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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 8, 2017

To: Ms. Barbara Eccles, Secretary of Senate

From: Dr. Wayne Melville, Chair, Senate Academic Committee

Subject: Senate Academic Committee Report

The Senate Academic Committee (SAC) met on April 25, 2017.

1. SAC Quality Assurance (QA) Sub-Committee

1.1 SAC passed a motion to approve SAC-QA's calendar change recommendations and forward these requests to the next appropriate committee:

- New Program – Masters of Science (Archaeological Science) (2015-SCI-5262-A)
- New College Pathways Programs for ORPT (2016-SOC-5925)
- Undergraduate-Media Studies-New Concentration in Photographic Production (2017-SOC-6073)
- Program Modifications-Graduate-Engineering - Updates to clarify Course Based Program (2017-ENG-6117)
- Major Modification MEd – Orillia (2017-EDU-6131)
- Major Modification – UG-NLTC.NASL-NLIP (Indigenous Language Teacher Diploma Program (2016-EDU-6027)

1.2 SAC QA reviewed the Final Assessment Report (FAR) and Implementation Plan (IP) for the Cyclical Program Review of the Natural Resources Management Graduate programs and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the Natural Resources Management Graduate programs and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

1.3 SAC QA reviewed the Final Assessment Report (FAR) and Implementation Plan (IP) for the Cyclical Program Review of the Anthropology undergraduate programs and reported to SAC. SAC passed a motion to accept the Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan of the Cyclical Review of the Anthropology undergraduate programs and forward the Executive Summary to Senate as an item of information.

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2. **Senate Academic Committee Regulations Sub-Committee**
   SAC passed a motion to approve SAC Regulation's calendar change recommendations and forward these requests to the next appropriate committee:

   - Regulations/Admission Requirement – Modification-PhD-Engineering (2017-ENG-6113-A)
   - Admission Requirement-Modifications - PhD-Engineering (2017-ENG-6113-B)
   - Regulations-Modifications-Grad-ENGI - Changes to clarify course based MSc programs (2017-ENG-6118)
   - Regulations-Modifications-UG-Engineering - Co-op changes (2017-ENG-6119)

3. **Fall Study Break Feedback Report**
   The Working Group reported to SAC on the initial round of feedback received from surveys conducted with students, through LUSU, and from emails sent to Deans, Chairs and Directors. In general, the feedback reported by both students and the academic units was generally very positive. Feedback will be collected after the Fall 2017 break and reported to SAC. At that time, a formal report will be submitted to Senate to determine the continuation of the Fall Study Break on a more permanent basis.

4. **2017/2018 Senate Academic Committee Chair**
   The election for the 2017/2018 SAC Chair will be held at the May 29, 2017 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Wayne Melville
Chair, Senate Academic Committee

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Attachments

QUALITY ASSURANCE CYCLICAL GRADUATE PROGRAM REVIEW

MASTERS OF SCIENCE IN FORESTRY (MScF)

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN FOREST SCIENCES (PhD)

FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

April 2017

In accordance with the Lakehead University Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), the Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM) submitted a self-study (October 2012). Volume 1 presented the program descriptions and outcomes, an analytical assessment of their programs and program metrics including results from a student survey along with institutional information and statistical data. Volumes 2 and 3, respectively, provided a collection of the program course outlines and the CV's for each full-time member in the Faculty.

Two external reviewers and one internal reviewer, selected by the Senate Academic Quality Assurance Sub-committee (SAC-QA) from a set of proposed reviewers, examined the materials and completed a two-day site visit in March 2013. The visit included interviews with the Vice-President (Research, Economic Development and Innovation), Deputy Provost, Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources Management, Manager of Graduate Studies, Coordinator and Acting Coordinator of the programs, core faculty, technical and support staff and the University Librarian. The Review Team also had an opportunity to visit University facilities (e.g. the Library, laboratories and other teaching spaces), tour the Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research and meet with alumni and current students.

In their report, submitted April 2013, the Review Team provided feedback that describes how the MScF and PhD programs meet the IQAP and QAF evaluation criteria and are consistent with the University's mission and academic priorities. They reported that the admission standards, curriculum structure and delivery, and teaching and assessment methods are appropriate, reflect the current state of the discipline, and are effective in preparing graduates to meet defined outcomes and the University's Graduate Degree Level Expectations (DLE's). The Review Team highlighted that the MScF and PhD (Forest Sciences) programs are supported by a strong faculty research and scholarly record, an active, high-calibre laboratory environment, highly specialized, advanced topics and effective collaborations. The reviewers also commended the programs on graduation rates and time to completion and suggested that they continue to compile and closely monitor graduate student exit surveys. The NRM Faculty are actively engaged in the regional communities, industry and government as well as with alumni. The Faculty has adequate support staff, technical support, academic services and physical resources for effective delivery of the program. The Review Team encouraged NRM Faculty to explore ways to improve coordination, build a sense of community and further enhance the programs. In addition, the Review Team provided recommendations with supporting rationale for future consideration.

The Review Team identified areas for improvement through recommendations regarding some programming changes, admission standards, and financial support of international students.

The Coordinators of the Programs, in consultation with the Dean of Natural Resources Management, submitted a response to the Reviewer's Report (June 2014). Clarifications and corrections were presented followed by a response to each of the recommendations made by the Review Team.

A Final Assessment Report (FAR) has been prepared to provide a synthesis of the external evaluation and internal response to the recommendations. This report identifies the significant strengths of the programs, the opportunities for program improvement and enhancement, and sets out and prioritizes the recommendations that have been selected for implementation.

The FAR includes an Implementation Plan that identifies who will be responsible for approving the recommendations set out in the FAR; who will be responsible for providing any resources made necessary by those recommendations; any changes in organization, policy or governance that will be necessary to meet the recommendations; who will be responsible for acting on those recommendations; and timelines for acting on and monitoring the implementation of those recommendations.

Programs covered by this cyclical review:

- *Masters of Science in Forestry*
- *Doctor of Philosophy in Forest Sciences*

QUALITY ASSURANCE CYCLICAL UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM REVIEW

ANTHROPOLOGY AND GEOARCHEOLOGY PROGRAMS

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

April 2017

In accordance with the Lakehead University Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), the Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, submitted a self-study (May 2013). Volume 1 presented the program descriptions and outcomes, an analytical assessment of their programs and program metrics including results from a student survey along with institutional information and statistical data. Volumes 2 and 3, respectively, provided a collection of the program course outlines and the CV's for each full-time member in the Department.

Two external reviewers and one internal reviewer, selected by the Senate Academic Quality Assurance Sub-committee (SAC-QA) from a set of proposed reviewers, examined the materials and completed a two-day site visit in October 2013. The site visit included meetings with the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Deputy Provost, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, Chairs of the Departments of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Studies, the Geoarchaeology Program Coordinator, Head of Collections (Library), full and part-time faculty members, teaching assistants, administrative assistant and Archaeology technician. The Review Team toured facilities including laboratories, the Centre for Northern Studies and the Learning Commons (Library), and met with current students and alumni from the program.

In their report, submitted November 2013, the Review Team provided feedback that describes how the undergraduate programs meet the IQAP and QAF evaluation criteria and are consistent with the University's mission and academic priorities. They reported that the admission standards, curriculum structure and delivery, and teaching and assessment methods are appropriate, reflect the current state of the discipline, and are effective in preparing graduates to meet defined outcomes and the University's Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (DLE's). The Review Team highlighted the following:

- "The most telling indicator of student achievement is the frequency of students continuing on to graduate work and the quality of the work they are doing. Evidence on these indicators clearly puts the Anthropology Department at Lakehead University as a leader among Canadian universities in archaeological science."
- "What clearly distinguishes this group is their passion for their field of study and their commitment to their students."
- "It is impressive that many of the honours students are succeeding in publishing their research and making significant contributions to the discipline."

- "Students gain an impressive experience in laboratory and field methods that prepare them both for graduate school and careers in cultural resource management (CRM) especially."

The Review Team identified areas for curriculum improvement through a number of recommendations.

The Chair of the department, in consultation with the Dean of Science and Environmental Studies, submitted a response to the Reviewer's Report (no date). Clarifications and corrections were presented followed by a response to each of the recommendations made by the Review Team.

A Final Assessment Report (FAR) has been prepared to provide a synthesis of the external evaluation and internal response to the recommendations. This report identifies the significant strengths of the programs, the opportunities for program improvement and enhancement, and sets out and prioritizes the recommendations that have been selected for implementation.

The FAR includes an Implementation Plan that identifies who will be responsible for approving the recommendations set out in the FAR; who will be responsible for providing any resources made necessary by those recommendations; any changes in organization, policy or governance that will be necessary to meet the recommendations; who will be responsible for acting on those recommendations; and timelines for acting on and monitoring the implementation of those recommendations.

Programs covered by this cyclical review:

- Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology) (3 & 4yrs)
- Honours Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology)
- Bachelor of Science (Anthropology) (3 & 4yrs)
- Honours Bachelor of Science (Anthropology)
- Bachelor of Science (Geoarchaeology) (3 & 4yrs)
- Honours Bachelor of Science (Geoarchaeology)
- Minor in Anthropology
- Anthropology Concurrent Education programs:
  - BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) P/J
  - BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) J/I
  - BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) I/S
  - BSc, BEd (Anthropology Major) P/J
  - BSc, BEd (Anthropology Major) J/I
  - Honours BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) P/J
  - Honours BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) J/I
  - Honours BA, BEd (Anthropology Major) I/S
  - Honours BSc, BEd (Anthropology Major) P/J
  - Honours BSc, BEd (Anthropology Major) J/I
  - Honours BSc, BEd (Anthropology Major) I/S