

September
2017

Item #7



President's Report to Board of Governors



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Office of the President

New Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

On July 4, Lakehead University announced the appointment of **Dr. Elizabeth (Betsy) Birmingham** as the new Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, effective July 1, 2018.

Over the course of the upcoming academic year, Dr. Birmingham will participate in a transition that includes several visits to Lakehead and leading Faculty planning sessions starting January 2018.

Dr. Birmingham is currently a full professor and Chair of English at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo, North Dakota with allied faculty status in the Department of Women and Gender Studies. Dr. Birmingham has held several administrative positions at NDSU, from Director of Upper Division Writing to Associate Dean.



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Lakehead University renews the Dean of Engineering

On August 8, Lakehead's Provost & Vice-President (Academic) Dr. Moira McPherson was pleased to announce the renewal of **Dr. David Barnett** as Dean of the University's Faculty of Engineering.

Dr. Barnett said he was grateful for the strong and continued support of the faculty, staff, and students that he has had the pleasure to work with during his service as Dean.

Recognized for its unique pathway for college engineering technologists to complete an engineering degree through the transfer program, the Faculty of Engineering has also expanded direct entry and international enrollments, developed new graduate programs, and expanded its research profile.

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Psychology celebrates Mary Lysenchuk's 50 years at Lakehead University

Our Department of Psychology recently celebrated the fact that **Mary Lysenchuk** has worked at the University for 50 years.

She applied in person on Friday, Aug. 25, 1967, shortly after graduating from high school.

"I met with the HR officer," Mary said. "She took me to the Library and Mr. Belton, the Chief Librarian, dictated a letter that I had to type as a test. When I got home that day I received a call informing me I got the job."

Even after 50 years, Mary hasn't announced a retirement date. She said she will retire when she is ready. Throughout her career, there were days when she felt sick, but she usually went in anyway.

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Bora Laskin Faculty of Law

The Welcome to the Legal Profession Ceremony was held on August 31 at the Thunder Bay Courthouse. The 79 first-year students participated in the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law's annual ceremony.

Justice Bonnie Warkentin, Superior Court of Justice and Justice Joyce Pelletier, Ontario Court of Justice presided. The students were also welcomed by Paul Schabas, treasurer with the law Society of Upper Canada; Rene Larson, president of the Thunder Bay Law Association; Ross Murray, vice-chairman of the Lakehead University Board of Governors; and Dean EagleWoman.

New Faculty Orientation

One of our largest orientation for new members of faculty and teaching staff was held on August 29-30, 2017. An Orientation for all our contract lecturers happened on September 21. New faculty on both campuses attended a series of excellent sessions.

The Provost's Office would like to thank all who contributed to the delivery of the two days of sessions as well as TSC for all of their technical support.

The newest edition of the Faculty Orientation handbook is now available on the University website under Faculty Resources.



Record number of international students at orientation

Lakehead University welcomed a record number of students at this year's International Orientation. Approximately 550 students from more than 50 countries participated in the orientation held at the Hangar on August 30.

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International Centre opens to world

Lakehead University's increasing number of international students have a new place where they can receive the services and programs they need to succeed.

The grand opening of Lakehead's new International Centre was held on Tuesday, Sept. 12, with students, faculty, staff, media, and community members celebrating the opening with tours, a ribbon cutting ceremony, and prizes.

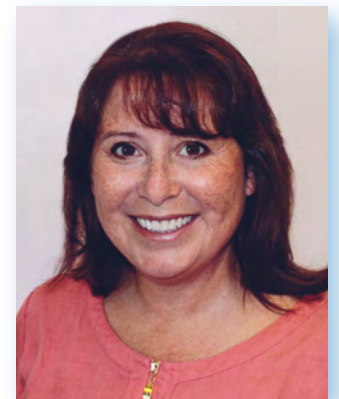
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Denise Baxter appointed Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives

Lakehead University has named **Denise Baxter** as its new Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives effective Monday, Oct. 30. Baxter was the Principal of Adult and Continuing Education at the Lakehead District School Board. She has worked in multiple contexts, including public school boards, the Ministry of Education, Lakehead University, and First Nations private schools. She is completing her PhD in Equity and Indigenous Education at York University.

Dr. Peggy Smith, who became Interim Vice-Provost, Aboriginal Initiatives, in September 2016, will retire at the end of October 2017.

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Nurturing Scholarship

Lakehead University and Georgian College formalize partnership

Starting in September 2017, two combined credentials are being offered to Lakehead students on the Georgian Barrie campus – The Honours BAsc in Environmental Sustainability with Specialization in Ecosystem Management and the Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical Engineering). Several Lakehead faculty members are joined by Lakehead contract lecturers in delivering the two programs. Joint orientations for teaching staff and students were held on August 29 and Sept 5, respectively. Thank you to members of both Faculties and Student Affairs for their important contributions to ensuring a strong start to these two programs.

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Lakehead University adds Graduate Diploma in Accounting

In June, **Dr. Bahram Dadgostar**, Dean of Lakehead's Faculty of Business Administration, announced that this fall semester would see his faculty launch its new Graduate Diploma in Accounting (GDA) at our Thunder Bay campus.

The GDA is accredited by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario. The five-course professional program offered over a semester gives students a head start in pursuing the CPA designation, Canada's pre-eminent professional business and accounting credential.

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J. Armand Bombardier Foundation's new scholarship for Lakehead business students

On July 19, Lakehead University's Faculty of Business Administration was the recipient of a \$50,000 gift from the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation to establish *The J. Armand Bombardier Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Business*.

The purpose of the scholarship is to support eligible students in the University's business graduate programs, including its Master of Science in Management and Master of Business Administration programs.

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New Honours Bachelor of Education program for Sandy Lake First Nation

Our Faculty of Education, working closely with members of Sandy Lake First Nation, will be offering a modified version of its Honours Bachelor of Education program to community members in Sandy Lake.

The community has a strong commitment to education, and a longstanding relationship with the Faculty and Lakehead University.

The program will be stretched out an additional year, with courses over the first few years offered online, as well as by face-to-face instruction in Sandy Lake scheduled around the students' work schedules.

Students will travel to Thunder Bay in the third and fourth spring or summers, to complete some coursework. For the final two years, students will move to Thunder Bay to complete our professional program, including their practicums.



Lakehead hosts Canada-Mexico roundtable on Indigenous Higher Education

Lakehead University hosted representatives from eight Mexican universities and 11 Canadian universities for the sixth *Canada-Mexico Roundtable on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education*. Federal, provincial, municipal and Indigenous representatives and students were invited to participate in the roundtable discussion. Their goal was to sign a consortium agreement to promote mobility, joint research and Indigenous community activities that explore ways to improve access and programming for Indigenous communities in both countries, as well as promote joint research and institutional collaboration.

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The Joyce Family Foundation gives \$1 million to Aboriginal Mentorship Program

On August 2, The Joyce Family Foundation donated \$1 million to Lakehead University's Aboriginal Mentorship Program (AMP) — an initiative that mentors Indigenous high school students from Northwestern Ontario. AMP allows high school students to visit our Lakehead Thunder Bay campus to experience university life. The new scholarship will help continue to remove barriers to access post-secondary education for young people, in perpetuity.

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Lakehead-Georgian welcomes first students

Nearly 45 students began their studies at Georgian College's Barrie Campus, this semester, as part of Lakehead-Georgian's first joint classes. Students embarked on a four-year journey in the first two Lakehead-Georgian combined programs: Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) with Electrical Engineering Technology advanced diploma, and Honours Bachelor of Arts and Science – Environmental Sustainability (Ecosystem Management) degree with Environmental Technician diploma.

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Canada 150 Research Chairs Nominations

The Canada 150 (C150) Research Chairs Program, announced in Budget 2017, provides Canadian institutions with a one-time investment to attract top-tier, internationally based scholars and researchers to Canada. The grant provides up to \$2.45M over seven years to support C150 Chairs. Lakehead University received over 200 applications from candidates in 59 different countries in response to its advertisement. After an extensive review process, the Canada 150 Research Chairs Search Committee has recommended that Lakehead nominate two candidates for the following C150 research chairs:

- 150 Chair in Food and Global Environmental Sustainability (Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities)
- C150 Chair in the Sustainable Production of Bioenergy and Value-added Bioproducts (Faculty of Engineering)



Community Engagement

Lakehead invites alumni to “come home” during Homecoming Weekend 2017

Our annual Homecoming Weekend takes place from September 28-30. Returning alumni and friends will enjoy many events that bring together lifelong friends, celebrate alumni excellence, and provide a nostalgic return to the university community.

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Lakehead’s Fall Orientation helped students transition to university

The *Thunderwolves Howl!* Fall Orientation welcomed new and returning students to Lakehead University to introduce them to our Thunder Bay campus. Orientation ran from Monday, Aug. 28 until Saturday, Sept. 2, and focused on helping students successfully transition to Lakehead University. Events and activities catered to students entering from high school, college/university transfer, international, Aboriginal and mature students.

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Growth & Capacity Development

Student Central opens its doors

On August 23, Student Central officially opened its doors to students.

Student Central is our new integrated service model that provides students with a “one stop” for matters pertaining to everything from applying and admissions to an undergraduate program through to graduation. It offers students a simplified university experience, as they will meet one-on-one with a Student Central Professional to discuss, plan, and prepare for any of these topics using a holistic student centered approach.

All students should be referred to Student Central where Student Central Professionals have the expertise to handle admissions, financial aid, academic advising, records and registration. Our newly launched ASK LAKEHEAD service is also available 24/7 for students to ask questions and receive instant responses. New self-service options have also been added to *myInfo*. A new web experience integrating the areas has also been launched – www.lakeheadu.ca/studentcentral.

An official, public opening event for Student Central, including a ribbon-cutting ceremony, will be on September 28.