In addition to the SEM data packs shared with Deans and Chairs/Directors, the google drive will also include Marks Reports and Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) data packs provided to academic units over the past two years, information relating to international student enrolment, and National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data. The drive will serve as a data repository for information provided to Departments/Schools by the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis on a go forward basis.

Experiential Learning Course Tagging

In 2018, Lakehead University participated in a provincial "course tagging" exercise to help develop an accurate baseline of experiential learning at the course level. Leveraging a preliminary inventory originally developed in 2016/2017 by the Office of Sustainability, and applying provincial definitions developed through this initiative, the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis generated a master experiential learning course listing that incorporated information from the University database and a detailed manual review of the Academic Calendar.

Over the past few months, the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis validated and refined this approach with partners in the Registrar's Office and Enterprise Resource Planning and two "early adopter" Faculties (Business Administration and Natural Resources Management).

In the coming weeks, the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis will be contacting Deans and Chairs/Directors to validate data collected for their areas as we continue to develop an accurate baseline of experiential learning at the course level for Lakehead University.

Library

The [Library Annual Report 2017/2018](#) is now available. The highlights for the Libraries this year include:

- Welcoming the Teaching Commons to the renovated 5th floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library, now including four Librarians from the main floor;
- Participating in the procurement of our Next Generation Library System with our partner libraries in Ontario in the Collaborative Futures Project;
- Locating all of our Chancellor Paterson Library main floor services for students in one place;
- Completing a successful pilot as a new way of purchasing online books based on use.

This year's Annual Report includes a section about [Online Books](#). In 2017/18, online books were used nearly 90,000 times - 8 times more than the print collection in the main stacks of the Chancellor Paterson Library.

Lakehead's Thunder Bay campus celebrated the National Day on Writing with activities in the Chancellor Paterson Library on October 19th. Students participated by sharing their favourite books, typing on our classic 1980s manual typewriter, and creating some neat blackout poetry. #whyiwrite.

The Makerspace@Paterson opened in June of this year and so far has received over 370 visitors. Both instructors and students have shown a real interest in the equipment (3D printers, 3D scanner and virtual reality headset) and some are already working on or planning projects based on what is available. In September, 220 Nursing students in an Applied Anatomy and Physiology course spent lab time using virtual reality to explore the human heart. Visual Arts instructors and students are exploring the use of the makerspace equipment and software for art creation and Biochemistry students are working on designing molecules to be printed in 3D.

The Library has a trial of [ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global](#) (PDTG) until November 1. PDTG is a comprehensive collection of dissertations and theses from around the world, spanning from 1743 to the present day. PDTG offers full text for graduate works added since 1997 along with selected full text for works written prior to 1997. It contains a significant number of new international dissertations and theses both in citations and in full text. Please send feedback to Karen Keiller, kkeiller@lakeheadu.ca.

The Library has expanded our social media outreach to include Instagram. Follow us at @lakeheadlibrary.

This year Therapy Dogs are visiting the Chancellor Paterson and Education Libraries once a week. The week of October 16, more than 150 students visited with Derby and Enya at the two libraries. As one student commented, "This is just what I needed before heading into my mid-term!".

The Law Library hours are being expanded starting November 1. The new standard weekend hours will be from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm.

An Assistive Technology Open House, offered by Student Accessibility Services, was held in the Education Library on Thursday, 11 October from 11 am to 2 pm.

Teaching Commons

The [Teaching Commons Annual Report 2017/2018](#) is now available.

Upcoming workshops/webinars are listed on the [Teaching Commons](#) website, including:

- Indigenous Curriculum Specialist Workshop: "Associations of Ornithology within Indigenous Sacred Story and Daily Life"
1:00 - 2:30pm Monday, October 29
- Open Education (OE) Fellows Webinar 3: Quest Based Learning
11:00am - 12:00noon Friday, November 2
- Make a difference, now! Social Innovation Workshop
11:45am - 1:00pm Tuesday, November 6
- Social affordances, social presence and sociable online learning environments: A study of the SIPS model in action
1:00pm - 2:00pm Wednesday, November 7
- Policy obstacles for open education in Ontario
1:00pm - 2:00pm Thursday, November 8

Service Catalogue

The [Service Catalogue](#) has been developed by Web Services, TSC, Teaching Commons and the Library. The Service Catalogue is a one-stop location to find information about IT services at Lakehead University provided by TSC, Teaching Commons and the Library. Please send comments and suggestions to Karen Keiller, kkeiller@lakeheadu.ca.

Student Affairs

Undergraduate Recruitment

North America's largest student recruitment fair– the Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF) – took place September 28, 29 and 30 in downtown Toronto. While the overall attendance at the fair this year was lower than the last two years (2018: 118,357 attendees; 2017: 139, 912 attendees; 2016: 135,945 attendees), the overall results for the number of prospect scans Lakehead generated increased from last year with 3,067 prospect names collected. We also saw an increase in attendance at the Lakehead presentation room with 324 attendees. We wish to extend our sincerest thanks to all the faculty, staff, alumni and students that joined us in showcasing Lakehead to our future students and their influencers.

If anyone is interested in following up with prospects expressing an interest in a particular program, please contact Chad O'Halloran, Manager of Undergraduate Recruitment: caohallo@lakeheadu.ca.

Undergraduate Recruitment will once again be hosting a series of Facebook Live sessions as a way for future students to explore Lakehead's offerings. Faculties/programs interested in hosting a program-specific session are welcome.

Classroom Visits

As first year students continue to transition to their new surroundings and academic pursuits, Student Affairs delivered a series of first year class visits to help new students understand the supports and services available to them. A big thanks to all instructors who participated and invited us into their classes.

We are happy to continue to visit classes including upper year classes. If there is a specific topic, such as notetaking, resiliency skills, exam preparation, etc. that your students can benefit from, please let us know and we can help deliver specialized supports in your classes. Please contact admin.vpsa@lakeheadu.ca if we can be of further support.

Student Health & Wellness

Student Health & Wellness continues to offer drop in meditation sessions 4 times per week on the Thunder Bay campus. These sessions are open to faculty, staff and students on the following days:

Mondays 1:15pm - 1:45pm @ Student Health and Wellness, Prettie Residence Building
Tuesdays 11:45am-12:15pm @ Student Health and Wellness, Prettie Residence Building
Wednesdays 3:00pm-3:30pm in the Library, LI 5002
Fridays 11:30am-12:00pm in the International Student Centre, LI 0026

Please also remind students that we have drop-in individual counselling available throughout the week on the Thunder Bay campus at Student Health and Wellness in Prettie Residence (by the big blue wall) on the following days:

Mondays and Tuesdays 2:00pm-4:00pm
Thursdays and Fridays 9:00am-12:00pm

Individual counselling sessions are also available at the Wellness Centre on the Orillia campus. Students can make an appointment by calling (705) 330-4008 (ext 2116) or by stopping by the Wellness Centre (OR 1015).

In addition, the flu vaccine will be available on the Thunder Bay campus and students can call 343-8361 to make an appointment to receive their free flu shot starting October 9.

Important Dates/Reminders

- November 9, 2018 – Final Date for students to withdraw/drop Fall Term courses
- November 3, 2018 – Preview Day Open House (Orillia Campus)
- December 4, 2018 – Preview Day Open House (Thunder Bay Campus)

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett
Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)