

Report to Senate – January 18, 2013 Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

HEQCO/COU Focus on Faculty Productivity

In the report entitled *The Productivity of the Ontario Public Postsecondary System* (Dec 2012), the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) presented a preliminary analysis designed to reveal where opportunities may exist to increase efficiency and productivity. Part of the HEQCO data analysis was based on teaching workloads of full-time faculty provided by four Ontario universities. HEQCO recommended that more information about faculty workload should be made available (including information about teaching, research and service activities).

The Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents (OCAV) has agreed that Ontario universities should continue to develop information about faculty productivity in order to maintain their capacity to help shape the way in which data is collected, to help influence the interpretation of the information, and to support ongoing involvement with HEQCO in its productivity project. OCAV has agreed to replicate the HEQCO project with all of the Ontario Universities involved. COU has convened a meeting on January 22, 2013 to discuss any technical issues associated with the expansion the project. Each University has been invited to send two representatives to participate in the discussions. Lakehead University will be represented by Dr. Moira McPherson, Deputy Provost, and Ms. Kerrie-Lee Clarke, Director of Institutional Analysis and Government Relations.

New Program Approval

I am delighted to report that just prior to the holidays we received notification from the Ontario Council on Quality Assurance that the proposed new Mechanical Engineering (MSc) program was “**Approved to Commence**”. The proposal was approved as submitted and there were no conditions imposed. The Office of Institutional Analysis and Government Relations is now working with the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering to prepare the MTCU request for funding. A calendar submission will be forwarded to Faculty of Graduate Studies – Program Regulation Committee for review and approval. My hearty congratulations to the Faculty of Engineering and to all involved in the internal review and revision process.

Decanal Reviews

The Decanal Reviews within the Faculty of Education and Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies continue. It is anticipated that the process will be completed by the end of January.

Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) Search Committee

The committee has met to define the interview details. A short-list of candidates will be determined by the end of January. It is expected that the interviews will be conducted in early February.

Enrolment Update (excluding NOSM)

The final enrolment for 2012-2013 is:

- University Total 8670
- Undergraduate Students 7898
- Graduate Students 772
- Full-Time Students 7100
- Part-Time Students 1570
- Students in Orillia 1114
- Students in Thunder Bay 7556

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

The Faculty will be hosting Interprofessional Education Week – January 21-25, 2013. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more and meet others from Lakehead and elsewhere in the community who work in and are interested in Interprofessional Education and Interprofessional Collaborative Practice. Dr. Sharla King, University of Alberta will speak on “A Pathway to Collaborative Practice: Integrating Interprofessional Experiences in Health Programs”. There will also be a session on Spirituality and Interprofessional Education with Heather Boynton and Justine Bertrand.

Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law has extended its first round of admission offers to qualified applicants, in accordance with its mandate to admit students who are residents of or have a connection to rural communities throughout Ontario. The Admissions Committee continues to assess files on a rolling basis as academic and supplementary information is updated.

Faculty of Natural Resources Management

The NRM Faculty has had an eventful fall semester and a promising beginning for 2013. The Faculty hosted a two-day training module for value-added aspects of the Provincial enhanced Forest Inventory process – participants for industry, government, eNGOs and First Nations – the NRM Faculty hosted, executed and post-evaluated the event for the client – Ontario Forestry Futures. A week-long professional certified training module for enhanced Forest Inventory was primarily provided for Ontario forest management consultants and trainers from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Monthly training modules in softcopy image analysis (linked to the Provincial high-res forest inventory) were provided for regional industrial forest professionals. A professional online training module for mid-career professionals with industry, government and eNGOs in geomatics and land use planning is in development.

As part of the initiation of a four-week student exchange program with two Indian universities, eight Indian students are currently spending time on both campuses (and surrounding outreach areas) as early ambassadors for the subsequent full-time enrolment of Indian students in the NRM Faculty. The reciprocal NRM Canadian eight student visit to India will take place in April.

The two-year effort to establish a functional cohort exchange with undergraduate students from Anhui Agricultural University (China) is now seeing a major milestone with a signed MOU for Chinese students entering NRM's third year in the forestry program (two years at Lakehead). The Chinese students will follow a NRM-equivalent years 1 and 2 curricula in China prior to the cohorts of 30 students/year coming to Lakehead. A similar arrangement is currently nearing completion for Nanjing Forestry University (China) at the Masters level.

Finally, during the fall, NRM Faculty hosted three major conferences: 1) Thunder Bay: the Eastern Canadian Section of the Forest Products Society conference – attendees from Canada, US and Spain 2) Princeton, Virginia (co-hosted with UMD Duluth): North American Thermally Modified Timbers Forum – attendees from Europe and North America and 3) and very recently Sault Ste. Marie: Building Resilient Communities through Community-based Forest Management.

Lakehead International

Brazil

Lakehead University welcomed a second cohort of 86 students from Brazil to study at Lakehead through the Brazilian government's Science Without Borders Scholarship program. This second cohort brings the total number of Science without Borders students studying at LU to over 100 (a few students are arriving late due to late visa's), one of the largest groups of SWB students studying at any university in Canada. The majority of these students are in Engineering, with a few students in Science and Environmental Studies and Natural Resources Management.

Brian Stevenson, President, Leigh Ellen Keating, Director International and Anna Choi, International Relations Officer recently visited Korea in December 2012 to meet with five universities to discuss possible cooperation agreements. Korean students are seeking an authentic academic experience during the stay in Canada and would like to be a part of community rather than just learning the language as the students from other countries. Leigh Ellen Keating continued on from Korea to Dalian China to meet with the Vice Superintendent of Maple Leaf Schools to discuss the opportunity to create an ELP summer school at LU's Orillia campus. Maple Leaf needs to find spaces for three groups of 60 students for short (2 week ESL summer camps).

English Language Program

The English Language Program has grown rapidly since opening their doors in September. ELP currently has 97 students registered for the winter term, including a large portion of the Science Without Borders students from Brazil, students from China, Saudi Arabia and one student from the new nation of South Sudan.

Aboriginal Initiatives

Community Relations

Aboriginal Initiatives assisted in hosted a public film screening of Third World Canada, produced and directed by Andree Cazabon. The film is set in the backdrop of the aftermath of the suicide of three parents; the documentary explores the impact of 3rd world conditions on children and a community's courage in looking after them. For further information about the tour and outreach can be found at <http://productionscazabon.wix.com/tour#!thetour/c2414>

Aboriginal Student Recruitment

Recruiters attended the Manito Ahbee International Pow-Wow and Trade Show in Winnipeg, MB. Aboriginal Initiatives in partnership the Department of Aboriginal Education participated in Youth Education Conference, which was attended by approximately 1200 Aboriginal students.

The Nanabijou Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement Coordinator hosted a variety of information sessions on Graduate Studies that included disciplines such as Education, Health & Behavioural Sciences, and how to find funding to attend Graduate School.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services

The Aboriginal Student Counsellor continues to counsel daily approximately 2-3 students one on one as well as facilitate daily smudging, hosting weekly workshops and providing resource material to the Lakehead University community.

A small gathering co-hosted by the Ontario Native Education Counsellors group took place in the student lounge to seek student feedback on transition struggles student face coming from small, remote and northern communities.

A Beading and Quilting Project is underway, where approximately 50 students and staff have taken a square and created their own unique designs. Under the guidance and direction of Elder, Ella Gagnon the quilt will be sewn together to be hung in the student lounge.

Student Affairs

Many departments in Student Affairs are busy providing assistance and fostering student success. New initiatives are in development while ongoing initiatives are constantly being modified to better address the needs of students. Departments also remain busy with the development and implementation of new software program that will make it easier for students to submit resumes to employers, book appointments within the Student Success Centre, ask questions on-line via an intelligent answer product, and plans are being made to launch a pilot project both in Thunder Bay and in Orillia whereby students engaged in certain activities can be eligible for these activities to be included on a Co-Curricular Record. More details on all these initiatives will be provided closer to the various launch dates.

As many of you may have heard, Andrea Huillery is off on medical leave because of a severely broken arm. In the interim Robert Perrier has been appointed as the Acting Director of Admissions and Recruitment.

Admissions & Recruitment

On Tuesday, December 4, 2012 over 550 prospective students and their families, including 100 guests from outside Northwestern Ontario, attended the Thunder Bay Campus Fall Preview, the largest on-campus recruitment event of the year. Special thank you to the faculty, staff and students who opened their doors and welcomed these special guests who spent an exciting day exploring all facets of the Lakehead University experience at a critical time in the application process.

Forthcoming major recruitment events include: **Grade 11 Inquiry Days** (Orillia Campus) February 19 & 20, 2013; **Grade 11 Preview Day** (Thunder Bay Campus) February 22, 2013; **March Break Open House** (Thunder Bay and Orillia Campuses) March 11 - 15, 2013.

In January and February, the Recruitment team will be increasing its major recruiting efforts towards College Transfer students, with attendance at major college transfer fairs and in-class visits targeting 32 college campuses across Ontario.

Student Success Centre

The SSC welcomed new students to campus in January through Orientation programming, including: a new student handbook, highlighting university programs, services, as well as tips to be successful in university; an SSC open house and a services fair in the Agora, promoting services available to students to help assist with their transition University.

Friday January 18th marks the annual Education Fair, with over 25 school boards and organizations from around the world gathering to recruit our professional-year BEd students.

Orillia Campus

Student Affairs

At its meeting of December 5, 2012, the Ontario College Athletics Association (OCAA) approved the application request of Lakehead University's Orillia Campus for affiliate membership. Beginning in September 2013, the Orillia Campus will begin to offer a series of activities in support of OCAA programming which will eventually lead to new Varsity Teams playing within the OCAA at Orillia. Potential OCAA Teams could include Golf in 2014 and Soccer in 2016. Liz Ross, Athletics & Recreation Facilitator and Frank Cappadocia, Associate Vice-Provost for the Orillia Campus, were supported by both Georgian and Humber College's respective Athletics Directors in bringing this application and eventual approval together.

School of Social Work

60 one-year students are currently in placements across Canada (mostly in the Simcoe and GTA regions) while taking their remaining classes online. Another 35 students are in local placements while taking classes in Orillia as they progress through the 4 year program.

The School said farewell to a long term sessional instructor, Nancy Stevens, who has accepted a full time position as Director of Mental Health for the Gwitchin First

Nation. She and her youngest daughter have recently moved to Old Crow, the only Yukon village located above the Arctic Circle.

Orillia Campus Plan 2013 – 2018

The first draft of the Orillia Campus Plan 2013-2018 was completed at the beginning of December 2012, and posted online for the launch of an extensive consultation process.

Over the past seven weeks, students, staff and faculty members, alumni, and community partners have participated in the review and ongoing development of the Campus Plan. A series of Town Hall meetings was held (10 in total) for students, staff and faculty at both the Orillia and Thunder Bay campuses. Meetings were facilitated by Gerry Munt and Alice den Otter and resulted in a number of useful discussions, a summary of which is available for review at the [Orillia Campus Plan](#) website.

In addition to the Town Hall meetings, feedback to the Plan was invited through an online survey and feedback submission form. Over 150 survey responses were received, and together with the submission form, the online consultation process has produced an invaluable collection of comprehensive and thoughtful comments and suggestions.

Special meetings were also held with the Orillia Campus Community Advisory Committee and Simcoe County Council, facilitated by Kim Fedderson and Paul Weber.

To ensure the relevance of the Orillia Campus Plan to our current Academic Plan, meetings also took place at both campuses with a number of Lakehead University Academic Chairs and Deans. One significant amendment to the Plan as a result of these meetings will be the addition of an appendix focused on Lakehead International.

Following consultation with the Orillia Campus Community Advisory Committee, community engagement in the plan will continue through media releases, the Report to the Community event and through a countywide information-sharing strategy by members of the Advisory Committee.

The official consultation process will be completed at the end of January. At this time, the first draft will be revised, based on the input received through the consultation activities, including the addition of a Lakehead International appendix. The subsequent document will be a “living” document and will continue to be updated as it is used to guide the development of the Orillia campus.

Rodney Hanley, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)