

Provost's Report to Senate

April 2018

Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM)

The work with the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis to initiate meetings with Department Chairs/Directors, the Acting Vice Provost of Student Affairs, and the Director of Student Affairs to discuss projected enrolment for the department for 2018-2019 continues. These meetings provide the time to discuss opportunities, challenges and best practice related to the enrolment projections, recruitment, retention and graduation of students and to continue the dialogue initiated last year on Strategic Enrolment Management. To date, we have met with disciplines and departments in the Faculties of Engineering, Health and Behavioural Sciences, Science and Environmental Studies, Business Administration and Natural Resources Management. These meetings will continue with other Faculties over the coming weeks.

In addition to the discussions we'll be having at the Faculty and department level, implementation of SEM will include ongoing alignment to the Strategic and Academic Plans; review of recruitment, retention and student success initiatives; continued improvements to data/information accessibility, collaboration and transparency, communication, engagement and partnership across the University; and ongoing process improvement with a focus on supporting enrolment goals.

Your participation, input and feedback on the implementation of Strategic Enrolment Management are welcome as Lakehead University continues to engage in evidence-based enrolment planning.

Aboriginal Initiatives

Native Access Program (NAP)

The Native Access Program held their annual year-end gathering on April 9. It was a successful year with several students completing the program and furthering their post secondary education at Lakehead University and Confederation College.

Indigenous Outreach & Recruitment

Indigenous Expo/Preview Day and Aboriginal Mentorship Program Day are being planned as a collaborative effort for Thursday, April 26. Local and regional high schools have been invited to participate in a variety of hands-on faculty sessions with the Faculty of Business Administration, School of Nursing and the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law as well as a Student 101 session. The day will also include a Faculty and services fair in the main cafeteria. AMP students will have the opportunity to showcase their research projects as part of this year's expo and be recognized for their achievements as part of the Aboriginal Preview Day closing ceremony. We are looking forward to hosting between 250-350 students on campus for the day.

Aboriginal Cultural and Support Services (ACSS)

The Métis Student Liaison Facilitators, in collaboration with ACSS, hosted a Métis Cultural Celebration on March 7 as part of Aboriginal Awareness Week activities. Senator Ken Simard of the Métis Nation of Ontario attended and shared opening remarks and was available to those interested in learning about Métis history and his role with the Métis Nation as Captain of the Hunt. The Métis Liaison Facilitators shared historical teachings on Louis Riel and shared Métis culture, traditional fiddle music, jigging, food, and crafts. A total of 24 participants attended.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACSS has been successful in employing a total of 15 peer tutors in various disciplines including within the NAP and NNEP programs. An Aboriginal Student Engineering Tutoring Group was also established.

ACSS hosted a Spring Feast on April 5. Over 54 students enjoyed moose stew, bannock and wild rice and Elder Gerry Martin shared prayers.

Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP)

The Aboriginal Mentorship Program hosted Ms. Brenda Green, Vice-President of Education and Ms. Fiona Crean, Chief Executive Officer of Indspire, a national Indigenous-led registered charity that invests in the education of Indigenous people for the long term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada. Lakehead is exploring the launch of a pilot project with local high schools that would highlight Indigenous youth with an interest in pursuing careers in Education. The pilot would mentor and support a youth cohort through their high school and university educational pathway.

The annual Aboriginal Mentorship Program Research Project Fair will host local and regional high school students on campus on April 26.

Aboriginal Initiatives and Aboriginal Mentorship Program - Orillia

The Engaging Youth Through Hip Hop event was held on February 14 in partnership with the Faculty of Education and the Education Student Teachers' Association of Orillia. Over 159 secondary school students and 46 staff, faculty and university students attended and participated in activities including a performance by J-Rez, Indigenous Hip Hop artist, and a creative writing/spoken word workshop with Fraser McDonald, slam poet.

With the assistance of AMP Mentors, Alumni Mentors, and Traditional knowledge keepers/elders, the Aboriginal Mentorship Program has completed six (6) workshops in February and March with the elementary schools. Topics included: Space through an Indigenous lens, Indigenous sustainability, Critical thinking within the Ojibway clan system, and Indigenous water crisis (most popular). In total, 221 elementary students have been served by this program.

A Cultural Exchange Gathering was hosted by AMP Orillia on March 16. This event included traditional Indigenous drumming, singing, dancing, storytelling and food. The event was attended by approximately 64 community members, students, staff and faculty. A second, expanded Gathering, is tentatively scheduled for September 22.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM)

NRM students attended and presented at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Chapter of the Wildlife Society in St. Cloud, Minnesota in February.

The Natural Resources Student Society (undergraduate) held their well-attended annual symposium on January 20 with invited speakers (Dave Mackett – Whitesand First Nation, Meaghan Coker – Ontario Minister of Energy, Joe Moses – Pic River First Nation and Colin Kelly, Confederation College) on the topic of renewable energy.

The Natural Resources Graduate Student Association held their annual symposium on March 22 with excellent research presentations on issues such as species adaptation to forest management and climate change impacts on future forest conditions.

On March 21, at a special event held at the University of Toronto, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry announced the formation of the Mass Timber Institute and Tall Wood Building demo projects – this is a collaborative effort with other institutions (University of Toronto, Laurentian University, University of Ottawa, Wood-WORKS!, FPIinnovations and George Brown College) with Lakehead University represented by Drs Mathew Leitch, NRM and Sam Salem, Civil Engineering.

On April 5, the Faculty held its annual celebration of undergraduate theses judged presentations. As usual the presentations illustrated the pride and professionalism exhibited by our graduating students.

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

The Student Juried Exhibition was held at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery (TBAG) March 2 to 25. Over 45 awards were given to students. In addition, the Major Studio exhibition, featuring the work of graduating students, is running from March 25 to April 15 at TBAG. As part of Def Sup's Urban infill exhibition, all year levels of students had work installed throughout the north downtown core from April 7 to 11. Two successful March Break programs were held for high school students, in painting and ceramics, in our Lakehead University studios.

In collaboration and with the support of Resources, Economy, and Society Research Group (RESRG), Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA), Lakehead's Department of History, Canadian International Council – Thunder Bay Branch, Lakehead's Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the public workshop "The Impact of Development: Single Industry Communities and Capital Mobility" was held March 1 and 2. Faculty, students, and the public participated in a two-day conference/workshop exploring the issues and the challenges of economic development in single-industry communities. We would like to extend a special thank you to the Rev. Dr. Randy Boyd and Trinity United Church for hosting the event.

The following individuals have been recognized for their achievements:

- Dr. Jenny Roth, Women's Studies and Dr. Chris Sanders, Sociology announced the publication of their research: "'Incorrigible slag,' the Case of Jennifer Murphy's HIV Non-disclosure: Gender norm policing and the production of gender-class-race categories in Canadian news coverage, appears in "Women's Studies International Forum," a top international journal of feminist scholarship.

- Evan Sills, Contract Lecturer, English, received an Ontario Arts Council grant in support of his second novel, currently in progress. Evan recently published his first novel, *Starless*.
- On behalf of the Departments of Interdisciplinary Studies and History and the Faculty of Education, I am pleased to announce that alumna Kylie Burchat (HBASc/Bed 2017) has been recognized as one of 20 Government of Canada History Award winners for 2017. More information about the Government of Canada History Awards can be found at <http://gcawards.canadashistory.ca/History-Awards/Teaching-Award/Home>.
- The Department of History's Kelly Saxberg and Dr. Ronald Harpelle's recent film *A Long Walk Home: The Incredible Journal of Shelia Burnford*, has been awarded the Best Overall Film and Best Documentary Film at the Equinox Women's Film Festival. Watch the trailer here: <https://vimeo.com/244798268>
- Nicholas Lapine, History, was recently interviewed on Radio-Canada's "Le matin du Nord". Listen to the full interview here- <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/premiere/emissions/le-matin-du-nord/segments/entrevue/66281/mdn-saison-ski-fond-thunder-bay>

Student Affairs

Academic Advising, Records & Registration

Exams will be taking place April 13 - 24 with the contingency date of April 25. Exam regulations can be viewed [here](#). A reminder that Marks are due on May 1 as per the Academic Schedule of Dates.

Enrolment Services

Undergraduate Recruitment

The Recruitment Team is busy visiting applicants from across the province at their high schools. Opportunities to meet with applicants and their families are also taking place. As part of the outreach, early sessions like Grade 10 career class presentations are being offered.

Communication with prospective students and applicants takes place on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis using various forms of communication, including: social media, eNews and eBlasts, mail-outs, text messaging, and telephone calls.

Faculties/departments interested in contacting their applicants are encouraged to contact Undergraduate Recruitment to access applicant lists in efforts to personally reach out to students as they make their final choices.

Each year, Regional Dialogues for Guidance Counsellors are hosted at universities across Ontario. Thunder Bay hosts an annual Dialogue in Thunder Bay in the fall, with the others occurring at the beginning of May. Lakehead Orillia's Dialogue will be held on Friday, May 11.

Highlights from March recruitment activities:

- Grade 11/12 Preview Day was hosted on March 3 with over 420 Grade 11 and 12 students attending.

- March Break Open House saw over 175 guests attending the Thunder Bay Campus and 190 at the Orillia Campus to explore the campus, meet with faculty, tour our cities and more.
- VIP Tour Experience saw 50 students (Thunder Bay) and 17 students (Orillia) from the GTA visit us to experience the Lakehead difference. Conversion rates of this group of students will be monitored.
- 29 Campus tours took place in Thunder Bay and 22 in Orillia.

Student Awards & Financial Aid

The first round of Entrance Scholarships were extended to high school students in March. This included deliveries to students within Thunder Bay and Orillia from a Student Affairs representative. Lakehead is the only Ontario institution that offers renewable free tuition scholarship to students entering directly from high school.

The Entrance Bursary application is open for students to apply. The deadline to apply is June 30. For more information about other Entrance Scholarships and Bursaries, visit [here](#).

Students taking Spring/Summer courses may qualify for a student loan extension. Students should be directed to speak with a Student Central Professional if they have questions and to review their student loan funding.

Student Health & Counselling

Student Health & Counselling will be offering walk-in counselling appointments during the April exam period. Walk-in counselling provides single-session therapy using a solution focused approach. Counselling sessions are typically one hour long and are offered on a *first-come first-served* basis and there is no appointment required.

Walk-in counselling will be offered as follows (last appointment at 3:00 pm):

- Thursday, April 12 12:30 - 3:30 pm (last appointment at 2:30)
- Friday, April 13 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- Monday, April 16 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 18 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- Monday, April 23 1:00 - 4:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 25 1:00 - 4:00 pm

These changes will better respond to students' needs during the exam period which tends to be very stressful. Students can also be encouraged to access Good 2 Talk and Student Assistance Program (SAP).

Student Success Centre (SSC)

On behalf of the SSC, I would like to extend a thank you to the departments who assisted with National Co-op Week, in particular at The Job Market event. The week was a tremendous success with lots of student traffic. The biggest hit was the Co-op Carnival that took place on Friday.

The Lakehead Leader Recognition Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, April 11 on both campuses. Recognition was provided to EXCEL participants, Student Ambassadors, Lakehead Leader recipients and Lakehead Luminary recipients.

Library

The Student Technology Fund has approved the purchase of two new ScanPro Digital Microfilm Scanners which will be located in Northern Studies Resource Centre (LI5007). The current older machine will be relocated to the 3rd Floor. The library has an extensive collection of microfilm and microfiche and the two new machines are a welcome addition as they are heavily used. The collection contains significant primary documentation such as the original records of the Department of Indian Affairs, original records of the Hudson Bay Company, and local newspapers dating back to the late 1800's.

The Chancellor Paterson Library will be open for extended hours - to 3:00 am - until the end of exams. Between March 12 and April 10, an average of 95 students used the Library between midnight and 3:00 am.

Teaching Commons

The Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Certificate program has now been fully revamped with a more practical focus on the concrete skills of teaching and course preparation. There are 23 participants on track to finish this program by the end of April.

The Teaching Commons is preparing for the Grand Opening on Thursday, April 26. The Opening includes an interactive open house and the Distinguished Instructor Award Lecture with Dr. Wayne Melville. Details can be found [here](#).

Marks Report for Lakehead University

Attached is a summary of the undergraduate marks by department/school for Fall/Winter 2016/2017.

Respectively submitted,

David Barnett
Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Attachment