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UNIVERSITY

LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY ORILLIA CAMPUS  
NEW ACADEMIC BUILDING



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May 2015



President's Report  
to Board of Governors



Lakehead  
UNIVERSITY



## Office of the President

### Lakehead Recognized as one of the First Members of the TBCC

On April 11, I attended the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce's Business Excellence Awards Gala — the Chamber's most prestigious event of the year — which celebrated the TBCC's 50th anniversary. During the evening, Lakehead was recognized as one of the inaugural members of the TBCC, and Board of Governors Chair Murray Walberg was named Business Person of the Year.

### Capital Projects Update

**Squash to Hot Yoga** — The conversion of the squash court into a 24 person Yoga Studio in the CJ Sanders building is completed. The studio features ballet bars, wall mirrors, radiant heating panels, and dimmable lighting. This project was 100% financed by Moksha Yoga.

**Fire Testing Lab almost Ready to Fire Up** — A new building has been completed in Parking Lot 5, adjacent to our Centennial Building and the Structures Lab for Civil Engineering. This new building will lead research in fire testing composite materials inside a kiln. The project is complete except for seasonal work outside and the installation of the kiln.

**Student Health and Counselling Renovations** — Renovations are underway to convert a first floor wing of the Prettie Residence into a new student health clinic for students. The renovations are expected to be complete by early June 2015.

**ELP moves from PACI to Thunder Bay's Main Campus** — Our English Language Program will be relocating from PACI to the main campus following renovations to a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor wing of Prettie Residence. Planning is underway and work is scheduled to be complete by late summer 2015.

#### **Other Projects to be completed in 2015:**

- CJ Sanders Building roof replacement over Kinesiology
- Bora Laskin lobby lounge
- NOSM autopsy laboratory renovations
- Bearskin Lake townhouse's flooring replacement
- School of Nursing lead paint abatement in both stairwells



## Asbestos Information Sessions

In response to recent concerns about asbestos on our Thunder Bay campus, we've invited True Grit Consulting to host several information sessions. These sessions include a presentation by True Grit about what asbestos is, where it's found, and how our University manages it, as well as a Q&A with faculty, staff, students, and the expert consultants.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Planning

**Homecoming 2015** — Email invitations (Evites) were issued, March 30, to announce Homecoming 2015 schedules and registration information for both campuses. Several tables have already been sold for our Thunder Bay gala, as well as many tickets for varsity basketball and hockey games.



**50<sup>th</sup> in a Box** — Two hundred 50<sup>th</sup> in a Boxes have been shipped to recipients all across Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, Malaysia, and Hong Kong.

**Scholarship Fund** — To date, we have approx. \$1260 for the fund. Proceeds came from selling hats and tshirts at various events including varsity games, research week, grad fair and Thunder Bay Public library.

*'50<sup>th</sup> in a Box'es shipped!*

## Research & Innovation Week's Luncheon with the President

On March 13, the final day of Research & Innovation Week 2015, I hosted a luncheon for the winners of this year's undergraduate conference presentations. The winners (see photo) were selected by the 50 student participants of the conference. Winning presentations included an Engineering students' project about water remediation projects, and an Anthropology students' study of Lakehead's Brazilian *Science Without Borders* stude



## Nurturing Scholarship

### Launch of Research Centre for Sustainable Communities

On March 19, dozens of community leaders gathered at Lakehead University's Orillia campus to celebrate the launch of the University's new Research Centre for Sustainable Communities (RCSC). Those in attendance learned about the new initiative from the Centre's director, Dr. Nanda Kanavillil of the Department of Sustainability Sciences. Dr. Sree Kurissery, Chair of the Department, welcomed guests and introduced the launch's speakers: Dr. Kanavillil; Dr. Kim Fedderson, Dean & Vice-Provost (Orillia Campus); Dr. Andrew Dean, Vice-President (Research, Economic Development, and Innovation); and Dr. Serajul Islam, RCSC Management Committee member.

The new Centre will focus on interdisciplinary research in three core areas: environmental sustainability, political economy and social justice.

### MOU signed with Ecuador's ESPOCH

A delegation from Escuela Superior Politécnica de Chimborazo (ESPOCH) visited Lakehead University on April 8 to sign a memorandum of understanding to launch faculty and student exchanges, joint graduate studies, and research focused in natural resources management and related fields.

ESPOCH is a medium-sized, public university in central Ecuador that has a growing national and international draw as post-secondary education increases in profile in that region.

With approximately 20,000 students enrolled in ESPOCH's seven faculties that emphasize a professional education, there are strong similarities with Lakehead University.



*From left: Nancy Luckai, Deputy Provost; Kathy Pozihun, Vice-President (Administration & Finance); Rosa Pinos Neira, Rector of ESPOCH; and Fernando Romero, Dean of Natural Resources at ESPOCH.*

## Thunder Bay Convocation's 2015 Honorary Degree Recipients and Fellow Named

Lakehead University will honour four remarkable individuals at this year's Convocation ceremonies being held at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium on May 29 and 30.

The University will confer honorary doctorate degrees to Margaret Phillips, Michael Rapino and Dr. Dominic Lam, three exceptional people being recognized for their achievements in social justice, entrepreneurship, and health, respectively.

Lakehead will also recognize the hard work and dedication of Roy Piovesana, who will be named a Fellow of the University. Piovesana has been a pillar of the Thunder Bay community, a champion of Lakehead University, and a role model and inspiration for generations of students.

*[Click here for Thunder Bay campus media release...](#)*

*[Click here for Orillia campus media release...](#)*



M. Phillips



M. Rapino



Dr. D. Lam



R. Piovesna

## 2015's Professors Emeritus

Please join me in congratulating the following list of faculty who have accepted the offer of Professor Emeritus for 2015:

- Dr. P. Allingham, Faculty of Education
- Dr. H. Fennell, Faculty of Education
- Dr. J. Jamieson, Department of Psychology
- Dr. M.L. Kelley, School of Social Work
- Prof Karen Maddox, School of Nursing
- Dr. S. Mansour, Department of Electrical Engineering
- Dr. Michel Morton, School of Nursing
- Prof. M. Nisenholt, Department of Visual Arts
- Prof Diana Pallen, School of Nursing
- Dr. Sandra Wolf, Faculty of Education

## Growth & Capacity Development

### Cross-Border Meeting with Post-secondary Institutions and Governor General

On April 25-26, Interim Vice-President (Research, Economic Development and Innovation) Dr. Andrew Dean traveled on my behalf to Minneapolis to represent Lakehead University at a round table called, *The Diplomacy of Knowledge: A Canada-U.S. Dialogue on Promising Practices and New Developments in Higher-Level Education*. The event was hosted by the Canadian Consular General, and attended by Canada's Governor General and representatives from four other Canadian Universities and five American Colleges.

A number of topics were discussed to see where universities in Canada's and United States' midwest could share best practices and develop unique educational and research opportunities. The recently signed research agreement between Lakehead University and University of Minnesota Duluth was highlighted as an example of what can be achieved when institutions reach across the border to each other.



## Learner-Centred Student Experience



### Athletics Awards Gala

The annual Athletics Awards Gala took place on Saturday, March 28 at the John N. Paterson Auditorium in PACI building. Highlighting the event were the Athlete of the Year presentations, with **Jylisa Williams** and Kevin Tree being this year's recipients.

Jylisa set numerous Lakehead and league records, and became the first Lakehead basketball player to be named as the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Player of the Year. Runner Kevin Tree has also etched his name in the Lakehead record books, and took his talents international, competing in Colombia and China for the Canadian cross country running team earlier this year.

*[Click here for full story...](#)*

### 2015 Athletics Wall of Fame Inductees Announced

This year's Wall of Fame commemorates athletes and coaches spanning the 50 years of Lakehead University. The official induction ceremony is slated for Saturday, Oct 3, in conjunction with Homecoming 2015 and the Gala Dinner and Dance that evening.

In the 'builders' category, **Lou Pero** and **Francis Clayton** will be inducted. Pero began as a student athlete in 1966 and went on to coach Lakehead basketball from 1989 to this day, and is also the current president of the Lakehead Alumni Association. Clayton is a prolific wrestling coach who has produced numerous national champions and some 40 wrestling coaches across Canada who began as wrestlers in his program.

*[Click here for full story and complete list of 2015's inductees...](#)*



## Lakehead joins with MITACS

Lakehead University is now an associate member of MITACS — a national, not-for-profit organization that has designed and delivered research and training programs in Canada for 15 years. The federal government's Budget 2015 announcement included \$56 million for the agency. As a member of MITACS, Lakehead will have access to significant internship opportunities for our students, as well as access to funds to bring in top quality graduate students from abroad.



## GTA Students get a Taste of Lakehead and Thunder Bay

During March Break, Enrolment Services hosted 53 student applicants and some parents from the GTA with an all-expense-paid, three day trip to Thunder Bay. During their stay, students and parents participated in a special VIP campus tour, explored the City and Fort William Historical Park, and dined with our deans as part of a welcome dinner. Feedback from our visitors was glowing about our University and region.

## Spring Student Applicant Reception

On April 22, Board of Governors Chair Murray Walberg and myself welcomed 200 student applicants, and their family and friends, to our annual applicant reception. Attendees included students that have applied to Lakehead for September 2015. The event offered opportunities to gain a level of comfort with our campus and community, hear from current Lakehead students, learn about next steps (admissions, registration, scholarships & bursaries, OSAP, orientation and more), and meet with Deans and Program Chairs/Directors to learn more about various programs.



## Community Engagement

### LUNSA's 27th Annual Powwow

The Lakehead University Native Student Association (LUNSA) hosted its 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow at the CJ Sanders Fieldhouse, March 20-22. Lakehead students and the Thunder Bay community gathered to celebrate Aboriginal culture and dance. The annual Powwow is LUNSA's signature event that showcases tremendous talent and entertainment, is free of charge, and reinforced traditional aspects of Aboriginal culture such as drumming, dancing, singing, and giving thanks.

### Hong Kong Alumni Chapter Events

From March 26-28, Dr. Kim Fedderson (Dean & Vice-Provost, Orillia Campus), myself, and Alumni Relations staff traveled to Hong Kong to meet with several China-based alumni, and attend a special event.

During our visit, at a reception at Christie's in Hong Kong in the presence of a dozen local alumni, I announced the conferral of an honorary degree to Dr. Dominic Lam at this year's Convocation ceremonies in Thunder Bay.

Other meetings and activities included meeting with alumnus Peter Lau, owner of [Asia One](#), who will be helping Lakehead make connections with Hong Kong high schools and universities; and a special alumni dinner for those who are interested in establishing a Hong Kong Chapter of the Alumni Association.

