



Provost's Report to Senate

November 2019

Academic Plan Framework

Lakehead University's 2019-2024 Academic Plan is built around four interconnected Academic Priorities, which represent key opportunities for transformational change at Lakehead over the next five years: **high-quality programs; innovative and impactful research, scholarship, and creative activities; commitment to social responsibility; and Anishnaabe Miikana Gichi Kendaasiwin.**

A number of Academic Strategies have been developed to support these Academic Priorities with the goal of aligning with Lakehead's Academic Statement and advancing the implementation of the University's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. Each Academic Strategy includes a number of actions to be completed over the course of the 2019-2024 Academic Plan.

In Fall 2019, the Provost's Report to Senate was redesigned to align to the 2019-2024 Academic Plan.

Delivering High-quality Programs

Aboriginal Initiatives

A workshop coordinated by Aboriginal Cultural & Student Support Services (ACSS), entitled *Love Poems for the End of the World* was held on October 9 in the Gakina Nindinawemaaganag Lounge. Smokii Sumac, author of *you are enough: love poems for the end of the world* (Kegedonce Press, 2018), PhD Candidate at Trent University and faculty member at College of the Rockies, spoke on his experiences at the graduate level and encouraged those in attendance to continue on their academic journey beyond undergrad.

Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program (APSIP) is a collective of Indigenous representatives from colleges and universities and Indigenous education institutes. APSIP will have representatives travel to numerous communities throughout Ontario beginning in September. The APSIP focus is on post-secondary education but to also mentor and help break down barriers to education for Indigenous learners. Over a three-week period, representatives visited over 2300 students in Northwestern Ontario and Simcoe region.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The faculty had an academic planning retreat designed to review their program and current resources available to deliver on the triple mandate, focusing in the areas of Aboriginal and Indigenous Law, Natural Resources and Environmental Law, and Sole/Small Town Practice with the Integrated Practice Curriculum (IPC). The Curriculum Committee has taken on the important tasks of reviewing course descriptions for possible revisions, calendaring "special topics" courses and considering how we might reflect our efforts in pervasive curriculum Indigenization and IPC implementation in the course calendar.

In the area of Aboriginal and Indigenous Law, the Faculty of Law offers mandatory courses in Indigenous Legal Traditions, Aboriginal Law and Aboriginal Perspectives. The Indigenous Legal Traditions (ILT) field trip for 1L's

to the Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre (Manitou Mounds) took place on October 25-26. Students took a tour of the burial mounds and the visitor's centre, learned about the historical background and economic development opportunities from former Chief Jim Leonard of Rainy River First Nations, and learned about Anishinaabe Sacred Law from Lac La Croix Traditional Educator, Justin Boshey.

The Bora Laskin Faculty of Law is hosting a conference, Indigenous Law Across Landscapes: Languages, Lands, and New Directions on November 14th to 16th. Pamela Palmater will present a Keynote Address during the evening of November 14th, James Sa'ke'j Youngblood Henderson will deliver a Keynote Address on November 15th in addition to three panels on "Language in the Courts" (Robert Atatise, Karen Drake, Justice Troy Sweet), "Environmentalism" (Aaju Peter and Sa'ke'j Henderson), and "Sovereignty & Activism" (Hadley Friedland and Pamela Palmater), Aaju Peter will present a Film Screening of Angry Inuk during the evening of November 15th, and Karen Drake, Shawn Bell, and Larissa Speak will facilitate a debriefing session for students on November 16th. Most Law students have taken part in the Walk a Mile Training offered by the City of Thunder Bay, our Elder-in-Residence Program, as well as various events hosted by the TBIFC, ONWA, FWFN, and more.

Clinical Legal Education is the gold standard in experiential legal education and a key to delivering the mandate on the Integrated Practice Curriculum. The legal clinic program recently expanded with the addition of a 4th Review counsel (Amy Parker) who started in April 2019, which allowed for the addition of Employment Law to offering of services.

[Faculty of Engineering](#)

The Faculty of Engineering has established a continual improvement process that runs on a yearly cycle to deliver and maintain the quality of engineering programs at Lakehead. In addition to yearly evaluation activities, a comprehensive evaluation of graduate attributes has been conducted every three years.

[Faculty of Graduate Studies \(FGS\)](#)

In an effort to increase graduate student enrolment in the Orillia campus, the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) has equipped a room on the Orillia campus residence (OA2018) with the required teleconference technology, in coordination with the TSC and the Principal of the Orillia Campus, to provide online teaching and learning across the two campuses and beyond. In addition, dedicated GA office space has been provided for the Graduate Students at the main campus residence building. This will help in overall professional development of the graduate students at the Orillia Campus.

[Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences](#)

The Faculty of Health and Behavioral Sciences is currently working on the admission process for the new PhD in Health Sciences.

[Institutional Planning and Analysis](#)

Throughout the summer and early September, the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis worked with faculties to complete Lakehead University's undergraduate experiential learning course tagging exercise. Analysis is currently underway and will be shared with faculties in the coming months.

[Faculty of Natural Resources Management \(NRM\)](#)

In the last two (2) years NRM has gone through in-depth evaluations of undergraduate programming through the national accrediting body (Canadian Forest Accreditation Board) and the IQAP. These reviews provided the Faculty with valuable recommendations which we are now addressing in detail. All modifications are linked to the delivery of high-quality programming, which is also having an impact on the three (3) graduate programs.

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

A newly appointed proposal adjudication committee developed Faculty-wide RFP's for proposals supporting engaged teaching, community outreach, travel, and collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects.

Enhancing Lakehead's Culture of Teaching and Learning Excellence

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Aboriginal Mentorship Program staff began the volunteer recruitment drive in October and held a volunteer Cultural Training Day on October 26 for both AMP and Let's Talk Science volunteers.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Student Services plays an important role in ensuring that students have access to relevant programs and information sessions. Past programs/information sessions that have been offered include: Orientation week for incoming 1L students, Welcome Day, Career Week, Networking Event, Dean's Fellows training sessions; Information sessions on mooting, clerking, the 2L Summer Recruitment process, course selection and Practice Placement. Student Services also provides support to students who are running various student-led events, thus contributing greatly to a rich learning environment. The Director of Student Services and Skills also serves on the Curriculum, Clinic, IPC Committee which provides input on the curriculum and IPC components.

The Operations Advisor worked closely with External Relations and others in connection with the Harold G. Fox Lecture delivered by Michael Bryant on October 22.

The legal clinic brought an important innovation to providing practice skill training through a "boot camp" during the last week of August. This allows students to obtain important training up front before taking on files rather than doing training throughout the semester. This was well received by students who appreciated having more information at the beginning of the term.

Faculty of Engineering

To promote excellence in teaching and learning, The Faculty of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award has been developed. Each engineering undergraduate program (including the LU-GC partnership) is allotted a \$500 award to promote excellence in teaching and learning.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM)

Faculty members are constantly reviewing approaches to effective methods of delivering degree programs – this includes more emphases on written and oral communication as well as adherence to the standards of the accrediting body (CFAB), which among other things includes commitment to lifelong learning, due diligence and extreme attention to ethics.

Teaching Commons

October was a busy month for the Teaching Commons with numerous faculty/instructor consultations via drop-ins, phone calls, emails, and appointments both for immediate needs (setting up grades books, looking for innovative options to [re]engage their students, test set-ups/previews, dealing with class/student management issues, etc.) and looking towards the winter term (using D2L for courses online and on-campus, finding open-access materials, exploring gamification options as study tools and in-class enrichment, etc.).

Six graduate students successfully completed last year's Teaching and Learning in Higher Education certificate and 22 have enrolled for the 2019-2020 cohort (enrollment remains open for this year's certificate at this time).

We have done cross-departmental work with Health and Wellness, Human Rights and Equity, Student Accessibility Services, and the Research Office to enhance and publicize teaching/learning experiences and options as well as the importance and “doability” of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and AODA compliance across the disciplines and across the campuses; we serve on a number of committees working towards these goals as well.

We have proposed a short-term, workshop-based “fix” for the academic writing challenges facing graduate students and will be following up with the Faculty of Graduate Studies Dean and the VP Teaching and Learning to make this service implementable.

Working with our LinkedIn Learning representative, an Open House was held October 10th in the Chancellor Paterson Library on the Thunder Bay campus. Sessions offered throughout the day included:

- Achieve Personal and Professional Goals: Take a deep dive into LinkedIn Learning
- Rock Your Profile: Level up your skills with LinkedIn and LinkedIn Learning
- Bridge the Skills Gap: Customize alignment of content to course level learning skills

An Open House is scheduled for November 15th at the Orillia Campus in the Learning Commons.

LinkedIn Learning is an award-winning industry leader in online training, with a digital library of over 14,000 courses covering a wide range of technical, business, software and creative topics. Lakehead University students, faculty, and staff can access their free [LinkedIn Learning account](#) using their Lakehead University username and password.

Finally, we were also busy helping set up the 2019 Teaching & Learning Symposium to occur in November. Featured sessions open to all for that symposium include the following events:

Bi-Giwen: Coming Home – Truth Telling from the Sixties Scoop Exhibit, November 12-15, Agora

- An exploration of the experience of Survivors of the Sixties Scoop, which began in the 1960s and continued until the late 1980s, where Indigenous children were taken from their families, often forcibly, and fostered and/or adopted out to non-Indigenous homes often far away from their communities and some across the globe.

Faculty and Graduate Student Panel Discussion – 1:00-2:00, Tuesday, November 12, LI 5014C and OA 3007

- A panel discussion on the role of the student and supervisor throughout the graduate experience with both faculty and graduate students participating.

Let’s Get Accessible: Creating Accessible PowerPoints – 10:00-12:00, Wednesday, November 13, LI 1003

- A hands-on session during which Student Accessibility Services (SAS) staff will walk participants through the creation of a PowerPoint using accessibility best practices.

Teaching Award Reception – 4:00-6:00, Wednesday, November 13, Teaching Commons, LI 5014

- A celebration of this year’s winners of teaching awards with a keynote by Dr. Camillo Lento, winner of the Distinguished Instructor Award. Refreshments and an opportunity to enjoy the company of colleagues follows. Please RSVP to teachingcommons@lakeheadu.ca

Keynote by Dr. Colleen Cardinal, 12:00 -1:00, Thursday November 14, The Study

- A public talk by Dr. Cardinal, the co-founder and Executive Director of the National Indigenous Survivors of Child Welfare Network and the author of the much anticipated *Ohpikiihaakan-ohpimhah (Raised somewhere else): A 60s Scoop Adoptee’s Story of Coming Home*, which was released this past June through Rosewood Press.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Workshop – 3:30-5:00, Friday November 15, LI 5014 C and OA 2005

- A workshop by Dr. Christina Hendricks from UBC introducing SoTL (the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning), its core components, and its relationship to conventional academic scholarship.

Technology Services Centre (TSC)

Last year Technology Services Centre (TSC) engaged in a review of its support requests related to Classroom Technology. TSC has updated several classrooms over the summer of 2019. This work continues and more recently, over the Fall reading week, Regional Centre 1003 received new display technology, updated devices and controls replacing problematic technology. Heritage Place has also received new computers in several of the classrooms addressing concerns and improving the teaching environment. TSC will continue this work through the Learning Spaces and Technology subcommittee.

Advancing Access to Education

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Vice-Provost of Aboriginal Initiatives and Dean of Social Sciences & Humanities are working with Mr. Goyce Kakegamic of Keewatinook Okimakanak on the admission of a second cohort entering into the Bachelor of Arts program beginning January 2020, and will expand to include more communities in the region.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The Student Services Director and Student Advisor attended the JD Forum in Toronto, which is the largest law school forum in Ontario with representation from most (if not all) law schools across Canada and many from the United States. According to the organizers, 421 students attended the forum. They also attended Ryerson University for a law fair and participated in a law school recruitment event at the University of Toronto as well as a graduate fair at the University of Toronto (Mississauga campus) and the Ontario University Fair.

In terms of Indigenous student recruitment, the Director of Indigenous Relations attended the Maadaadizi Student Orientation, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Student Orientation, APSIP Week 1 recruitment tour in Sioux Lookout, Red Lake, Kenora, Fort Frances, Rainy River, and Dennis Franklin Cromarty and Hammarskjold High Schools in Thunder Bay; as well as a College and University Fair at Nipigon-Red Rock District High School. Overall, the Director was able to speak with over 2,500 potential future students.

The Indigenous Law Students' Association (ILSA) hosted a Welcome Feast in September for Indigenous students and allies, and plan to host more networking events. ILSA has also collected applications for the Indigenous Bar Association (IBA) Conference. The Bora Laskin Faculty of Law will be sending five (5) students to the IBA Conference this year, which takes place from October 31-November 2.

In the past we have offered various entrance scholarships to incoming 1L students. This past summer we introduced an award for Indigenous students who were required to complete the Wiyasiwewin Mikiwahp Native Law Centre Summer Program in Saskatchewan as a condition of their admission offer to the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law. The purpose of this award is to ease the financial burden of having to attend the Summer Program.

The Admissions Committee is focusing entrance scholarships on Indigenous applicants this year to ensure that applicants have access to legal education.

Faculty of Business Administration

The Faculty of Business Administration is working with Oshki-Pimache-O-Win and Confederation College on an ONCAT-funded transfer program to improve access to degree programming at Lakehead University for students graduating from Oshki and the College.

Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)

Discussions have begun regarding expanding the graduate programs on the Orillia Campus. Currently, the FGS is exploring the possibility of having MA in Social Justice and MBA programs at the Orillia campus. The MA Social Justice program is in high demand and is of particular interest to First-generation and Indigenous applicants.

There is a focus on graduate student enrolment and retention efforts, and continued recruitment efforts to recruit both domestic and international students. The publication of the third Graduate Studies Viewbook has been very well received at the Graduate Fairs and within the university community. FGS has widened their recruitment areas. The FGS recruitment officer recently attended Graduate Fairs on the East Coast (Halifax, St John's, and Fredericton), where great interest was seen in Lakehead's graduate programs. This is a new recruitment catchment area and Lakehead's visibility will be increased. Intense recruitment efforts in Ontario are currently in progress, including plans to visit universities in Sudbury and North Bay in November, and Manitoba in January.

We have disseminated information to the teachers in local Thunder Bay boards of education regarding our Master of Education programs, and to date we have had multiple inquiries as a result of this initiative. We are in the process of replicating these attempts with Simcoe County school boards.

Student Affairs

Undergraduate Recruitment and Student Awards & Financial Aid are excited to announce the continuation of the Financial Literacy early outreach program in local/regional Grade 8 classes. Efforts are also underway to expand programming to include Grade 10 classes to help build our youth's financial literacy skills and their overall understanding of the value of a post-secondary education.

Lakehead University will open its doors to future students on November 9 (Orillia) and December 3 (Thunder Bay) for an Open House. Future students will learn more about academic programs, residence, ways to finance their education, admissions, supports and more. Campus Tour Bursaries are available to Grade 12 students demonstrating financial need who travel more than 150km to visit the campus.

Supporting Student Potential

Aboriginal Initiatives

- LU Bursary & Inspire Bursary Workshops
ACSS hosted numerous bursary workshops for Aboriginal students and assisted the Native Access Program (NAP) students with their applications.
- Coping with Stress Workshop & NAP Visit
Students participated in a workshop on healthy ways to manage stress. The Aboriginal Student Counsellor also facilitated a workshop on Mental Health and the importance of living a well-balanced life.
- Pop Ups on Orillia Campus
Weekly quiet drop-in hours, bi-weekly culture nights, info tabling, and Heritage Place Pop-Up Indigenous Resource Centres continue to take place at the Orillia Campus.
- Good Food Box
Starting November 7, the Good Food Box program will be available at the Lakehead Orillia campus through collaboration with the LUSU Food Pantry and Office of Aboriginal Initiatives.
- Native Access Program
NAP students had Sheryl O'Reilly, Aboriginal Student Counsellor (ACSS) come to class discuss mental health and wellness. As mental health has an impact on student success, providing students with tools and resources to meet their full potential will help increase student success and retention.

[Bora Laskin Faculty of Law](#)

Student Services has an open-door policy and brings expertise in terms of navigating and accessing important resources that are available for students both on and off campus. Support is provided to students during their quest to find meaningful employment; meeting with students regularly to discuss job opportunities, reviewing resumes and cover letters, and preparing for interviews.

This past year, the law school hosted regular meditation sessions open to all students, faculty and staff and facilitated by Student Health and Wellness. Currently, Student Services is working with Student Health and Wellness to present a series of in-class sessions to 1L students on a variety of mental health topics. These sessions are based on the THRIVE RU program at Ryerson and aim at providing 1L students with important information about various wellness related topics. This will be the second year presenting these sessions.

At the clinic, there are 25-30 students taking part in the clinical program each academic year. Students expand key practice skills including: client interviewing, issue identification, legal analysis, negotiations, oral and written advocacy, courtroom appearances and trial advocacy, legal writing and research etc. This is a key program for delivery of the IPC. The Clinic also provides students with summer positions and had hired 6 (six) students for the summer of 2019.

[Faculty of Business Administration](#)

The RBC Foundation has pledged \$500,000 over five years in support of the RBC Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Program at Lakehead University. This generous grant from the RBC Future Launch will allow Lakehead to grow the two-year [RBC Work-Integrated Learning Program](#) pilot project launched at the university in 2017. The Program is open to business and non-business students registered in a Faculty of Business Administration program and contains a part-time field placement, a foundational skills workshop series, and a mentorship component. The purpose of the program is to promote work-readiness through skill development, practical experience, and network opportunities. Over the five years, the plan is to grow the program to include 60 students a year.

[Faculty of Engineering](#)

A number of undergraduate and graduate student entrance scholarships and matching fund awards have been provided to support students:

- Ten PhD entrance matching funds in collaboration with FGS
- Ten MSc Thesis entrance matching funds in collaboration with FGS
- Faculty of Engineering PhD student top-up matching fund
- Competitive matching funds for the support of summer undergraduate research awards.
- Senior undergraduate students enrolled in the Capstone Degree Project may receive a Faculty of Engineering award to conduct interdisciplinary project collaboration with local partners in Northwestern Ontario, Simcoe County, and global partners.

[Faculty of Natural Resources Management \(NRM\)](#)

The Faculty of Natural Resources Management has intensified their commitment to one-on-one mentoring and career advice, along with an open-door policy and support for job and career placement which are key to a student-centered approach.

[Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\)](#)

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and Aboriginal Initiatives are working with northern communities on alternative pathways to the online BA general program.

Student Affairs

Maclean's rankings were released at the beginning of October. Lakehead University's ranking for Scholarships and Awards increased to 3rd across Canada for primarily undergraduate institutions.

Lakehead's award applications are up by 11% from last year. Students are now waiting to hear from departments and faculties on the success of their applications. The deadline to submit faculty and departmental recommendations is November 30. Any questions please contact Josh Levac, Manager Student Awards and Financial Aid.

November is financial literacy month with a variety of engaging activities taking place in both Thunder Bay and Orillia, including a talk by Rob Brown, author of *Wealthier Like Rabbits* (November 7 and November 11) and a Financial Literacy Fair (November 5 and November 20) that will bring in many of our partners from across our cities to help inform our students about making good financial decisions.

Academic Advising on the Move! Throughout the academic year, Student Central Professionals will be providing academic advice in various locations across the campus to meet students where they study. Free tutoring and writing support are available through the Student Success Centre's Academic Support Zone. The schedules and appointments are available on mysuccess.lakeheadu.ca.

Student Health & Wellness offers same-day counselling appointments on a first come, first serve basis. In Orillia, counselling is available by appointment at the Wellness Centre. Student Health & Wellness also continues to offer free meditation and yoga sessions (Thunder Bay) with various days/times across campus. Visit the [Event Calendar](#) for details.

The Career Zone (Thunder Bay campus) will be opening early November in the Tunnels (previous Junction Store) to bring greater visibility and awareness to the career services and supports provided through the Student Success Centre. Students are encouraged to stop by to meet with an Advisor, have their resume reviewed and discuss career exploration.

Generating and Supporting Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The Bora Laskin Faculty of Law has begun an external mentorship program to assist in the development and advancement of research agendas, identification of grant opportunities and mentorship on overall scholarly development. The fall term is also seeing a wealth of visiting speakers including our Harold G. Fox lecturer Michael Bryant, the Indigenous Law conference presenters, and Dean Adam Dodek to name but a few. The Faculty is working on a February Black History month speaker series to celebrate the recent creation of a Black Law Students Association (BLSA) chapter.

Four faculty members had an opportunity to participate in a panel with Michael Bryant, and two faculty members participated with the Dean on a panel at the Thunder Bay Law Association fall conference, where the Dean also gave the keynote address.

The Canadian Association for Legal Ethics will hold its conference at Lakehead in the fall of 2020, which will generate opportunities for faculty to present their research and collaborate with legal ethics scholars from across the country.

The Clinic Director is serving on an advisory board for a research project in collaboration with the Elizabeth Fry Society regarding women facing criminal charges who are experiencing housing insecurity and who are seeking

bail. The project is seeking to determine whether housing insecurity or homelessness affects release at the bail stage. The Clinic director also serves on the Board of the ID Action Committee which, in partnership with Kinna-Aweya Legal Clinic and Lakehead University is conducting a study on the profile of people in the North who are lacking personal ID (birth certificates).

Faculty of Engineering

Dr. Pedram Fatehi, Assistant Professor in Chemical Engineering has recently received major funding in the area of bioeconomy that will enrich Lakehead's research environment with infrastructure supporting leading-edge work and the training of highly qualified personnel.

The Faculty of Engineering Graduate Thesis Writing Support: each thesis-based MSc student and each PhD student may receive top-up matching fund, corresponding to approximately 4 hours of undergraduate student wage, for each 1 hour paid by the student toward editing and proof reading the student's thesis.

Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)

The Faculty of Graduate Studies is hopeful that the approval of the PhD in Health Sciences program is an important step in helping achieve PhD enrolment targets. Numerous inquiries have been received regarding admission to the PhD in Health Sciences program and hope to see a healthy number of applications to this new program for the 2020-21 graduate admission cycle.

Lakehead International

Lakehead was well represented in Bogota, Colombia in late October at CAIE - Conference of the Americas on International Education. The VP Research and Innovation was accompanied by the AVP Research and Graduate Studies; the International Research Facilitator; the Regional Manager for Latin America; and the Vice-Provost International. Organized by the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education, CAIE provides a great opportunity for Lakehead to promote its research strengths, enhance and build new partnerships, and seek faculty and student research and mobility opportunities. In addition, Lakehead and its partner universities within the CALAREO consortium hosted a booth at the CAIE exhibition and convened a meeting with Latin American universities that share our goal of developing stronger research ties with Latin America and developing research collaborations and new opportunities for graduate student mobility.

Engaging with Communities

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Aboriginal Affairs Coordinator attended the Ogimawahj Tribal Council Language Champions Gathering at Georgian College. This event was attended by representatives and first speakers from local First Nations and language programs.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) hosted their Launch Event in early September and has selected this year's student volunteers who have been placed on various projects. The PBSC Coordinator also held a training session on Pro Bono and Equitable Access to Justice in late September.

The Director of Indigenous Relations has assisted the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives in offering KAIROS Blanket Exercises to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, a Faculty of Education class, the Lakehead University community, for Orange Shirt Day, and a modified legal version to all first-year law students as part of Orientation, with additional exercises being scheduled throughout the year with various community organizations.

Faculty of Business Administration

The Faculty of Business Administration at Lakehead University is now enjoying its third year of student projects provided by Senior Administration at the City of Thunder Bay. Led by City Manager Norm Gale, groups of fourth-year Honours Bachelor of Commerce students have engaged with various managers within the City departments to apply their business knowledge to real-world challenges faced by the City.

Faculty of Education

The Biigtigong Nishnaabeg Land-Based Cohort is a partnership between Lakehead's Faculty of Education and Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation to deliver a customized Master of Education program. The program is helping build capacity in Biigtigong First Nation with a strong focus on how land-based learning can inform K-12 teaching. Under the umbrella of the MEd Indigenous Education specialization, the program was designed collaboratively and includes learning on the land segments and three land-based courses. Lakehead professors are working with Elders and knowledge holders from Biigtigong Nishnaabeg to deliver courses based in Indigenous knowledge that can be connected to participants' roles as teachers and administrators. The Land-Based Cohort started in September, 2019.

Faculty of Engineering

The Acting Dean of Engineering has held meetings with Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services Tribal Council in Fort Frances regarding potential research/development projects.

Other ongoing activities:

- Faculty of Engineering Outreach programs through the schools
- Faculty of Engineering - PEO Lakehead Chapter activities, including the 58th Annual Engineering and Technology Conference, Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Nov. 8, 2019
- Faculty of Engineering members are executive members of PEO Lakehead Chapter
- Go Eng Girls activities
- The Faculty of Engineering has recently held its semi-annual meeting with the Faculty of Engineering Industrial Advisory Board. The Board currently consists of the Dean, Assistant Dean, Program Chairs, and representatives from local industry in the city, including WSP Engineering, TBT Engineering, Resolute Forest Products, TBayTel, Bombardier, and OPG.

Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)

The Faculty of Graduate Studies and Aboriginal Initiatives are collaborating to increase the enrolment of Indigenous students at the graduate level. Graduate Studies attended a conference hosted by Mattawa to network with community partners. Feedback from this event focused on a need to develop further programming specifically for Indigenous learners, and Graduate Studies is currently looking to further opportunities within the Indigenous community. It was suggested that Graduate Studies has a presence at the annual ONECA conference to engage with Indigenous Counsellors, who could potentially take program information back to their respective communities. This conference occurs annually in the Spring.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM)

The Faculty has strengthened their community engagement – particularly in areas of geomatics, advanced wood science, endangered species, northern Agriculture and Indigenous communities. This also includes a heavy emphasis on modular professional training – Mining sector, Natural Resources and Indigenous communities.

Student Affairs

On October 29 and 30, Lakehead Thunder Bay welcomed the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to promote career opportunities available for students as part of a continued partnership in career development and recruitment activities. This event was also open to Confederation College students to attend and visit the campus.

Advancing Truth and Reconciliation

Aboriginal Initiatives

Kairos Blanket Exercise

The Aboriginal Affairs Coordinator and graduate assistants facilitated four sessions of the KAIROS Blanket Exercise for Bachelors of Education students taking Social Studies courses in Orillia. Several iterations of the Kairos Blanket Exercise have been shared in classes in Thunder Bay and in the Thunder Bay region over the past month.

Aboriginal Mentorship Program

In October, the Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP) began weekly visits to local high schools and held an AMP Health Sciences Day of activities for 75 of Lakehead Public Schools' Indigenous youth.

National Building Reconciliation Forum

The Vice Provost of Aboriginal Initiatives had the opportunity to attend the 5th Annual Building Reconciliation Forum from October 8-10. The forum was held at the former site of Shingwauk Residential School and hosted jointly by Algoma University, Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig, Nipissing University, Cape Breton University and the University of Northern British Columbia. The Provost and Vice President Academic co-presented with the Vice Provost Aboriginal Initiatives on several initiatives that support Indigenous students and the Indigenous Content Requirement that Lakehead is engaging in to address learning of all faculty, staff and students.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The Bora Laskin Faculty of Law has been engaging in pervasive Indigenization of the law curriculum and TRC principles inform course content and pedagogy in many courses. The Elders in Residence Program has been continuing with a different Elder visiting with students, staff, and faculty once a week in the Restorative Justice Room.

During Reading Week, the Director of Indigenous Relations and Professor Nancy Sandy visited the campuses of the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria. Part of the visit was to learn more about the Indigenous Legal Research Unit and the trans-systemic approach to teaching Indigenous Law at the UVic's joint JD/JID program, as well as learn more about faculty recruitment. We met with graduate students at UBC and UVic and provided information about the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law's legal education program, as well as opportunities for supporting Indigenous faculty members.

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

The Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences has its first cohort of ANNEP (All Nation Nurses Entry Program) students underway, as well as the new cohort for the Regional BScN program.

Championing Inclusion

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The Clinic renovation, which was completed in January 2019, included an accessibility ramp at the side entrance to PACI, now allowing wheelchair access to the clinic. The Operations Advisor has engaged in discussions with the Chair of the Accessibility Committee in connection with physical access challenges in the PACI building. The intent is to develop an overall accessibility strategy, and post temporary signage to ensure that accessible parts of the building are readily located.

The Operations Advisor also continues to serve as a member of the Gender and Sexuality Minority Discrimination Advisory Committee, which is an Advisory Committee to the Office of Human Rights and Equity, and participated in the "Out on Campus" initiative spearheaded by that Committee. The Director of Student Services participates in the President's EDI task force. In addition to EDI task force, the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law has its own Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee, who will meet later in the fall term to discuss the anticipated release of the EDI Action Plan and what we can be doing at the Faculty of Law to implement the Action Plan.

Services of the Clinic are directed at people living in poverty, the vast majority of who have a physical or intellectual disability. Many also identify as a visible minority, with 28% of clients this past year self-identified as Indigenous.

Student Services has been working closely with Institutional Planning and Analysis to finalize a Diversity Survey that will be sent out to all students. We anticipate that this survey will be distributed shortly.

Faculty of Engineering

To assist the diverse undergraduate and graduate students in succeeding academically, the Faculty of Engineering has developed Entrance scholarships for the Four Designated Groups (FDGs) - women, visible minorities, Aboriginal People and people with disabilities. There are 40 awards, \$1000 per student award.

Student Affairs

Student Accessibility Services – SAS (Thunder Bay) has opened a new Multi-Use Access Lounge (SC 0004). This space provides students with disabilities a welcoming, accessible and inclusive environment within the SAS area. It includes a small computer lounge with assistive software programs and group/individual study areas. Interactive sessions with various departments to better support Lakehead's diverse students will be offered throughout the year to promote student's academic and social success.

Developing and Sustaining Global Perspectives

Aboriginal Initiatives

ACSS will be hosting a discussion with visiting students from Mexico in Gakina Nindinawemaaganag Lounge on October 29th, followed by a pouch making session.

8th Canada Mexico Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education

Established in 2012 by Lakehead University, the goal of this roundtable is to bring together Universities from both countries to compare and contrast challenges and propose solutions in the field of Indigenous Higher Education between Canada and Mexico. Lakehead University continues to hold an integral role as a Consortium partner through its ongoing work in Indigenous and International initiatives and partnerships. Nipissing University was the host for the 8th Roundtable in Sault Ste. Marie, and included academic and student panels, a cultural day, as well as the 5th Annual Building Reconciliation Forum held at Algoma University. Lakehead participants included the President & Vice Chancellor, the Interim Provost & Vice President Academic, the Vice Provost International, the Vice Provost Aboriginal Initiatives, several faculty members, AI staff, and students.

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Developing course offerings in international and trans-systemic law was identified as an important future growth area at the academic planning retreat.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM)

NRM Researchers are increasing collaborative research with a stronger focus on external partners and clients – this includes strong international collaborations, primarily with China, Ecuador, Ghana, Finland and Sweden.

Lakehead International

Study Abroad and Mobility:

The first two weeks of October saw a strong push by Lakehead International in Orillia to promote study abroad opportunities in classes and with information sessions. In Thunder Bay, the third annual Study Abroad Fair was hosted by the Lakehead International team on October 23rd. Over 200 faculty, students, and staff visited country booths from around the globe to discover study abroad opportunities with LUI's study abroad partners, and to experience different cultures through the sharing of food, trivia, and the opportunity to win door prizes when their "passports" were full.

Ten study abroad sessions were hosted by International Study Abroad advisors throughout this year's study abroad week, which has generated over 50 student leads for outgoing mobility opportunities to many of our partner institutions in Australia, Brazil, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Mexico, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom

International Relations

Since September 2019, Lakehead has signed MoU's with 3 new universities in Russia, Mexico and Colombia. In addition, we have signed student exchange agreements with universities in Vietnam, Germany and Finland, all of which support our goal of having more Lakehead students participate in international study opportunities.

Lakehead International is also currently in negotiations with universities in Brazil, China, Ecuador, Ghana, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, and New Zealand for new MoUs.

Advancing Life-long Learning

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Clinic lawyers have been modeling life-long learning and professional development for students through their attendance in multiple training events and conferences including: Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario – Housing Law training, Association of Canadian Clinical Legal Education, The Effective Witness (Advocates Society), Consent and Capacity presentation, Employment Law Conference, Human Rights – Indigenous Friendship Centre, Tenants with Disabilities Presentation, Indigenous Vulnerabilities and Wrongful Conviction.

Faculty of Engineering

The Faculty of Engineering has conducted annual alumni/new graduate surveys that are directly related to the continual improvement process and long-life learning. In Summer 2019 Alumni survey, the survey cohort was Bachelor of Engineering Graduates of 2012, 2013, and 2014 with more than five years of work experience.

Developing People, Places and Systems

Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

Student Services is planning to build a Bora Laskin Faculty of Law alumni system. Student Services has been working closely with Institutional Planning and Analysis in developing an alumni survey, which has been approved and will be sent out shortly. In the meantime, Student Services makes it a priority to engage its alumni by inviting them to the law school to speak to students or attend events.

The Clinic launched a Facebook page in April 2019 to better connect with clients and community supporters.

The Operations Advisor has been working with Physical Plant and the Security Office to implement swipe card access availability to students for the PACI building. It is hoped that this change will provide greater access to work spaces for students, while at the same time make the PACI building a more secure space.

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

The development of a new Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences Strategic Plan is underway.

Institutional Planning & Analysis

Strategic Enrolment Management: Throughout August, September and October, the Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Vice-Provost (Students) and Vice-Provost (Institutional Planning and Analysis) have been working with Deans to discuss long term enrolment plans within each faculty to help inform multi-year enrolment planning. This multi-year enrolment planning will inform Lakehead's integrated planning and budgeting efforts, including SMA 3.

Library

The Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) Collaborative Futures project is moving forward. The vision is defined by the existence of a distributed and shared collaborative approach to print and electronic/digital resource management. This approach builds upon existing OCUL-wide collaborative initiatives such as Scholars Portal technology and collaborative licensing, as well as smaller-scale initiatives such as shared ILS systems and print storage facilities.

There will be a technical services freeze beginning November 1 to December 10 (Go-live date). This means that work including cataloging, acquisitions, and related activities in the current Voyager ILS will cease. All technical services work will be done manually. Circulation services (e.g. borrowing and returning books) and the online catalogue will not be affected.

Lakehead University opted out of Access Copyright in 2016 which is a cost saving item for the University. Since then, the library has been monitoring and handling copyright clearance for course reserves and covering the expenses. The Library will be revising copyright clearance procedures and will be implementing changes in 2020.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management (NRM)

The Faculty continues to focus on the three pillars of sustainability – sound ecology, viable economics and social acceptability. In recent times, the last pillar – social acceptability - has received a lot of extra attention with respect to treaty rights, climate concerns, endangered species, multiple-use and other crown-land considerations such as the “Ring-of-Fire”. All public land management activities in Ontario have involvement of Local Citizens' Committees (as directed by law). These committees meet monthly with both NRM Faculty and student members serving on the committees.