

Report to Senate – Oct 1, 2010

Acting Vice-President Academic & Provost

Academic Planning

The Academic Planning process will begin shortly and will continue through the 2010/2011 academic year. The terms of reference for the Senate Academic subcommittee responsible for leading the academic planning process were approved at the June 1 meeting of the Senate Academic Committee (SAC) and can be accessed on the VP home page.

The composition of the committee is as follows:

1. Vice-President (Academic) & Provost and/or Associate Vice-President Academic
3. Two Faculty Deans – appointed by SAC
4. Chair or the Vice Chair of SAC
5. Five full-time tenured faculty members nominated by SAC. A minimum of one of the members shall be a full-time tenured faculty member appointed at the Orillia Campus.

The Committee was subsequently formed according to the approved terms and the names of the members are also available on the VP site. The Academic Planning Committee, chaired by Acting Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, will involve the academic community using a consultative planning process, will provide regular communications on progress, and will ultimately bring a new Academic Plan to Senate by fall 2011. More details will be presented at the November meeting of Senate.

Transition to the Provincial Quality Assurance Framework

The Quality Assurance Framework was developed by a task force which worked closely over a two-year period with academic vice-presidents, consulted with the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and received approval from the Executive Heads of Ontario Universities last April. The new provincially mandated Quality Assurance Framework has three major components: procedures for the approval of new academic programs; procedures for the review of existing programs; and procedures related to the audit of each university's quality assurance process on an eight-year cycle. The Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance (the Quality Council) was established by the Council of Ontario Universities to oversee quality assurance processes for all levels of programs in its publicly assisted universities, as of March 1, 2010.

All Universities were required to submit drafts of their Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) (or a detailed progress development report) by last July. Our

Draft IQAP was developed in close consultation with the Senate Academic Quality Assurance Subcommittee and with input from the Senate Academic Committee, and was submitted July 1, 2010.

The Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance met this week and we are expecting formal feedback on our draft shortly. We plan to address any feedback provided by the Quality Council and submit the IQAP and Proposed Schedule for Cyclical Program Review 2010-2020 to the Senate Academic Committee for review by late October. Final IQAPS must be submitted to the Quality Council for approval by the end of December 2010. Starting in January, all undergraduate and graduate program reviews at Lakehead will be conducted in accordance with the Lakehead University IQAP and the Quality Assurance Framework.

Plans to present workshops on the QA requirements related to cyclical program reviews to interested graduate coordinators and undergraduate chairs/directors are underway.

(The Council of Ontario Universities Quality Assurance Framework is posted at Link <http://vpacademic.lakeheadu.ca>)

New Program Planning & Development

Law School Proposal: At its March 2010 meeting, the Council of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada approved revisions which require applications for new law degree programs to address the "National Requirements" recommended by their Task Force. The Law School proposal was revised to demonstrate alignment with the Federation's National Requirements. The University is currently awaiting formal notification of the outcome of the review. Pending approval by the Council, the proposal will be submitted for internal and external review in accordance with the provincial Quality Assurance requirements.

Promotion, Tenure and Renewal (PTR)

Two PTR information sessions were recently held. All applications were due this past Thursday. Formation of the PTR committee will be conducted in accordance with Article 22 of the collective agreement. Hearings are scheduled for the week of December 13-17, 2010, and April 18-19, 2011.

Merit

Reminder - Applications for merit are due October 15, 2010.