

Provost's Report to Senate

September 2018

Academic Plan

The consultation phase of developing the next Academic Plan is now underway. Consultations have been scheduled with academic and non-academic units across the University and will continue until early November. There is a [dedicated webpage for the Academic Plan](#) with a link to the survey which gives everyone the opportunity to provide their comments. Upon completion of the initial consultation phase, the Academic Planning Committee will meet to develop a draft Plan which will be brought back to Senate in early Winter of 2019.

Aboriginal Initiatives

In May, the Aboriginal Initiatives staff coordinated the community based Sequin Art Show, to bring together Indigenous artists and artisans to Lakehead University, Elders, faculty and prospective students from Grades 4 - 12 learning with and from each other.

Community Relations

In collaboration with the President, the Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) has been working directly with Indigenous community partners' Oshki-Wenjack Education Institute, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Fort William First Nation, Rama First Nation and Seven Generations to further strengthen and develop relationships based on a variety of educational and research opportunities. In addition, the Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) and Vice Provost (Students) & Registrar are working together working to support the development of a 12-U Indigenous Language Credit with Rainy River DSB, Seven Generations Educational Institute and the Ministry of Education.

Orillia Campus

The Aboriginal Initiatives staff had a very busy summer hosting and participating in many events for students and community partners. A number of these activities centered on the Wiigwasitig Gitigaan - Lakehead Community Gardens. Some of the highlights include:

- June 6 - the tipi was raised with the help of students, staff, faculty and guests. Trish Monague led an opening ceremony and women's teachings while Ralph King led the raising of the tipi and men's teachings.
- June 7 - Indigenous graduates and alumni were celebrated at the 1st annual Indigenous Graduates and Alumni Gathering.
- June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration included an interactive learning table by Aboriginal Initiatives and LUSU
- June 22 - the Aboriginal Mentorship Program hosted the Indigenous Water Crisis Workshop at Lions Oval Elementary School
- July - meetings were held with numerous community organizations to continue discussions about future programming.

- July 28 – the Huronia Cultural Campus hosted their First Nations Literary Festival on the Orillia campus. The Festival featured talks by renowned names including Tom Wilson, Waubgeshig Rice, Drew Hayden Taylor, Lee Maracle, Tanya Talaga and Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux.
- July and August – the Feather Carriers Youth Leaders visited the Orillia campus to participate in activities to build leadership, employment and education skills as part of the summer program funded by the Community Foundation of Orillia and Area and the United Way Youth United Fund.
- August 13 – the Huronia Cultural Campus hosted youth and members of the public for guided medicine walk with Joe Pitawanakwat of Creators Garden and Jacob Kearey-Moreland of Bass Lake Farms to promote land-based learning.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services (ACSS)

The staff participated in the NOSM Med Camp in July. Twenty-eight student and 10 team leaders learned about the four sacred medicines and how to make their own medicine pouch.

ACSS participated in numerous orientation events and activities to welcome students to campus and to share information on services, including orientation for the Native Access Program, Native Nurses Entry Program, Quest for the President's Cup, Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, and Graduate Studies.

Native Access Program

Both the Native Access Program (NAP) and the Native Entry Program (NNEP) held a one-week orientation prior to the start of class. Students met with numerous departments from across the University to learn about the various supports and services on campus. A big thank you to those who were involved in this important orientation.

Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP)

AMP hosted the Mink Lake and Sandbar Youth Employment Program for a week over the summer. During the week, AMP provided 55 youth with a learning environment grounded in Indigenous and conventional science while building confidence and inspiring youth to explore a wide variety of post-secondary educational subject areas and career options. The youth, from communities throughout Treaty 3 and Treaty 9 areas, stayed in residence, toured the Thunder Bay campus, learned about water quality and water testing, took an archeological tour of the city, and learned about Indigenous cartography, GPS systems and geo-caching.

Aboriginal Student Recruitment

Lakehead will again be participating in the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program recruitment tour. Recruiters will be joining a two-week tour with participation of 10 college and university institutions from across Ontario to promote post-secondary programs and services as well as Indigenous specific programs and supports. Over the two weeks, the group will travel to over 11 communities and will meet with over 1,500 Indigenous students in grades 9 - 12.

Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies

Ontario Master Naturalist Certificate Program (OMNP) (July 15 to 22, 2018)

The Faculty was proud to welcome Mr Bob Bowles back to Thunder Bay campus to lead this second offering of the OMNP in July to an engaged group of 25 students from Northern

Ontario and around the province. He again worked tirelessly throughout the spring to build a team of local field naturalists and numerous Lakehead faculty and staff for the week-long mix of classroom and field experiences. Bob had previously established this community program at the Orillia campus in partnership with Ontario Nature in 2015. For more information click here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/about/orillia-campus/community-programs/omnp>. Time generously volunteered by the following faculty and staff (and emeritus members) contributed to a high level of program content: Dr. Mary Louise Hill, Dr. Scott Hamilton, Dr. Todd Randall, Dr. Lada Malek, Don Barnes, Barb Barnes, Dr. Janice Hughes, Josh Levac, Lisa Harris, Dan Brazeau, Dr. Brian McLaren, Emma Lehmborg, Kristi Dysievick, Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau and Dr. Steve Hecnar. **A special acknowledgement to Dan Brazeau** (Department of Biology), **Linda Rodenberg** (Office of Community Programming), and **Lana Bresele**, a local high school Biology teacher. We also acknowledge the volunteer contributions of **Dr. Vicki Te Brugge** (Department of Sustainability Sciences) who assists Bob with the delivery of the 'parent' OMNP at the Orillia campus which ran this past spring. Plans are already in the works for Bob to lead a third offering of this program in Thunder Bay in July 2019 (stay tuned!).

Science and Environmental Studies (SES) Lab Orientation for International Students

A lab orientation, coordinated by Dr. Brenda Magajna with the Department Chairs and staff in Chemistry, Physics and Biology was held on Thursday, September 6. Activities included planting, using microscopes, viewing invertebrates (always popular!), as well presentations on topics such as safety, lab manuals, and field trips. In collaboration with Lakehead International, a number of academic and social events will be held for SES students throughout the year.

SES Biotechnology and Allies Sciences Symposium

The Faculty will be hosting the first annual SES Biotechnology and Allies Sciences Symposium (SESBASS) on October 17-19. The theme is "**Technologies for a Changing World**" and will apply to researchers in: biorefining, waste treatment, diagnostic and treatment of emerging/evolving diseases, and new technologies for food security. Joining the symposium will be [Dr. Arturo Sanchez Carmona from Mexico's CINVESTAV](#) Bioenergy Futures Laboratory, Guadalajara Campus, Mexican Centre for Innovation in Bioenergy, Bioalcohol Cluster. The symposium is being coordinated by Drs. Wely Floriano, Robert Mawhinney and Brenda Magajna. For more information visit <https://sesbass.weebly.com/>.

Science Olympics

In May of this year, the first Science Olympics event was held at our Orillia Campus, Heritage Place, coordinated by Dr. David Law. Science Olympics (Thunder Bay) will take place on November 9 at the Bora Laskin Building (955 Oliver Road).

Northwestern Ontario Science Olympics is a joint venture among Lakehead's Faculties of Science and Environmental Studies, Education, and Engineering. Science Olympics is a one-day event, for grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 students, made up of a series of problem solving activities that require teams to apply their knowledge of science and engineering in creative and fun ways. The high level of competition and camaraderie confirms that there's an Olympian in everyone!

Student Affairs

Undergraduate Recruitment

The Recruitment Season begins! The Undergraduate Recruitment Team has started its recruitment visits to high schools across Ontario. Future students can check to see which schools we will be visiting at mylakehead.ca.

The largest student recruitment fair in North America – the **Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF)** – is taking place September 28, 29 and 30 in downtown Toronto. We wish to extend our sincerest thanks to all the faculty, staff and students that will be joining us.

Plans are also underway for our on-campus Preview Day events designed for prospective students, family and friends. This year's open house style events will take place on:

- **November 3, 2018 (Orillia Campus)**
- **December 4, 2018 (Thunder Bay Campus)**

Please join us in recommending future students to attend an Open House or a join us for a personalized Campus Tour.

Fall 2019 Undergraduate Applications Open

Undergraduate program applications for Fall 2019 entry will open on the following dates:

- **Juris Doctor – Bora Laskin Faculty of Law:** **August 23**
- **Consecutive Education:** **September 20**
- **Ontario High School Students:** **October 2**
- **All Others:** **September 20**

Any future students interested in applying can visit admissions.lakeheadu.ca for more information.

Scholarship & Awards for Current Students

myAwards is a portal for students to apply for Lakehead University scholarship, bursary and award opportunities. The application is open - <https://myawards.lakeheadu.ca/>. The deadline to apply is October 15.

On-Campus Student Job Opportunities Available

There are a number of on campus job opportunities available for students through the Work Study program. Students can view the job postings and submit their application eligibility through mySuccess. The deadline to apply is October 30.

Important Dates/Reminders

- September 17 – Last date for students to register for Fall/year-long courses
- November 9 – Final date for students to withdrawal/drop Fall term courses

Supporting the Success of Our Students

Everyone is reminded about the many supports available through the Student Success Centre (SSC), including:

- The Academic Support Zone (TB) is up and running. The tutoring schedule has been created and tutoring sessions will be added as needed throughout the term. Writing support is also being offered through writing coaches. The Academic Support Zone (OR) is open for students to study and receive assistance. Specific tutoring and writing support will begin October 1.
- 16 Academic Prep Sessions were offered in Thunder Bay September 10 – 14; they focused on Writing and Academic Paper, Avoiding Plagiarism, Time Management, Study Skills and Reading and Note Taking. These same Academic Prep Sessions will be offered in Orillia, October 1 -12.
- A 3-Day Career Fair on the Thunder Bay campus is being planned for October 16 - 18 which will feature over 50 employers on campus (October 16 - Canada Revenue Agency, October 17 - General Career Fair, October 18 - Engineering firms). In preparation, the SSC will be hosting "The Job Market" – a student event focusing on interview skills, our job bank, LinkedIn profiles, articulating strengths & skillset and resumé reviews. A similar event to The Job Market will be held on the Orillia Campus in late Fall. This will be in preparation for the Orillia Career Fairs taking place in the new year.
- An extremely successful Orientation took place August 29 – 30 on both campuses. Students were welcomed and many events and workshops were provided across the University. We would like to thank everyone who assisted to make this event so amazing.

Orillia Athletics will be hosting its second annual Varsity Golf Invitational Tournament on Wednesday, September 19 at Hawk Ridge.

Student Health and Wellness

The Student Health and Counselling Centre is working to improve the accessibility of programs and services available to students at Lakehead University. Drop-in Counselling will now be available on the Thunder Bay campus during the following times:

Mondays and Tuesdays 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Thursdays and Fridays 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Drop-in Counselling provides single-session therapy using a solution focused approach. Sessions will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Health Promotion & Skill Development

A health promotion strategy is being developed that will include a focus on resiliency skill development for students. Any faculty members interested in working to imbed mindfulness

or other resiliency skills within their classroom, are encouraged to contact Aimee at aimee.jaun@lakeheadu.ca.

Mindfulness Meditation groups will continue this year for students, faculty and staff at the following times and locations:

Mondays 1:15 - 1:45 pm @ Student Health & Wellness, Prettie Residence Building
Tuesdays 11:45 am - 12:15 pm @ Student Health & Wellness, Prettie Residence Building
Wednesdays 3:00 - 3:30 pm in the Library, LI 5002
Fridays 11:30 am -12:00 noon in the International Student Centre, LI 0026

If students, faculty and staff on the Orillia campus are interested in mindfulness practice, resources and individual sessions can be accessed at the Wellness Centre.

Lakehead International

International Enrolment

In late August, the team of overseas officers participated in two weeks of training and activities in Orillia and Thunder Bay. The Team joined us in welcoming over 600 new International students to our campuses. We have recently added an international officer in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, bringing the total number of internationally based officers to eight, based in five countries. The International Recruitment team is traveling to key markets throughout the busy fall recruitment season, and are working closely with Georgian College on promoting the combined diploma-degree programs.

Mobility and English Language program

Lakehead's first study abroad guide has been printed, highlighting the many exciting study abroad opportunities available to our students. We continue to strive to increase the number of students pursuing study abroad opportunities. The second annual Study Abroad Fair will take place in late September on both campuses.

In the summer of 2018 Lakehead's English Language Program hosted 450 Mexican English as a Second Language (ESL) learners on our campuses.

On September 14th a free English as a Second Language Walk-In Clinic was launched. The Clinic will, run every Friday from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. These clinics are designed to help international students enhance all literacy skills, including presentations, writing, vocabulary, reading, grammar, and speaking.

International Relations

Lakehead University receives regular visits from key international partners and continues to strategically grow our international partnerships, adding diversity to our mix of countries and programs. Faculty members with an interest in developing overseas partnerships for the purposes of faculty/student mobility, joint program development, service learning opportunities, etc. are encouraged to approach Lakehead International.

Library

Faculty are encouraged to [submit requests for Course Resources](#) for the Fall and Winter terms. The Library can then assess whether items can be posted according to our copyright guidelines and will obtain copyright clearance if necessary.

The Web Archives Collections now includes [Municipal Elections 2018](#). This Collection relates to the municipal elections to be held October 22, for municipalities in Northwestern Ontario. The Collection will include City government pages, candidate pages (currently being added), and news reports and regional news articles. The Library welcomes suggestions for URLs to include.

The Chancellor Paterson Library Makerspace is now open. Please contact Valerie Gibbons, Services and Assessment Librarian, for details at 343-8165 or valerie.gibbons@lakeheadu.ca.

Research Data Management

The Library and Research Services will be co-hosting a workshop on Research Data Management on **Wednesday, September 19** from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Tri-Agencies are implementing a new policy on Research Data Management which will directly affect research management strategies and have an impact on future funding opportunities through the Tri-Agencies. The Workshop will be held in the Chancellor Paterson Library LI5014C and video conferenced to Orillia OA2005. The Workshop will feature Jeff Moon, Director, Portage. To RSVP click here <http://bit.ly/RDM-LU>.

Teaching Commons

Dr. Kevin Brooks joined Lakehead in August as Experiential Learning Coordinator. Although excited to work with faculty members from across the University, at this time he has a particular focus on the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. Kevin brings 20 years of experience as a faculty member in the Department of English at North Dakota State University, where he worked in the fields of digital rhetoric, writing across the disciplines, and community literacy.

Welcome Group

In coordination with the Thunder Bay Multicultural Association and faculty members, a new Welcome Group Project has begun. The Group will appeal to students who are interested in learning more about refugee resettlement processes, other cultures, and socio-cultural adaptation. Students can have the experience recorded on their Co-Curricular Record. Kevin Brooks will be hosting an informational meeting **Wednesday, September 26** from 12 noon – 1:00 pm in LI 5002.

Teaching Commons Summer Institute

The first annual Teaching Commons Summer Institute was held from August 14 to 16, in the Teaching Commons (fifth floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library). Twenty-six instructors, including experienced and newly hired faculty and contract lecturers, from across several disciplines attended. The theme and approach of the Summer Institute was "active learning". Sessions included: Tone-setting Activities and Contexts for Active Learning, Understanding Indigenous Terms and When to Use Them, and What Technology Can (and Can't) Do for Active Learning.

Thank you to all the participants, the Teaching Commons team, the guest facilitators, and the Deans (for providing such wonderful meals and refreshments).

Summer Institute Course Content is available from myCourseLink (Go to myCourseLink and choose Self-Registration: Academic Support and Training).

In addition, a mailing list has been created. If you are interested in joining, go to <https://groups.google.com/a/lakeheadu.ca/forum/#!forum/connecting>.

This informal group is for faculty and instructors to ask questions and share best practices in teaching and learning.

Visit the Teaching Commons website <https://teachingcommons.lakeheadu.ca/> for information on upcoming workshops, as well as topical articles and posts on teaching and learning.

Technology Services Centre (TSC)

Computer Labs and Common Areas

TSC, with the support of the Student Tech Fund and the Library Services, has finished a 3-year replacement of all general computing labs, and common space computers across both campuses. The most recent work was completed this summer in ATAC 4019 - a 57 unit general computing lab. A review of the existing computers in classrooms is now underway.

Optical Marks Recognition

Last year processes were updated to replace the University's obsolete optical marks recognition (OMR) system used by several units for examinations. After a successful trial period in the Fall of 2017 and implementation of the new processes for Winter 2018 exams, we have now ended support for Scantron exam processing. The new process and technology together have resulted in improved response time, accuracy and reporting options. As an additional benefit - maintaining a stock of bubble sheets is now optional. All departments may order the bubble sheets alongside exam printing at the Print Shop.

Respectively submitted,

David W. Barnett, D. Sc., P. Eng.
Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)