

September 2019



President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President

Times Higher Education ranks Lakehead University among world's top universities

The 2019 *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* has placed Lakehead University in the 601-800 category out of nearly 1,400 universities from 92 countries.

Lakehead University is in the same section of the rankings as other, larger Canadian universities, such as Concordia, Québec, Regina, Sherbrooke, Ryerson and Windsor. This is the first time Lakehead University has participated in the rankings. Not all universities that take part in the rankings are ranked.



Lakehead University's placement is above the worldwide median in three of the five categories: Research, Citations, and International Outlook.

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Thunderwolves Announce 2019 Wall of Fame Inductees

From October 3-5, 2019, Lakehead University and the Thunderwolves will be welcoming students, alumni, and friends back to campus to celebrate the annual Homecoming Weekend.

Lakehead Athletics is especially excited to welcome back those who have been a part of the Lakehead Wrestling team, which is entering into its 50th season.

Those in attendance will also witness the Wall of Fame induction of five special individuals and one incredible team.

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Shad at Lakehead University Thunder Bay

Approximately 65 young people from across Canada participated in Shad at Lakehead University from July 1 - July 25. Shad specializes in STEAM subjects (science, technology, engineering, art and math) and is for students completing grade 10, 11 or 12, Quebec secondaire IV, V or CEGEP I, or the international equivalent.

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Science Week Introduces Indigenous Youth to Careers in Natural Resources

Fifty-two Indigenous youth from 29 communities were in Thunder Bay the week of July 31 learning about geo-caching, cartography, sustainable energy, entrepreneurship and more as part of Science Week with the Outland Youth Employment Program (OYEP).

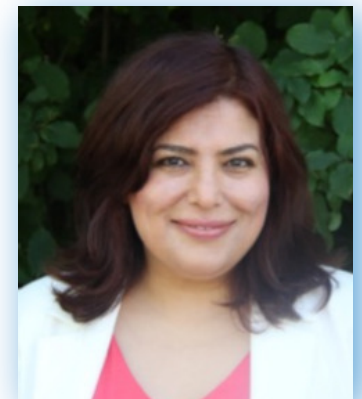
The youth and their Crew Leaders are part of a national network of OYEP Camps, a collaborative project between industry, the province, and Confederation College and Lakehead University.

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Lakehead University announces new and returning Canada Research Chairs

Three Lakehead University professors who are leading the way in innovative research have been named in the newest cycle of the Canada Research Chairs Program. Dr. Sudip Kumar Rakshit has been renewed as Canada Research Chair in Bioenergy and Biorefining Processes for a second seven-year term. Dr. Alla Reznik has been awarded a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Physics of Radiation Medical Imaging for seven years (renewable). **Dr. Maryam Ebrahimi** has been awarded a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Low-dimensional Nanomaterials for five years (renewable).

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Lakehead designs challenge for *The Amazing Race Canada*

As you may have seen, Canada's most-watched summer series, the multiple Canadian Screen Award-winning *The Amazing Race Canada*, filmed an episode in and around Thunder Bay, earlier this year.

What you may not have heard is that Lakehead University's Faculty of Natural Resources Management helped create one of the challenges which aired on the episode released during the last week of August on CTV.

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[Click here to watch *The Amazing Race Canada* episode...](#)



Amazing Race Canada racer participates in Lakehead University-designed challenge.



Lakehead's Fall Orientation will help students transition to university

The Thunderwolves Howl! Fall Orientation welcomed hundreds of new students to Lakehead University's Thunder Bay campus, including Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, as well as those. Orientation will run from Wednesday, Aug. 28 until Saturday, Aug. 31, and will focus on helping students successfully transition to Lakehead University.

At Lakehead Orillia, Thunderwolves' "Give Back" is an orientation week program that connects Lakehead students with the Orillia community. This year, blankets were made and donated to the NICU at Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital. On August 30, approximately 20 students met in the Orsi Learning Commons to assist with making these blankets and they will be delivered to the hospital in the coming weeks.



International Students' Orientation

Approximately **500 new students from around the world** participated in this year's International Student Orientation on August 28, where students learned more about life in Canada, as well as the various services offered by Lakehead University to help with their success.



Japan's Ryuukoku University Students begin studies

On September 9, Dr. McPherson hosted our University's 16 exchange students from Japan's Ryuukoku University in her office for a lively conversation about their impressions of Canada, Thunder Bay, and Lakehead. Every fall since 2017, Lakehead welcomes a cohort of students from Ryuukoku, a private university located in Kyoto.

While here, students take 15 hours of Academic English per week, and depending on their English level, another one or two academic courses. Most of these students stay in residence, while a couple stay with local homestay host families. This year's group has already had a chance to visit Marina Park and are excited about experiencing the fall colours, and snow, before they return home in mid-December.



Local and Global Partnerships

Superior Science receives \$60k for coding program

Lakehead University's Superior Science is receiving \$60,000 from Actua to continue developing and enhancing the CanCode program, which teaches young people about coding. With the initial round of CanCode funding from 2017, Superior Science purchased various new pieces of technology including 3D printers, Ozobots (coding robots), and Makey Makeys (external circuitry boards). With this new equipment, Superior Science was able to offer more coding initiatives to provide youth with access to technology-based education.

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High Commissioner of India visits Lakehead Thunder Bay

In May, in collaboration with Thunder Bay's Community Economic Development Commission, Lakehead University hosted the High Commissioner of India, Mr. Vikas Swarup, as well as Mr. Kasi Rao, CEO and President of the Canada India Business Counsel. (Mr. Vikas Swarup is also the author of the critically-acclaimed, international best-seller (and motion picture), *Slumdog Millionaire*.) During their visit, Mr. Swarup and Mr. Rao toured our Lakehead Thunder Bay campus and discussed opportunities available to Canadian universities in India.



MOU signed with Sioux Lookout

On September 9, Lakehead University and the Municipality of Sioux Lookout signed an MOU in order to strengthen our links and identify collaborative opportunities: areas of cooperation include food security, healthcare, clean drinking water, reliable energy, housing, transportation, and communication infrastructures.

Dr. Moira McPherson and Sioux Lookout Mayor Doug Lawrence at MOU signing ceremony in the Municipality's Heritage Railway Station.



Summer 2019's Mitacs research internships

Lakehead University was host to a number of Mitacs Global Research Internships (GRI) this summer at both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses.



The Mitacs GRI program invites proposals from Canadian faculty members for summer research internships, and then matches international undergraduate students with Canadian faculty research projects. Mitacs also provides financial and logistical support to these international students.

This summer, five Lakehead faculty members hosted GRI interns — Dr. Azim Mallik (Biology) hosted an intern from Germany; Dr. Max Haiven (English/Social Justice) hosted an intern from Brazil; Dr. Lew Christopher (BRI) hosted an intern from Mexico; and Dr. Sandra Jeppesen (Media Studies) hosted two interns from Brazil.

GRI interns are also eligible to apply for the MITACs Globalink Graduate Fellowship which provides \$15,000 in financial support to former GRIs who return to Canada for research-based graduate studies at Lakehead University.



CALAREO's first meeting

The CALAREO Executive Committee met at Lakehead University on June 20, 2019. It was the first time that members of the consortium had met face to face, and the main purpose of the gathering was to develop a work plan for 2019-2021.

Participants included Dr. Philip Oxhorn, Dean, International Education, VIU; Dr. Nicole Vaugeois (by videoconference), VP of Scholarship, Research and Creativity, VIU; Dr. Karen Schwartz, AVP Research and International, Carleton U; Mr. Carlos Vargas Pedroza, International Outreach Manager, Carleton; Dr. Aimee Surprenant, AVP Academic and Dean of Graduate Studies, Memorial University; and Ms. Sonja Knutson, Director of the Internationalization Office, Memorial.



Canada and Latin America
Research & Exchange Opportunities
Possibilit  s d'  change et recherche
au Canada et en Am  rique latine

Lakehead University participants included Dr. Andrew Dean, Dr. Batia Stolar, Mr. James Aldridge, Mr. Pierre Sved, and Ms. Jill Sherman.

Proyecto 10,000 Graduation

A special graduation ceremony took place on August 23 at Lakehead Thunder Bay. Lakehead's English Language Centre (ELC) received 120 students from the Universidad Aut  noma del Estado de M  xico (UAEMEX) under the *Proyecto 10,000* initiative, an ambitious and transformational program in collaboration with the government of the State of Mexico. The graduation celebrated the students' completion of a 4-week general English language program run at Lakehead University. During their course, these students learned about an authentic Canadian experience, and had an opportunity to share their cultures by participating in hands-on social and outdoor activities, including camping overnight at the Fort Williams Historical Park.

Visit from Germany's Deggendorf Institute of Technology

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jochen Hiller M.A., Director of the Fraunhofer Application Centre (Anwendungszentrum), and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Gunter Keller of its Faculty of Engineering, Media Technology and Computer Science, visited Lakehead University in early July. The purpose of the visit was to deepen the partnership opportunities in research between institutions and to promote bilateral mobility of our respective faculty members through the DIT's visiting scholar funding.



Academic Excellence

Lakehead receives more than \$380,000 for research partnership development

Lakehead University researchers are receiving \$384,374 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for several research projects that will have an impact in various areas of Ontario.

Dr. Charles Levkoe, Canada Research Chair in Sustainable Food Systems and Associate Professor in Health Sciences at Lakehead University, is leading a partnership that will receive \$188,106 over the next three years.



Dr. Sonia Mastrangelo, Associate Professor in Education (Orillia) and co-investigator Dr. Meridith Lovell-Johnston are receiving \$196,268 to spend three years using Indigenous research methodologies to develop new knowledge and understanding of self-regulation practices and literacy development, in partnership with the Kwayaciiwin Education Resource Centre (Monika Orzechowska) in Sioux Lookout and the Self Regulation Institute (Dr. Susan Hopkins).

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Lakehead University's new Chair in Finnish Studies, Dr. Kari Alenius

The Lakehead University Finnish Chair Advisory Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Kari Alenius** as the ninth Chair in Finnish Studies.

Since 2014, Dr. Alenius has served as the Head of the Department of History, Culture and Communications and as the Head of Transcultural Encounters Research Centre (TCERC) at the University of Oulu.

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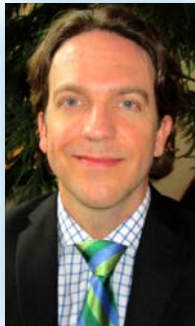




Lakehead receiving more than \$360,000 from *New Frontiers in Research* fund

Lakehead University researchers are receiving \$361,325 from the federal New Frontiers in Research fund for two research projects. New Frontiers in Research is a new, highly competitive tri-agency program designed to support groundbreaking interdisciplinary research.

These research projects will explore the connection between personal identification access and public health and will define and look at the impact of socially accountable medical education.



Dr. Chris Sanders, Assistant Professor in Sociology, in partnership with Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic, is receiving \$196,500 to spend two years exploring the impact of lack of access to personal identification like birth certificates on First Nations communities' ability to access health care.

Dr. Erin Cameron, Assistant Professor, Northern Ontario School of Medicine, is receiving \$164,825 to spend two years examining how socially accountable medical education fosters transformation in rural health care systems.

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Lakehead University receiving more than \$2.25 million from NSERC

Lakehead University researchers are receiving \$2.25 million from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada for 33 research projects. Some of the research projects will explore a new design that will make bridges more durable and examine the benefits of using various tree species to mitigate the impact of reduced water in boreal forests.

Dr. Muntasir Billah, Assistant Professor in Civil Engineering, is receiving \$155,000 to spend five years developing a bridge system that can endure multiple hazards at the same time, such as an earthquake and a tsunami or an earthquake and a flood.

Dr. Han Chen, Professor in Natural Resources Management, is receiving \$275,000 to spend five years examining how various tree species can mitigate the negative impacts of reduced water availability in boreal forests. This research relies on a water-alteration experiment in natural boreal forests.

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Lakehead University receiving \$742,000 to support seven research projects

Lakehead University researchers are receiving more than \$742,000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for seven important projects undertaken by faculty and graduate students.

Three projects in particular will assist Indigenous children who are experiencing mental health difficulties (**Dr. Chris Mushquash**, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Mental Health and Addiction), investigate how food sovereignty can provide health interventions in Northern Ontario's rural and urban hubs (**Dr. Lana Ray**, assistant professor in Indigenous Learning), and assist people with dementia in the decision-making surrounding their own death (**Dr. Nisha Sutherland**, assistant professor in the School of Nursing and research affiliate at the Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health).

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Holly Prince awarded Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship

In June, **Holly Prince** became one of only 20 doctoral students from across Canada and the globe to receive a Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship, one of the most prestigious awards in Canada in the social sciences and humanities fields. Prince is an Indigenous scholar and Anishinaabekwe from the Red Rock Indian Band, Lake Helen Reserve, and currently a doctoral student in the Faculty of Education (Thunder Bay campus), supervised by Dr. Lisa Korteweg, in the Joint PhD in Education program.

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Lakehead receives more than \$757K in SSHRC Insight and Insight Development grants and student awards

Lakehead University researchers are receiving more than \$757,000 in Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Insight and Insight Development grants and student awards for 16 research projects.



Dr. Alana Saulnier, assistant professor in Interdisciplinary Studies at Lakehead Orillia, is receiving \$62,866 to explore the use of body-worn cameras in policing through interviews with police officers as well as analysis of existing Canadian police body-worn camera policies in comparison to international frameworks over the next two years.

Dr. Katherine Kortés-Miller, assistant professor in Lakehead's School of Social Work and the Palliative Care Lead at the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health, is receiving \$65,826 to spend two years examining medical assistance in dying in Ontario (MAiD).

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Social Responsibility

Women and Water at Lakehead Orillia

On June 19, *Women and Water* was an event that saw over 150 people gather to hear from three incredible women who are advocates for water. The evening featured teachings led by water walker Kim Wheatley, a talk entitled, *Whose Water is in Anyway?*, by Maude Barlow, and an inspired and inspiring set by singer-songwriter Coco Love Alcorn.

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Capacity Development

Aboriginal and Cultural Support Services officially opens new space

On September 4, Aboriginal and Cultural Support Services (ACSS) hosting the grand opening of its newly-renovated space next to the Agora in the Regional Centre. The ACSS's previous home, since 1987, has been in the tunnels near other student support services.

The new space offers larger social and study spaces for students, offices, and rooms for meetings with Elders and more private gatherings or smudgings.

The opening event was attended by students, faculty and staff, Elders, as well as President McPherson and Denise Baxter (Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives).



Maple Leaf Educational Systems comes to Thunder Bay

In November 2018, Maple Leaf Education North America (the Canadian subsidiary of China Maple Leaf Educational Systems) and Lakehead University signed an agreement identifying our Thunder Bay campus as the site of its newest high school. This September, MLES welcomed its first cohort of 30 Chinese students to its high school in our repurposed Avila Centre.

Lakehead University is proud to work with Maple Leaf Schools, an organization that will provide students from China and around the world the experience of living and learning in our exceptional region of Canada, as well as opportunities for Lakehead Education students to complete teaching practicums in a unique classroom setting.

[Click here to read complete Communications Bulletin...](#)



Entrepreneurship and Innovation



Ingenuity supporting local businesses

Lakehead's business incubator, *Ingenuity*, is currently supporting six businesses. *Ingenuity* currently hosts four clients in hot desk spaces — two clients in ideation phase, one in a rented office space, and another supporting a faculty spin-off company.

Most *Ingenuity* clients are in the revenue generation phase of their business, and currently use the space located in our renovated CASES building to work on their day-to-day business activities and meet with potential clients or customers.

Ingenuity has a wide range of events planned for the upcoming school year, including hosting our community partners (such as PARO and CEDC) for "office hours," and welcoming Westgate Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Class.