

Provost's Report to Senate

May, 2014

University Graduate Employment Survey – Employment Rates for 2011 Graduates

The results from the Ontario University Graduate Employment Survey – Graduates of 2011 were released last week. The results reveal that once again the employment rate for graduates of undergraduate degree programs at Lakehead University two years after graduation (93.6%) is higher than the average employment rate for graduates of undergraduate degree programs in the Ontario University System (93.0%). The 2-year employment rate for Lakehead graduates continues to be strong, holding steady at 93.6% for the last 3 years. Lakehead graduates of 2011 were also more likely to be employed 6 months after graduation (89.4%) compared to graduates of the Ontario University System (87.4%).

Faculty of Education Ontario

A Memorandum of Understanding between Lakehead University and Maple Leaf Educational Systems in China was recently signed. This MOU is a Practicum Agreement around BEd students completing alternative international placements in Maple Leaf Schools. An inaugural group of five BEd students are currently completing a four-week practicum at the Maple Leaf School in Dalian.

Faculty members from both the Orillia and Thunder Bay campuses attended a two-day Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop. The Centre for Sustainability and Place Studies organized this event. Congratulations to Co-Directors Dr. David Greenwood and Dr. Pauline Sameshima and MEd student Natalie Gerum for organizing an excellent workshop.

PhD candidate Kathy Kortés-Miller has been awarded a highly prestigious Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network (TVN) fellowship of \$50,000 per year for two years. Ms. Kortés-Miller was one of only eight students across Canada to be awarded the fellowship in support of her research, *Interdisciplinary End-of-Life Care Education Using High Fidelity Simulation in Long-Term Care*.

PhD student and contract faculty member Jennifer Holm will be awarded a Canadian Association of Teacher Education Award of Recognition for her recently defended dissertation *Improving Mathematics Teaching Through Professional Learning Groups*.

MEd/Women's Studies student Jamilee Baroud won the "Best Student Presentation Award" and was shortlisted for the "Outstanding Original Research Award" at the Engage Conference in Guelph in March. Her research focuses on gendered media representations of sexiness and the effects it has on girls.

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

Dr. Jaro Kotalik, founding director of the Centre for Health Care Ethics and current Chair of the Executive Committee received the Spirit of Thunder Bay Award. The award is given to citizens who have shown extraordinary leadership, innovation and meaningful contributions with a minimum of 15 years of cumulative volunteer experience. For 33 years he has been an active volunteer for the Port Arthur Rotary Club, assisting with fundraising and service activities for many different organizations. Dr. Kotalik is a board member of the Ethics Advisory Committee of the Ontario Health Study. He also mentors students at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and is a valuable resource to faculty members.

Professor Karen Poole received the Good Citizen Award from the City of Thunder Bay. It is presented to individuals who have made outstanding volunteer contributions for a minimum of five years. She is an Associate Professor and Director of the School of Nursing, and has been a member of the Shelter House Board of Directors for the past 12 years. Professor Poole was previously the Chair and Vice-Chair, and offered her support and guidance to the Executive Director. She was involved with facilitating construction of the new Shelter House building and implementing the managed alcohol program (Kwae Kii Win), and recruiting a new Executive Director.

Ms. Linda Pisco, the recently retired Palliative Care Education Planner and Team Leader in The Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health, has been awarded the Member of Merit award with the Jerusalem Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Grand Priory of Canada. This award is a significant recognition of her work within the palliative care community. Ms. Pisco will travel to Montreal to accept her award later this month. The Jerusalem Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus is an international organization that has existed since 1098 and was founded during the Crusades.

Dr. Lana Ozen, a Post Doctoral Fellow in Health Sciences has been awarded a highly prestigious Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network (TVN) fellowship award of \$50,000 per year for two years. Dr. Ozen's research project is called *A mindfulness intervention in long-term care for frail elderly, families and formal caregivers*. It involves a form of meditation where elders will become aware of and accept thoughts, feelings and body sensations by practicing weekly.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management

Members of the Natural Resources Management (NRM) Faculty recently visited Sunyani, Ghana to assess the potential for both on-site and on-line professional training in geomatics for the Ghana Fire Service professionals and met with staff/students at the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR), Sunyani, Ghana. UENR will be sending interns to the Faculty of NRM late this summer for initial training, design and execution of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle use for the setup of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Centre in Sunyani, Ghana.

The NRM Faculty hosted the mid-Canada annual meeting for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Committee (SFI) in April 2014. The Faculty has officially joined the SFI and will take an active role in its community outreach activities in both Manitoba and Ontario. SFI together with the Forest Stewardship Council represent the vast majority of certified forests in Canada.

At the recent annual general meeting of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association, the NRM Faculty hosted the keynote event that included the Honourable Bob Ray as the keynote address.

The NRM faculty has joined an international group called Conservation Drones. This group aims to promote the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology to aid in the global challenges with wildlife poaching, illegal logging and bush fire management. The NRM faculty has initiated its own UAV Image acquisition program with test flights and formal certification. Lakehead University groups that may have an interest in new imagery (3d or ortho) for areas in the Thunder Bay district are encouraged to the Dean of NRM. The current pilot phase of this program allows us to acquire new ultra-high resolution image near free-of-charge.

The NRM Faculty has been actively engaged with third-party evaluation of managed forest licenses for the protection of endangered species (mainly woodland caribou). This evaluation has included a massive analysis of a large portion of North-Western Ontario through a geomatics gap analysis procedure with the Marxan modeling tool.

The long-term collaborations with Stellenbosch University (South Africa) and the NRM Faculty have seen a substantial increase this year. Two faculty members, Dr. Reino Pulkki and Dr. Matthew Leitch, are actively involved. Dr. Pulkki has been reappointed as the “Professor Extraordinary” in the Department of Forest and Wood Science, and attended, chaired and presented at the Stellenbosch Precision Forestry Conference in March 2014. Dr. Leitch also presented at the Conference. He has hosted a Stellenbosch graduate student for 3 months at Lakehead in an effort to accelerate collaborative research on laminating South African pine lumber with Canadian softwood lumber to enhance South Africa lumber strength.

A site visit to Beijing Forestry to sort out the logistics for student mobility under our existing MOU was conducted by the NRM Faculty.

In collaboration with LU International, the NRM Faculty, has conducted a site visit to Anhui University (China) to assess the status of English competency of the 30 Chinese students currently enrolled in Lakehead University’s Faculty of NRM Anhui 2+2 Program where the students are near completion of year 1 of the NRM-compatible curriculum. Two Anhui faculty members have spent the winter semester with the NRM faculty and efforts are under way to have NRM faculty conduct reciprocal stays at Anhui this coming year.

An agreement with AV Terrace Bay (the Indian Birla company owned pulp mill slated for conversion to wood-based textiles) and the NRM Faculty for image support for the enhanced Forest Resources Inventory conversion. This multi-million hectare image endeavour will support the Faculty of NRM with ongoing upgrades of lab facilities for in-house academic and external training in softcopy photogrammetry.

The NRM Faculty has conducted six softcopy geomatics training courses to resource professionals this semester and continues to conduct bi-monthly demonstrations to external groups (industry, government and eNGOs).

Orillia Campus

More than 300 Simcoe County elementary school children visited Lakehead University’s Orillia campus on May 9 to discover what makes Canada a great nation. This event was part of the annual gifted outreach conference organized by the Simcoe County District School

Board in cooperation with Lakehead's Education program. This year's theme, "O Canada", offered a full day of workshops on all things Canadian. Through exploration, games, challenges and creative activities, the students experienced and learned about Canada's achievements and characteristics – from Cirque-de-Soleil and the Group of Seven to Plexiglas and Nanaimo bars. Among the 12 sessions at this conference was a keynote address by Dr. Frances Helyar, assistant professor with Lakehead's Faculty of Education.

Student Affairs

Enrolment Services

Conversion efforts aimed at moving our undergraduate admitted students to enrolled students for Fall 2014 has been the focus of Enrolment Services. Highlights of conversion efforts include:

- Hosted 19 Applicant Receptions throughout Ontario where over 480 applicants and 670 friends and family members were met with
- 295 high schools were visited throughout April and May
- Hosted campus tours for students participating in the Northwestern Ontario Regional Science Fair and High School Math Competition along with General Campus Tours
- Visited 12 classes at Confederation College to promote transferability options
- Faculty Conversion Call Campaigns underway

Meetings with over 680 guidance counsellors from across the province were held during Regional Dialogue sessions.

Academic Advising, Records & Registration (formerly Registrar's Office)

Fast Pass will be offered June 23-27 and every Friday throughout July to new students to assist them with registration and course selection.

Registration will open on June 16 to returning students; June 18 to Professional Year Education students; and June 23 for new, first year students.

Student Awards & Financial Aid

In conjunction with Undergraduate Recruitment and Admissions, Student Awards & Financial Aid delivered approximately 90 scholarship offers to the homes of applicants in Thunder Bay and Simcoe County to contribute towards the University's conversion efforts.

Student Success Centre

- Robert Perrier will begin his new role as Director of the Student Success Centre beginning June 2nd. We thank Joy Himmelman for her work over the last ten months in the Acting Director role. We wish her well!
- The Writing Centre has transitioned to Spring and Summer Session hours from Monday to Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Additional appointment times are available by contacting writing@lakeheadu.ca
- Peer tutoring services are available throughout Spring and Summer sessions. Please contact the Student Success Centre.

Student Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services continued to see an increased demand for services this past academic year although the number of students registered with the office was slightly lower (424) than in 2012/2013 (442). The increase in services was evident in the number of:

- Accommodated tests (1474>1849)
- Courses with notetakers (164>246)
- Requests for alternate format textbooks (101>191)
- Bursary for Students with Disabilities Applications (76>99) and
- Referrals for Psychological Assessments (54>64).

Student Health and Counselling Centre

- Clinics - medical and counselling were very busy from the beginning of April until the end of exams. After exams, the numbers of clinics per week were reduced to summer hours. Physician clinics drop to 3-4 clinics a week during summer hours. Medical appointments available have been filling up. Counselling appointments moderate usage - normal for this time of year.
- Last meditation session for semester was April 15, 2014 - sessions will continue starting May 6, 2014. Numbers more than doubled for the year.
- Senior RN and Medical Receptionist took a “De-escalating Violent Situations” course April 29-30, 2014 and found this course helpful and would recommend others to take advantage of such a course.
- Senior RN took a Basic Supervision course April 16, 2014.
- Two new physicians have started at Centre on a casual basis.
- Will be offering TB skin testing starting in June for 2nd, 3rd, & 4th year nursing students. A Communications Bulletin will be sent out.

Respectively submitted,

Moira McPherson
Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic)