

Provost's Report to Senate

March 2019

2019-2024 Academic Plan

Following the approval of the Academic Plan by Senate in February, planning is underway to begin implementation.

Working with Lakehead's approach to integrated planning and budgeting, implementation of the Academic Plan will be aligned to the University's fiscal years, within Year 1 implementation to commence in May. I will provide an update on our planned implementation approach at the April Senate meeting.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

For the first time, our Faculty of Law moot team has advanced to the National "Sopinka Cup" moot championships held March 15-16th in Ottawa. Lakehead law students Amanda Gallo and Nathan Wainwright, joined the seven other top teams from across Canada at a reception hosted by the Supreme Court of Canada and they proudly represented the Bora Laskin faculty of Law at this very prestigious moot competition.

Library

The spring 2019 Ontario Teacher Education Librarians Association conference will take place at Lakehead in Thunder Bay on May 2 and 3. The Conference is largely being organized by Gisella Scalse as the host of the conference, and by Chris Tomasini as the current co-president of OTELA.

3D Technology in the Chancellor Paterson Library

Several classes have made use of the Makerspace@Paterson. Dr. Wely Floriano, Chemistry, asked students to use the 3D printer to create protein molecules. Dr. Julie Rosenthal's Group Dynamics (OUTD 1010) class made use of the Virtual Reality technology to practice communication skills with "Keep Talking and Nobody Explodes".

More information on what is available at Makerspace@Paterson is available from Valerie Gibbons (vgibbons@lakeheadu.ca) and at <https://libguides.lakeheadu.ca/makerspace>

Teaching Commons

The 2nd Annual Teaching Commons Summer Institute will be held on August 13 - 15, 2019 on the Thunder Bay campus. The theme is "Teaching Thinking". Details on the agenda and registration will be available by the end of April. If you are interested in attending, please contact your Dean.

The next Teaching Commons' Teaching Circle will be held on the Orillia campus on Monday, March 25 at 1:00 pm in OA 2005 at the University Avenue location. In attendance to help guide the discussion, will be Karen Keiller, Lakehead's University Librarian and Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning). There will ALSO be coffee and snacks! Teaching Circles are

opportunities for a small group to share ideas, ask questions, offer up suggestions, and just talk about teaching. All instructors, teaching faculty, and staff (including graduate students) are invited to attend the session.

To RSVP, please contact Jan Maki, 807-343-8205 or jmaki2@lakeheadu.ca.

Open Day

The Teaching Commons and Libraries hosted the inaugural Open Day on March 6. This full-day event (in person in Thunder Bay and in Orillia and online via Zoom) introduced Lakehead's faculty, staff, and students to the potential of Open Education. Helen DeWaard, Faculty of Education (Orillia) convened from the Orillia Campus. Sessions included an overview of the open education movement, where to find Open Educational Resources (OERs), creating and adapting OERs, myth-busting OERs, and a session on the Creative Commons and copyright. Over 40 participants attended from the University campuses and virtually, including those from the United States, Great Britain, Mexico, and Yemen. Resources from the event will be posted on the website: <https://lakeheadu.ca/openday>.

Student Affairs

Financial Literacy Early Outreach with Grade 8 Students

Through funding provided under the Ontario Postsecondary Access & Inclusion Program, the Undergraduate Recruitment team and Student Awards & Financial Aid have partnered with local School Boards throughout Northwestern Ontario and Simcoe County to help Grade 8 students further develop their financial literacy skills and understanding of university costs. Early Outreach Coordinator, Antonio Stefanile has been delivering Financial Literacy Workshops in Grade 8 classrooms. To date, 16 classes have been visited and over 1,100 students reached.

Connecting with Our Applicants: Upcoming Applicant Receptions

A number of off-campus Applicant Receptions will be hosted throughout the month of April. These receptions provide our undergraduate applicants and their guests the opportunity to reconnect with us and learn more about the Lakehead experience before they make their post-secondary decision.

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 ext. 7290.

Drop-In Counselling Available

Student Health & Wellness (Thunder Bay) continues to offer drop-in counselling as follows:

- Tuesdays at 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm (registration begins at 1:00 pm)
- Thursdays & Fridays at 9:00 am - 12:00 noon (registration begins at 8:45 am)

Assignment, Test & Exam Support

This is a reminder that the Student Success Centre is here to support students as they wrap-up the semester with assignments and preparing for tests and exams. The Academic Support Zone on both campuses is prepared with tutors and writing coaches.

Students can book appointments and view all available sessions through MySuccess - mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca.

Save the Date: Convocation 2019

Convocation will take place on **Friday May 31** and **Saturday June 1** in Thunder Bay at the Community Auditorium. In Orillia, Convocation will take place on **Saturday June 8** at Rotary Place.

Notice: Exam Relocation

Due to construction of the new athletic facility at the Thunder Bay campus, the use of the Fieldhouse will be limited for the final exam period: December 2019 and April 2020. Plans are underway to relocate the final exams normally held in the Fieldhouse to the Hangar.

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett
Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)