

Provost's Report to Senate

October 21, 2013

Decanal Reviews

The Decanal Reviews within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences are currently being conducted. It is anticipated that the process will be completed by the end of January.

China

A delegation of Dr. Bahram Dadgostar, Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Dr. Kim Fedderson, Dr. Lori Livingston, Ms. Kathy Pozihun, Dr. Ulf Runesson, Dr. Gillian Siddall, and Mr. Tony Williams recently travelled with me to China to explore opportunity in the areas of international student recruitment, transfer agreements, short-term opportunities and student and faculty exchanges and recruitment of students to the English Language Program.

The delegation met with a number of institutions including the Shanghai Science Polytechnic, Dalian Foreign University and Beijing Forestry University. Individual dean's visits were also made with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and University of Shanghai Science and Technology. We also had the opportunity to visit a number of key high schools including Shanghai Maple Leaf School, Sino Canada High School Shanghai and Dalian Maple Leaf School. In Beijing we were also able to visit and meet with the senior managers of Beijing JIL Agency (one of Lakehead's recruitment agents). This was an extremely productive trip that gave Lakehead University the opportunity to continue to expand and strengthen our relationships in China and will have a positive effect on international undergraduate and graduate recruitment efforts in the short and long term.

Aboriginal Initiatives (AI)

Community Relations

Dennis Franklin Cromarty (DFC) has agreed to work with Lakehead University on a student outreach & recruitment plan and to develop an on-campus recreation project and pool use schedule, and we will be working with Healthy Minds Canada on a Thunder Bay-wide Anti-Stigma Project.

The Vice-Provost (AI) is assisting with community relations building for Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining & Exploration and meetings have been set with the Chiefs and leadership regarding the installation of a research chair through Goldcorp which highlights the strengths and achievements of NAN and Treaty 3.

Aboriginal Student Recruitment and Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services

AI has purchased computers for the student lounge/computer lab to ensure students have access to updated technology and work stations.

Administration

AI has hired new staff for each of its standing positions and reconfigured one position to extend community engagement and partnership building, and to recruit and support graduate students. A new "Transitions Advisor" has been hired, she is a Lakehead Master's Degree graduate, and will be

responsible for incoming students, academic and workforce transitions, and developing a Lakehead specific transitions model.

Faculty of Education

Ms. Julie Pauletig, a graduate of Lakehead's BEd program, has been elected as the 70th President of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF). Ms. Pauletig was an occasional teacher with the Lakehead Catholic School Board before moving to the York Catholic District School Board as an elementary school teacher. For more information, please see: <http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/1448883#ixzz2e2Q7GHEm>

Faculty of Engineering

Several faculty members were awarded NSERC funding for research projects beginning in the 2013-2014 academic year. The principle investigators are Dr. Abdelhamid Tayebi (Autonomous Navigation Systems Design for VTOL-UAVs), Dr. Richard Khoury (Microtext Processing), and Dr. Mohammad Uddin (Intelligent Controller Bases Cost-Effective and Efficiency Optimized High Performance Motor Drives).

The Faculty of Engineering co-sponsored the 16th Canadian Semiconductor Science and Technology Conference (CSSTC 2013) - the major forum for Canadian researchers specializing in semiconductor science and technology.

The Faculty of Engineering summer transition program enrolled over 250 students from colleges across Canada during the months of July and August. The Faculty is a recognized leader in offering pathways for technology diploma graduates to expeditiously complete their B.Eng. degree in two years plus the transition program.

The Faculty of Engineering received final approval from MTCU for a new MSc in Mechanical Engineering at the beginning of the summer and is working to recruit students into the program. The Electrical and Computer Engineering PhD is currently at the Ministry awaiting approval. The MSc in Civil Engineering underwent external review September 30th and October 1st with the goal of completing the University and Ministry approval process in advance of the fall 2014 term.

Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law is moving forward with the development of its second year program. Shortly the Faculty will be submitting to Senate for approval the mandatory list of second year courses as well as a list of elective subjects. Advertisements have been sent out for three tenure track positions and a call is going out for sessional instructors to teach in a number of elective law subjects.

Faculty of Science & Environmental Studies

In Lakehead University, Aboriginal Initiatives and the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies are pleased to announce the launch of the new Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP). AMP matches experienced university students with Aboriginal high school students to create a positive connection that will both inspire and assist the high school student in learning about science.

The AMP program will run from December thru to April during the academic year 2013/2014. There are six separate events planned within the AMP program during this time period. The Program kicks off during the month of December with an initial visit by AMP mentors to participating high schools

for introductions and an orientation session. Mentors and mentorees will have an opportunity to meet one another and learn more about the AMP program. For more information details please go to <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/ai>

Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities

The Department of History's inaugural annual Alumni Honour and Community Partnership Awards were given out at the Study Coffee House on Thursday, September 18, 2013. Roy Piovesana (BA 65, MA 69) and Jean Morrison (MA 74) were each presented with a departmental Alumni Honour Award in recognition of their distinguished achievements. The Department also presented the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society with a Community Partnership Award for the important role in the establishment and continuing success of its undergraduate and graduate programs. The Alumni awards were given out in conjunction with the Alumni Association of Lakehead University. The full story can be found at <http://history.lakeheadu.ca/news/?display=news&nid=140>

The Department of History recently sponsored the 2013 meeting of the North Shore Historical Assembly with the North Shore Historical Assembly. Organized in the early 1930s, the group's goal is to promote historical knowledge of the North Shore of Lake Superior through presenting papers and addresses at their biennial meetings held in both the United States and Canada on an alternating basis.

Dr. Jane Nicholas has recently published a co-edited collection with Dr. Patrizia Gentile, Queens University. There will be a book launch with the authors in November 2013. Women's Studies is also pleased to welcome their first post-doctoral fellow, Dr. Heather Hillsburg. A research talk and a meet and greet session will be held early in the 2014.

The English Department held a book launch on Friday, October 18, 2013 to celebrate the recent publication of two books by members of the Department: Dr. Anna Guttman's *Writing Indians and Jews: Metaphorics of Jewishness in South Asian Literature* and Dr. Daniel Hannah's *Henry James, Impressionism, and the Public*.

In August 2014, the Department of English will be the hosting the 2014 Conference of the Association for Literature, the Environment, and Culture in Canada (ALECC), the theme of which will be *Culture, Environment, and Social Justice*. Anyone interested in participating in or contributing to this exciting event is invited to contact Dr. Douglas Ivison at douglas.ivison@lakeheadu.ca. Thanks to the units and individuals across the university who have already committed their support to the conference.

Orillia Campus

Orillia Student Affairs

This September, Lakehead's Orillia campus held its fourth annual Terry Fox Week. Events included our on campus Hair "Do" event as well as participation in the Orillia Terry Fox Community Run on Sunday, September 16th. We are excited to report that we had our most successful fundraising campaign ever this year with a grand total of \$5089.79 being raised for cancer research. Lakehead is currently working with the Orillia Terry Fox Run organizers to recognize the tremendous efforts of our staff, students and faculty.

Our Student Leadership program EXCEL offered students the opportunity to participate in a weekend retreat at the Youth Leadership Camp of Canada (YLCC), just outside of Orillia in early October. 27

students from all year levels took part in a variety of workshops facilitated by YLCC staff, and concluded with a presentation facilitated by Sami Pritchard (HBASc/BEEd '16) and Anna Lisa Martin (HBASc/BEEd '15), in which the students shared their experiences they encountered from attending the Canadian Conference on Student Leadership last year and discussed with participants how students can get involved on campus.

Following the retreat, the participants developed a Lakehead Facebook page and several students have discussed the creation of a leadership club to continue promoting leadership opportunities at the campus.

Student Affairs

Student Admissions & Recruitment

The recruitment season for Fall 2014 is fully underway. Recruiters are traveling across the province meeting with prospective students and their influencers at various types of events. The travel season started in mid-September and continues until the end of November.

Lakehead University has once again participated in a very successful Ontario Universities' Fair - held the weekend of September 27-29. Many thanks go out to all the faculty, staff, students and alumni that participated in this very important new student recruitment event, and helped us achieve a 12% increase in prospective student inquiries collected versus last year's event.

Two major on campus Fall recruitment events are quickly approaching:

- Orillia Campus Fall Preview Day – *Saturday, October 26, 2013*
- Thunder Bay Campus Fall Preview Day – *Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Thank you in advance to all faculty and staff who will take part to welcome the hundreds of prospective students, including their family and friends, to both of Lakehead's campuses.

Student Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services continues to experience an increase in the number of students with disabilities registered to receive accommodations. To date there has been an increase of 33% over the same period last year. (225 students October 2012, 301 students October 2013) In turn, this is creating challenges scheduling staff and finding suitable and sufficient space for test and mid-term accommodation. We appreciate the help and assistance from various departments to identify available space and to assist in accommodations.

Student Health & Counselling Centre

The Centre facilitated awareness of the MTCU-supported Good2Talk helpline, the free, confidential and anonymous 24/7/365 helpline offering counselling, mental health information and referrals to post-secondary students with notice on the University's home webpage, via a *Communications Bulletin*, and posters on campus.

The Centre facilitated awareness of the COU-supported Mental Health 2.0 Contest - a competition for ideas about using social media to promote campus health - on the University's home webpage and posters on campus.

Student Success Centre

Peer Tutoring Program – Five free hours of tutoring assistance are available to each undergraduate student annually. Faculty can assist in the success of this initiative by referring students to this tutoring program and to encourage and refer students who have been successful in their classes to

become peer tutors. If you have questions about this opportunity, please contact the Student Success Centre.

The Lakehead University Writing Assistance Centre offers assistance to students with the development of writing skills and providing assistance in the review of papers and written assignments. The number of students using the services of the Writing Assistance Centre continues to grow but there's always more room to help more students. Faculty are encouraged to refer students to this service. The Centre is located in the Learning Commons sharing space with the Math Assistance Centre.

Student Success Seminars are offered Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Student Success Centre on a variety of topics including: "Netiquette", "Navigating your Pathway to a Degree", "How to Write a Multiple Choice Exam", and "The Essentials of Notetaking". These sessions are open to all students but are particularly valuable for first-year students. Again, faculty are encouraged to refer students to these seminars.

Launch of the Co-Curricular Record – New

Watch for the upcoming launch of the new Co-Curricular Record! The Co-curricular Record is an institutionally recognized chronicle of student engagement and student leadership involvement. The co-curricular record provides official recognition to students for their co-curricular involvement. The development and launch of a co-curricular record at Lakehead University is identified as an objective within the academic plan and contributes to goals identified within the University strategic plan. Activities recognized on the Co-Curricular Record are pre-approved and a supervisor verifies a student's participation and learning outcomes for that activity. For more information or to request that a particular activity be recognized on the Co-Curricular Record, please contact the Acting Director of the Student Success Centre, Joy Himmelman in Thunder Bay, or the Director of Student Services, Kelli Gray, in Orillia.

Respectively submitted,

Rodney S. Hanley
Provost and Vice-President Academic