

# Provost's Report to Senate

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**February 2019**

## **Academic Plan**

Throughout 2018, the Academic Planning Committee met with a number of stakeholders and conducted an online survey to gain input as we plan for our future. The responses we received informed the development of a draft 2019-2024 Academic Plan by the Committee.

In December all Senators, members of the O-AGC and members of Lakehead University's Board of Governors were invited to review and provide comments on the draft 2019-2024 Academic Plan. I would like to thank all those who provided comments and feedback on the first draft.

The feedback we received was incorporated into a revised draft by the Academic Planning Committee in January. This revised draft was endorsed by the Senate Academic Committee, in January. Following this endorsement by SAC, O-AGC endorsed the draft Academic Plan at the end of January, and the Board of Governors endorsed the draft Academic Plan in early February.

The draft Academic Plan will be presented to Senate for approval on February 11, 2019.

## **Bora Laskin Faculty of Law**

A team of two students from the Faculty of Law has just won the Arnup Cup. Devoted to the area of criminal law, this series of moot competitions serves as one of the premier trial advocacy competitions in Canada. The six Ontario law schools vie for the Arnup Cup in February of each year, with the top two schools moving on to the national round, the Sopinka Cup, in March to face the best law schools from across Canada. The Sopinka Cup is held in Ottawa each year and was established to honour the memory of the late Mr. Justice John Sopinka, Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada

Congratulations go out to Amanda Gallo and Nathan Wainwright (competing team), Phaedra Oleynik and Austin Nix (reserve team), and coaches Kimberley Gagan and Joanna Goldenberg!

## **Faculty of Natural Resources Management**

The NRM Faculty celebrated our fall field school events with a catered evening (all students in all years) presenting the wide-ranging activities in the many locations, including: Estonia, southern India, Manitoba, the US and the Thunder Bay region (Quetico, Kenora, etc).

The NRM drone activities continue with additional hardware – both rotary wing dual camera setups and increased capacity for lake surveys with new under-water rovers. They have also become an official Transport Canada Training Centre which is significant with new stricter rules coming in June 2019.

NRM students hosted the 50<sup>th</sup> annual symposium on February 2 (the first symposium was held in 1969) with external speakers discussing the next 50 years of Boreal Forest management related issues. Speakers were Chris Walton, Centre for Research & Innovation in Bio-Economy (CRIBE), Dana Collins (CIF), Ted Armstrong, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), David Flood, Wahkohtowin Development GP, Amber Kivisto, BioNorth Solutions, Dean Caron, FPIInnovations and Dr. Peter Duinker, Dalhousie University.

## Aboriginal Initiatives

As part of Research & Innovation Week – there will be a panel discussion: *Two-Eyed Seeing: Bringing Indigenous and Western Technologies and Ways of Knowing Together*. The panel will be held on Wednesday, February 27 at 11:00 am – 2:00 pm in the Faculty Lounge. Click [here](#) for more information.

Denise Baxter, Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives, will moderate the following panel:

- Tabitha Sipihkopinesis Robin, PhD Student, Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Manitoba
- Christopher Mushquash, PhD, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Mental Health and Addiction, Lakehead University
- John Dixon, Director of Mental Health and Addictions, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
- Lana Ray, PhD, Assistant Professor, Indigenous Learning, Lakehead University
- Deidre Bannerman, Academic Director of Quality Learning, Teaching and Innovation at Canadore College
- Holly Prince, Project Manager, Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health, Lakehead University
- Maxine Crow, Community Care Coordinator, Netaawgonebiik Health Services, Nootkamegwanning First Nation

## Canada-Mexico International Consortium/Student Mobility

The Canada Mexico Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education brings together Presidents each year from partnering universities in Canada and the Intercultural Universities of Mexico. This past November the Roundtable overarching theme was *Indigenous Rights*. Attending along with the President were five Indigenous students, the Chair of Indigenous Learning, the Aboriginal Initiatives Outreach Coordinator, and the Manager of International Relations (Latin America). While there, and as part of a Special Topics Indigenous Learning course, the students worked on a project entitled *Community Development: Asset Based Community Development from the Perspective of Indigenous Peoples*. On January 15, the students presented their impressions and learning from the project to 75 interested students, faculty and community members in the Faculty Lounge. This knowledge mobilization initiative was supported collaboratively by Lakehead University International, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, the Indigenous Learning department and the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives.

*“It was here that I was able to recognize that social and ethnic wealth are what makes life truly meaningful. It was here that I was reminded that those are the things I want; a strong identity, a language that demonstrates who I am and where I come from, and a better relationship with the land.”*

4th year Indigenous Learning student

## Library

### **Transforming to Active Learning: What about the Classrooms?**

The Learning Spaces and Technology Subcommittee is looking for feedback from faculty and students on classroom design. Specifically, how can they can begin to transform some of our classrooms on the Thunder Bay campus to better facilitate active learning?

Active-learning classrooms are teaching and learning spaces designed to foster students' engagement in their own learning process. These rooms are easily identified by their moveable student tables and seating designed to facilitate and promote group work, in-class activities, etc. The Teaching Commons classroom (LI5002) is an example of an active-learning classroom.

Please join the members of the Sub-Committee for lunch to discuss your ideal active-learning classroom in the Teaching Commons LI5002, Chancellor Paterson Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor on:

- Friday, February 15: 12:00 to 1:30 pm
- Friday, March 1: 12:30 to 2:00 pm

To RSVP, please contact Jan Maki, 807-343-8205 or [jmaki2@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:jmaki2@lakeheadu.ca).

## Student Affairs

### **Preliminary Ontario High School Application Numbers**

January 16, 2019 was the preliminary application deadline for Ontario high school (101) students to apply to an Ontario university through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).

Based on the OUAC's January report, Lakehead received 3,834 applications representing an **increase of +2.8% in total applications** compared to the previous year at the application deadline. This represents an approximate increase of 4% in total applicants applying to Lakehead. First choice applications are also up +5.7%.

System-wide, Ontario universities saw a 4.9% increase in total applications compared to last year.

### **Recruiting Lakehead's Future Students**

The Undergraduate Recruitment team is hosting a number of upcoming events:

- **Grade 11 Day - February 20 (Thunder Bay); April 25 (Orillia)**
- **March Break Open House – March 11-13 (Thunder Bay); March 12-14 (Orillia)**

If anyone is interested in following up with prospects and/or applicants expressing an interest in a particular program, please contact Undergraduate Recruitment at [recruit@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:recruit@lakeheadu.ca).

### **Employers Visit Campus to Promote Job Opportunities for Students**

Throughout January and February, the Student Success team have hosted and will be hosting a number of Career Fairs for our students. We would like to thank faculty and staff who encouraged their students to stop by to see what opportunities exist. Resumé workshops and

interview preparation sessions are also available for students all year round through the Student Success. The Orillia campus Summer Job & Career Fair will be held February 12 - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Orsi Family Learning Commons. We expect to host more than 20 employers at this time.

### **New & Returning Students Welcomed during Frost Week/Orientation**

The Student Success Centre hosted a welcome session for new January-admit students followed by orientation-style events for all students during the first week of the semester.

Features of the Frost Week program included on-the-spot Student Success Advising, Academic Support Zone Open Houses, goal setting and vision boards, and social activities such as Snow Tubing, a Paint Night, Snowshoe Hikes, Board Games, and Varsity (Basketball in Thunder Bay) and Extramural (Women's Hockey in Orillia) games.

Many students participated and feedback on the events was very positive!

### **Test Prep**

Student Success, Student Accessibility and Student Health & Wellness encourage students to attend sessions to help prepare for upcoming tests and midterms. The following sessions take place in the Library, Room 5002 (Thunder Bay).

- “Don’t Stress the Test Workshops” Wednesdays – February 6, 13, 20 (3:30 pm)
- “Academic Prep: Exam Study Skills” – February 7, 14, 21 (3:30 pm)

The Student Success Centre (Orillia) offers Study Skills workshops for students throughout the term. For more information go to <http://mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca>.

### **Intent to Graduate Reminder for Students**

Any students planning on graduation this spring are required to submit an Intent to Graduate by **Thursday February 28**. This can be done via [myInfo](#).

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett  
Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)