

Provost's Report to Senate

May 2017

Strategic Mandate Agreement 2 Update

Current Strategic Mandate Agreements (SMAs) between the provincial government and universities will expire this spring. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD) announced in December 2016 that it would begin negotiations with institutions on the second round of SMAs. It also announced that Ms. Bonnie Patterson, former President of COU and Trent University, would serve as Special Advisor for the Ministry on the university SMA negotiations. Significant parts of the negotiations for this second round of SMAs (SMA2) will be informed by the Ministry's new funding model, particularly around enrolment management and differentiation priorities and metrics.

SMA2 will include a wide range of system-wide metrics defined by the Ministry, many of which were initiated in SMA1, in five areas of focus:

- **Student experience;**
- **Teaching and learning excellence;**
- **Access and equity;**
- **Research excellence and impact; and**
- **Innovation, economic development and community engagement.**

Universities have the option of identifying additional institution level metrics in these five areas as appropriate.

The period of the SMA2 cycle (2017-2020) will be a transitional phase during which the Ministry will work with colleges and universities to develop and refine performance metrics and targets in a collaborative way, to begin the shift toward quality outcomes and related performance based funding. In that spirit, colleges and universities will have the opportunity to inform provincial metrics and amend their respective targets in the development of SMA3 (2020-2023). This will help ensure metrics and targets are aligned with both institutional and government priorities and with government funding allocation and accountability mechanisms.

A first draft of Lakehead's SMA2 was submitted to MAESD at the end of April. Following feedback from our Lakehead Community, feedback from MAESD, continued development of provincial system-wide metrics, and negotiation around the enrolment and funding formula parameters, a final draft of SMA2 is expected to be completed by mid-summer.

Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM)

In April 2017, the Vice-Provost (Institutional Planning and Analysis) and I met with the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies to build awareness and understanding of SEM related enrolment planning for 2017/2018 and 2018/2019. Consistent with the meetings we have had with other faculties, including Engineering, Business, Natural Resources Management, Education and Social Sciences and Humanities, this meeting resulted in engaging discussion and identified opportunities as we continue to develop SEM at Lakehead University.

The Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis has also been conducting follow up meetings with a number of departments in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, including the School of Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism, and the Departments of Interdisciplinary Studies, Indigenous Learning, English and History to validate 2017/2018 enrolment projections by program, further developing Lakehead University's approach to multi-year enrolment planning. Over the next few weeks Institutional Planning and Analysis will hold similar follow up meetings with Visual Arts and departments in the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies.

Presentations have continued with non-academic units, including a presentation on data related to SEM for Financial Services.

By June 2017, almost all Faculties and departments will have participated in developing multi-year enrolment forecasts at the program level as Lakehead University implements SEM. This is the first of many future cycles in a comprehensive approach to multi-year enrolment planning that will inform how all units of the University operate. In addition to discussions at the Faculty and department level, implementation of SEM will include ongoing alignment to the Strategic and Academic Plans; review of recruitment, retention and student success initiatives; continued improvements to data/information accessibility; collaboration and transparency, communication, engagement and partnership across the University; and ongoing process improvement with a focus on supporting enrolment goals.

Your continued participation, input and feedback on the implementation of SEM are welcome as Lakehead University continues to adapt evidence-based enrolment planning.

Aboriginal Initiatives

The Search for the new Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) is well-underway. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will begin in late summer/early Fall. Dr. M.A. (Peggy) Smith's appointment as Interim Vice-Provost has been extended until September 1, 2017.

Ojimaawin Aboriginal Governance Council

OAGC held its final meeting of this academic year on April 24, 2017. Of significance was the approval in principle of the OAGC Strategic Plan, Nishtam Watabiin, for the period 2017-18. This document will provide a foundation for input into the University-wide strategic planning process. OAGC provided input into the upcoming Strategic Plan supporting the University's commitment to Indigenous students, programs and community development.

The Office of Aboriginal initiatives has either led or provided input on the following:

- Training for the new One Stop Student Central
- A review of the Cultural Protocol (Smudging) Policy.
- Updating the "Deepening Our Relationships" report on Indigenization activities at Ontario's universities (COU Aboriginal Reference Group, <http://cou.on.ca/papers/deepening-our-relationship/>)
- Review of the Native Access Program including focus groups with community representatives and students.
- Review of the traditional lands acknowledgement

The Elders Council has provided guidance for the revised Smudging Policy and the traditional lands acknowledgement.

Lakehead International

The construction of the new International Centre on the ground floor of the Paterson Library, is nearing completion. Students will be welcomed in June with an official opening in September. The announcement of the opening will be circulated in a Communications Bulletin.

Library and Teaching Commons

Teaching Commons

Lakehead has recently subscribed to Magna Digital Libraries (<https://www.magnapubs.com/group/>) a resource that presents online, video-based, professional-development content for university-level instructors in a wide range of subjects/topics. These resources will allow the Teaching Commons to very quickly provide quality, on-point, “teaching, learning, and pedagogy” instructional development on a variety of teaching, academic, and administrative concerns for the faculty on both campuses. For off-campus use, you will need to create an account and add an authentication code. To get the authentication code for off-campus use, please contact teachingcommons@lakeheadu.ca

The renovations to create the Teaching Commons on the 5th floor of the Paterson Library are scheduled to begin in June with an anticipated completion date in September.

Library

This summer the microforms will be moved from their temporary location to space on the northeast corner of the 3rd floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library.

Curio.ca

The Library now has a subscription to Curio.ca, CBC and Radio-Canada’s online subscriber-based streaming service developed expressly for the Canadian educational community. The collection features thousands of programs and hundreds of teacher resource guides curated to support provincial K-12 curricula and post-secondary courses across the country. If you wish to create a playlist, you will need to create an account using an access code. Please contact the Research Help Desk - researchhelp@lakeheadu.ca to obtain an access code.

Unpaywall

Unpaywall is a Chrome or Firefox extension that can be used to find open-access versions of paywalled research papers, instantly. When you view a paywalled research article, Unpaywall automatically looks for a copy in their index of over 10 million free, legal fulltext PDFs. If one is available you can click the green tab to read the article.

ORCID-CA (Open Researcher and Contributor ID - Canadian Consortium)

Lakehead University has joined the ORCID-CA consortium (orcid-ca.org/). ORCID helps identify researchers through an online identifier that links to their works (publications, datasets etc.), links to other researcher identification systems, and is retained regardless of a researcher’s institutional affiliation.

Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies

I am pleased to announce that the Department of Sustainability Sciences’ HBASc Environmental Sustainability program has received ECO Canada’s Accreditation.

Respectively submitted,

Moira McPherson
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)