

September
2017

Item #9.3



President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President

New Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

On July 4, Lakehead University announced the appointment of **Dr. Elizabeth (Betsy) Birmingham** as the new Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, effective July 1, 2018.

Over the course of the upcoming academic year, Dr. Birmingham will participate in a transition that includes several visits to Lakehead and leading Faculty planning sessions starting January 2018.

Dr. Birmingham is currently a full professor and Chair of English at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo, North Dakota with allied faculty status in the Department of Women and Gender Studies. Dr. Birmingham has held several administrative positions at NDSU, from Director of Upper Division Writing to Associate Dean.



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Lakehead University renews the Dean of Engineering



On August 8, Lakehead's Provost & Vice-President (Academic) Dr. Moira McPherson was pleased to announce the renewal of **Dr. David Barnett** as Dean of the University's Faculty of Engineering.

Dr. Barnett said he was grateful for the strong and continued support of the faculty, staff, and students that he has had the pleasure to work with during his service as Dean.

Recognized for its unique pathway for college engineering technologists to complete an engineering degree through the transfer program, the Faculty of Engineering has also expanded direct entry and international enrollments, developed new graduate programs, and expanded its research profile.

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Psychology celebrates Mary Lysenchuk's 50 years at Lakehead University

Our Department of Psychology recently celebrated the fact that **Mary Lysenchuk** has worked at the University for 50 years.

She applied in person on Friday, Aug. 25, 1967, shortly after graduating from high school.

"I met with the HR officer," Mary said. "She took me to the Library and Mr. Belton, the Chief Librarian, dictated a letter that I had to type as a test. When I got home that day I received a call informing me I got the job."

Even after 50 years, Mary hasn't announced a retirement date. She said she will retire when she is ready. Throughout her career, there were days when she felt sick, but she usually went in anyway.

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Moira McPherson named Lakehead University's Interim President & Vice-Chancellor

Lakehead University Board of Governors Chair, David Tamblyn, has announced that current Provost & Vice-President (Academic), **Dr. Moira McPherson**, will become the University's Interim President & Vice-Chancellor on January 1, 2018, and serve in that role until a new President is named.

As Interim President & Vice-Chancellor, Dr. McPherson will work with the University's Board of Governors to oversee Lakehead's various initiatives and operations through the presidential transition period.

The role of Acting Provost & Vice-President (Academic) will be aptly filled by Lakehead University's current Dean of Engineering, Dr. David Barnett, effective January 1, 2018.

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Achieving Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

Lakehead involved in report on the sustainability of Canada's food systems

Researchers at Wilfrid Laurier University, Lakehead University and the University of Toronto took their first step toward producing a comprehensive report card on the sustainability of Canada's food systems.

Their report, *Food Counts: A Pan-Canadian Sustainable Food Systems Report Card* brings together 61 existing measures of social, environmental, and economic well-being to examine food systems at the national level.

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Lakehead University and Georgian College formalize partnership

Starting in September 2017, two combined credentials are being offered to Lakehead students on the Georgian Barrie campus – The Honours BAsc in Environmental Sustainability with Specialization in Ecosystem Management and the Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical Engineering). Several Lakehead faculty members are joined by Lakehead contract lecturers in delivering the two programs. Joint orientations for teaching staff and students were held on August 29 and Sept 5, respectively. Thank you to members of both Faculties and Student Affairs for their important contributions to ensuring a strong start to these two programs.

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Lakehead University adds Graduate Diploma in Accounting

In June, **Dr. Bahram Dadgostar**, Dean of Lakehead's Faculty of Business Administration, announced that this fall semester would see his faculty launch its new Graduate Diploma in Accounting (GDA) at our Thunder Bay campus.

The GDA is accredited by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario. The five-course professional program offered over a semester gives students a head start in pursuing the CPA designation, Canada's pre-eminent professional business and accounting credential.

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J. Armand Bombardier Foundation's new scholarship for Lakehead business students

On July 19, Lakehead University's Faculty of Business Administration was the recipient of a \$50,000 gift from the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation to establish *The J. Armand Bombardier Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Business*.

The purpose of the scholarship is to support eligible students in the University's business graduate programs, including its Master of Science in Management and Master of Business Administration programs.

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Lakehead-Georgian welcomes first students

Nearly 45 students began their studies at Georgian College's Barrie Campus, this semester, as part of Lakehead-Georgian's first joint classes. Students embarked on a four-year journey in the first two Lakehead-Georgian combined programs: Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) with Electrical Engineering Technology advanced diploma, and Honours Bachelor of Arts and Science – Environmental Sustainability (Ecosystem Management) degree with Environmental Technician diploma.

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Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

Lakehead University launching experiential learning placement thanks to RBC

On May 31, Lakehead University announced a commitment from RBC to expand experiential learning opportunities and provide students with sought-after workforce skills.

A grant of \$250,000 from RBC Future Launch will support the development of the RBC Work-Integrated Learning program in the Faculty of Business Administration.

The program will offer students opportunities for learning and on-the-job training where they gain the skills and practical knowledge that ensure a successful transition to a career.

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Lakehead's Achievement Program helps students realize their full potential

Lakehead University's ActiveU staff hosted nearly 30 young people on Thursday, June 1 as part of the annual AchievXement Program Day on Campus. Children in grades 4-12 participate in programming yearly in their school, community and at Lakehead University, and earn credits each year to go towards tuition fees at Lakehead.

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Lakehead University hosts Indigenous Languages Symposium

Lakehead University was chosen as the venue for the *Gidinwewininaan, No lang: Indigenous Languages Symposium*, from Monday, May 29 to Thursday, June 1. Approximately 400 education stakeholders and Indigenous partners gathered as part of a strategy to support Indigenous culture and revitalize Indigenous languages in Ontario.

Aboriginal Education Day welcomes 600 students

On June 7, Lakehead University's Office of Aboriginal Initiatives hosted 600 primary and high school students from Thunder Bay, Geraldton, and Marathon for a day of activities at our Thunder Bay campus. The purpose of the day was to introduce the students to university life and remind them that Lakehead University is their university.





Lakehead invites alumni to “come home” during Homecoming Weekend 2017

Lakehead University will welcome alumni and friends back to campus during our annual Homecoming Weekend, taking place from September 28-30, 2017.

Returning alumni will enjoy events that bring together lifelong friends, celebrate alumni excellence, and provide a nostalgic return to the university community. Major events include the Alumni Awards Dinner, Wall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Speakers Series, Open Houses and reunions.

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Lakehead’s Fall Orientation helps students transition to university

The *Thunderwolves Howl!* Fall Orientation welcomes new and returning students to Lakehead University to introduce them to our Thunder Bay campus. Orientation ran from Monday, Aug. 28 until Saturday, Sept. 2, and focused on helping students successfully transition to Lakehead University. Events and activities catered to students entering from high school, college/university transfer, international, Aboriginal and mature students. The *Thunderwolves Howl!* Orientation is being organized by the Student Success Centre, Residence & Conference Services, and the Lakehead University Student Union.

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Enhance Support of First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Studies

Lakehead hosts Canada-Mexico roundtable on Indigenous Higher Education

Lakehead University hosted representatives from eight Mexican universities and 11 Canadian universities for the sixth *Canada-Mexico Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education*. Federal, provincial, municipal and Indigenous representatives and students were invited to participate in the roundtable discussion. Their goal was to sign a consortium agreement to promote mobility, joint research and Indigenous community activities that explore ways to improve access and programming for Indigenous communities in both countries, as well as promote joint research and institutional collaboration.



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The Joyce Family Foundation give \$1 million to Aboriginal Mentorship Program

On August 2, The Joyce Family Foundation donated \$1 million to Lakehead University's Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP) — an initiative that mentors Indigenous high school students from Northwestern Ontario. AMP allows high school students to visit our Lakehead Thunder Bay campus to experience university life. The new scholarship will help continue to remove barriers to access post-secondary education for young people, in perpetuity.

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Expand our International Reach

Lakehead welcomes record number of international students to orientation

Lakehead University welcomed a record number of students at this year's International Orientation. Approximately 550 students from more than 50 countries participated in the orientation held at the Hangar on Wednesday, Aug. 30.

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Lakehead University opens new International Centre

Lakehead University's increasing number of international students have a new place where they can receive the services and programs they need to succeed.

The grand opening of Lakehead's new International Centre was held on Tuesday, Sept. 12, with students, faculty, staff, and community members celebrating the opening with tours, a ribbon cutting ceremony, and prizes.

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