

Report to Senate – November 16, 2012 Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

Senate Teaching and Learning Committee and the Instructional Development Centre

A successful week of celebrating and promoting excellence in teaching and learning took place this past October. A summary of all of the events that were held can be found on the IDC website <http://idc.lakeheadu.ca/2012-teaching-and-learning-week/>. Teaching and Learning week was followed by a first-rate Distinguished Instructor Address delivered by this year's winner, Dr. Judith Leggatt. I want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Rhonda Koster, Director of the Instructional Development Centre, and Dr. Jane Nicholas, the Chair of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee, for coordinating and leading these important events.

Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives) Search Committee

The committee met to refine the position profile and advertisement, now in publication. During the recruitment period, the committee will define the interview details. It is expected that a short-list of candidates can be determined early in the New Year.

Decanal Reviews

Decanal Review Committees have been established for reviews occurring within the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies. The Committees will meet during the last week in November to determine timelines and format gathering feedback.

Faculty of Law

Admissions

The deadline for applications (November 1st) has passed. The Ontario Law School Application Service (OLSAS) has reported that Lakehead received over 1100 applications for admission to the inaugural class for September 2013.

Recruitment

Initiatives are underway for both faculty and librarian positions, with candidates being interviewed throughout the month of November.

PACI

The contract for Phase I construction of the PACI Faculty of Law building has been awarded. Construction will get underway shortly.

Enrollment Update (excluding NOSM):

Compared to this time last year,

- 1) -0.10% overall (8671 students total)
- 2) +1% full-time students (7101 students total)
- 3) -4% part-time students (1570 students total)
- 4) +13% students in Orillia (1284 students total)
- 5) -1% undergraduate students (7901 students total)
- 6) +9% graduate students (770 students total)

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Dr. Chris Parkes, of the Department of English launched a new book: *Children's Literature and Capitalism: Fictions of Social Mobility in Britain, 1850-1914*, published by Palgrave-Macmillan.

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

Social Work Prof Receives Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Dr. Mary Lou Kelley, a professor from the School of Social Work and a Centre for Education and Research on Aging & Health (CERAH) Research Affiliate, is one of 32 individuals who were recognized across Canada for outstanding commitment to the advancement of hospice palliative care in Canada.

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA) was chosen to be a partner organization by the Governor General of Canada and has elected to award 32 individuals for their work in the advancement of hospice palliative care in Canada.

A new commemorative medal was created to mark the 2012 celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne. The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal is a tangible way for Canada to honour Her Majesty for her service to this country. At the same time, it serves to honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

The CHPCA presented the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medals in Montreal, Quebec on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012.

MSW Graduate Student Wins First Prize in International Conference Poster Competition

Student Stacey Saukko recently attended the 19th International Congress on Palliative Care in Montreal, Quebec, October 9-12, 2012 where she presented a poster titled *Music Students' Experiences of Music Interaction with Residents Living in Two Northwestern Ontario Long-Term Care Homes*. Of the 260 student abstract

submissions, 31 abstracts were accepted to present at the conference, and Stacey's poster won first prize in the student poster competition.

The poster outlines the background, purpose, methodology, results and conclusion of a qualitative study of Lakehead University music students' experiences of music interaction with residents of Bethammi Nursing Home and Hogarth Riverview Manor. It is part of her research project and practicum experience for her Masters degree. Her project is part of a larger five-year project titled *Improving Quality of Life for People Dying in Long-term Care Homes*.

Stacey Saukko is a candidate for the Masters of Social Work program with a specialization in Gerontology, Stacey's research focuses on utilizing art and music as a communication tool to promote well-being in long-term care and palliative care settings. She is supervised by Dr. Marg McKee, Lakehead University's School of Social Work.

Highlights from Departments within Student Affairs

Admissions & Recruitment

Two very successful Guidance Counsellor Seminars were held for our local and regional guidance counsellors at both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses. On October 26th, the Orillia campus had over 40 counsellors attend a half day event where they received updates on our academic offerings, met with current students and learned all about the services in place for students. On November 9th, the Thunder Bay campus had 30 counsellors attend from all local high schools and from across the region. Counsellors enjoyed hearing about the Law School, success of our students, and other academic programs including a tour of Engineering's laboratories and facilities.

Student Accessibility Services

The number of students registering with Student Accessibility Services is higher than last year. (331 compared to 246 to date) This results in an increased demand for many of our services; intake, test invigilation, provision of alternate format textbooks, assistive technology support and note taking.

Highlights from Aboriginal Initiatives

Community Relations

The Office of Aboriginal Initiatives attended the Council of Ontario Universities, Aboriginal Reference Group meeting hosted by University of Toronto. This group meets approximately 4 times a year to collaborate on postsecondary matters.

During the Northern Ontario School of Medicines Research Rendezvous our office had the pleasure of meeting with several Indigenous delegations to speak about the Lakehead commitment to Aboriginal Initiatives.

Continued support to the Keendaasiwin Steering Committee planning.

Aboriginal Student Recruitment

Both the Aboriginal Outreach Recruitment Officer and the Aboriginal Liaison Officer are continuing with their Aboriginal Post Secondary Information Program Tour. Travelling with other universities and colleges since early Fall they have visited several high schools, community centers and First Nations raising awareness of both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses.

The Nanabijou Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement Coordinator has facilitated a Meet & Greet to engage upper year students and graduate students to learn more about supports and services available. There are approximately 56 graduate students at Lakehead.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services

Programs and services to support academic, cultural and transitional issues continue weekly. Students are engaged with guest speakers, employers, sweat lodge ceremonies, fall feast, one on one Elders visits (3 days a week).

The Unit recently completed an Aboriginal Peer Mentor handbook. Promotion to recruit students to the program will commence for the Winter term.

The Aboriginal Counsellor continues to support approximately 50 students monthly.

Orillia Campus Highlights

Student Affairs

Network of Ontario Student Affairs Directors will be meeting at the Orillia campus on November 15th and 16th. NOSAD is made up of Student Affairs Directors from throughout Ontario whom meet once a quarter on mutually important issues. This will be the first time that any of them have been to Orillia or to the new campus.

Orillia Campus Plan

Orillia Campus Planning is progressing well, with a view to completing a first draft for consultation by the beginning of December 2012. Gap analysis feedback was received from students, faculty, and staff at 10 town hall consultation sessions, including 7 at Orillia and 3 at Thunder Bay, the transcripts of which are visible on our website. A summary report of strategic issues emerging from the town hall consultations will be available soon. On November 19 and 20, Deans and Chairs from Thunder Bay met with Dean and Chairs from Orillia to address the complexities, challenges, and future of governance at Orillia. The discussion was stimulating and productive, showing a strong willingness on the part of everyone to work together creatively and collegially to solve

problems, some of which extend institutionally beyond Orillia alone. Several suggestions for developing governance relations and policies emerged and will be reflected in the Orillia Campus Plan 2013-17.

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