



January
2014

President's Report to the Board of Governors



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY





OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NOHFC & LUSU Help Build an Enhanced Nanabijou Daycare Centre

With support from the province's Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) and the Lakehead University Student Union, the Nanabijou Childcare Centre is constructing a new 8,200-square foot building in front of our Hangar building to that will provide the an additional 40 day-care spots, a new infant care program, and training opportunities for early childhood education students. The facility is expected to open in fall 2014.

[Click here for NOHFC's media release...](#)



Rita Blais Receives *Distinguished Leadership Award*



Congratulation go to **Rita Blais**, Lakehead's Associate Vice-President, Financial Services, who was recently awarded the prestigious Council of Finance Officers – University of Ontario *Distinguished Leadership Award*.

Nominated and voted by their peers, the award is bestowed to those who have demonstrated effective leadership and made a contribution to COFO – UO and the management of higher education.

Describing Rita as dedicated, always striving for excellence, and willing to participate and take leadership roles in all provincial committees, this year's Distinguished Leadership Award Nominating Committee was unanimous in its recommendation to present the award to her.



Conference Board of Canada Skills Gap Discussion

On December 5, the Conference Board of Canada's Director of Education, Health and Immigration Programs, Diana MacKay, and University of Alberta's Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Dr. Carl Amrhein — who is also a visiting executive with the Conference Board of Canada — co-hosted an information session at our Thunder Bay campus about the development of a Centre for Skills and Post-Secondary Education. In attendance were Lakehead faculty, staff, and senior administration, and local industry representatives.

Lakehead Graduates' Employment above Ontario Average

On November 19, the Council of Ontario Universities released its findings from its latest survey of students who graduated from an Ontario undergraduate university program in 2010. According to the provincial study, the results are positive: graduates have higher employment rates and higher incomes than those with any other level of education. Once again, Lakehead University graduates have a higher employment rate (93.6%) two years after graduation than the provincial average (92.2%).

[Click here for COU's media release...](#)

MTCU Major Capital Expansion Policy Framework Announced

On December 20th, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities released its new Major Capital Expansion Policy Framework. The framework sets out a checklist for institutions considering capacity expansion, and encourages institutions to respond as soon as possible with information about their planned capacity expansions. A formal call for proposals will be made in early 2014.

[Click here for more more information...](#)



NURTURING SCHOLARSHIP

Law Society Approves Faculty of Law's "Groundbreaking" IPC Program

On November 21, Lakehead's Faculty of Law received an historic approval from the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC) for its Integrated Practice Curriculum (IPC), the first in Canada to integrate legal professional training into a law degree. The Faculty's new model of legal education fuses the theory of law with the practice of law. In addition to learning law, students will also acquire the necessary practical skills to use the law effectively; meaning our students will be "practice ready" upon graduation without the need for articling placements.

Click here for LSUC's media release...

Click here for Lakehead University's media release...

Fulbright Canada Establishes Visiting Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Sustainability Solutions at Lakehead University

On January 10, Lakehead University and the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America (Fulbright Canada) signed a memorandum of understanding that establishes a Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Sustainability Solutions at Lakehead.

Click here for media release...

Myself and Dr. Michael Hawes, CEO and Executive Director of Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program, signing the MOU on Friday, January 10.





CIHR Awards \$2.2 million to Faculty of Health & Behavioural Sciences Researchers

Faculty members in the Faculty of Health & Behavioural Sciences have recently secured \$2.2 million in new funding from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), the largest of the three Tri-Council Funding agencies in the country.

- **Dr. Karen McQueen**, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, is a Co-Investigator (with C. Dennis, University of Toronto as Principal Investigator), on a three-year CIHR Operating Grant for \$1,262,453 to conduct a randomized control trial on increasing self-efficacy to improve breastfeeding outcomes.
- **Dr. Michel Bédard**, Professor, Department of Health Sciences, and Director of the Centre for Research on Safe Driving (CRSD) is the Principal Investigator on a five-year CIHR Operating grant for \$557,479 to develop a standardized process to assess senior drivers.
- **Dr. Vicki Kristman**, Assistant Professor, Department of Health Sciences, is the Principal Investigator on a three-year CIHR Operating grant of \$331,223 to evaluate a supervisor-training program that will increase return-to-work rates for injured worker.
- **Dr. Josephine Tan**, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, is the Principal Investigator on a one-year CIHR Planning Grant for \$19,000 on containing suicide contagion among Inuit youth aged 12-19 in Nunavut.



LEARNER-CENTRED STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Lakehead signs MOU with UAlberta’s Faculty of Arts School in Cortona, Italy

On December 5, Lakehead signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that establishes a relationship with the University of Alberta’s Faculty of Arts School in Cortona, Italy.

The MOU creates a framework to allow:

- Mobility of faculty and/or staff
- Mobility of graduate and/or undergraduate students
- Joint research activities and publication
- Participation in seminars and academic meetings
- Exchange of academic materials and other information
- Special short-term academic programs



Myself and University of Alberta Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Dr. Carl Amrhein.

Click here for media release...

Institute of Italian Studies-Lakehead University Contributes \$25,000 to Cortona Project

The Institute of Italian Studies-Lakehead University’s (IISLU) board of directors contributed \$25,000 to the Cortona project through the Free Tuition scholarship program at Lakehead University. The funds will be used to send students to study in Cortona, Italy.

Thanks to IISLU’s contribution, approximately four Lakehead University students will have the opportunity to spend a month studying in Cortona, Italy. The first student, from our Orillia campus, is leaving for Italy this month. Two more Thunder Bay campus students will depart this spring.

Back row (left to right): Cortona Scholarship Recipient, Kelsey Pennanen; IISLU President, Roy Piovesana; Lakehead University Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Dr. Rod Hanley; myself; IISLU Vice-President, John Bonofiglio; IISLU Secretary and Treasurer, Richard Buset; Cortona Scholarship Recipient, Paige Tyler.



Click here for media release...



Lakehead Signs Simulation Agreement with Confederation College

On January 24, Lakehead University, signed a partnership agreement with Confederation College and key health care educators in the region to pool resources and increase training capacity – as well as student access – to training simulations for medical learners of all disciplines throughout Northwestern Ontario.

[Click here for media release...](#)

GROWTH & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Agreement with University of Shanghai Science & Technology

While on a trip to China, and on behalf of the Faculty of Science & Environmental Studies, I signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of Shanghai Science and Technology (USST) for the development of two plus two dual degree programs in Science. The agreement will also lead to USST students who have studied two years in their undergraduate program to transfer into, and complete their undergraduate studies at, Lakehead University. These transfer students will also have the opportunity to complete a Masters degree in their field of study at Lakehead.

Update on Phase I of Telepresence Classrooms

Significant progress has been made on Phase I of Lakehead University's Telepresence Initiative with the completion of both the Thunder Bay and Orillia Telepresence Classrooms. We will be carrying out a beta testing phase over the coming months with the intention of offering classes in these facilities in September 2014.



County of Simcoe Gives Lakehead \$1M; Academic Building to be named ‘Simcoe Hall’



The County of Simcoe makes \$1 million contribution to Lakehead University Orillia during County Council. Left to right: Warden Cal Patterson; Dr. Brian Stevenson, President and Vice-Chancellor, Lakehead University; Dr. Kim Fedderson, Dean and Vice Provost, Orillia Campus; and Mr. Bruce Waite, Member of the Lakehead University Board of Governors.

Lakehead University Orillia was presented a \$1 million cheque by the County of Simcoe during its County Council meeting, November 26, in Midhurst, Ontario.

In recognition of the County's enormous support, I proudly announced that our Orillia campus's Academic Building would be named Simcoe Hall. An official naming ceremony will be held at the in spring 2014.

[Click here for media release...](#)





Agreement Signed with the Indian High School in Dubai, UAE

During January meetings with several schools and institutions in Dubai and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, I signed an agreement with the Indian High School. The partnership allows for Lakehead to recruit from their students, offer and explore scholarship opportunities. The Indian High School has 15,000 students on three campuses in Dubai, The school is ranked as "outstanding" by national accreditation bodies and a large number of their graduates choose to study abroad each year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Lakehead's 2012-2013 Annual Report and Reports to our Communities

Lakehead University is celebrating its success stories in Northwestern Ontario and Central Ontario through the release of the 2012-13 Annual Report.

The Annual Report describes the outstanding teaching and research occurring at both of Lakehead University's campuses, and includes performance indicators and financial statements for 2012-13.

[Click here for media release...](#)





CESME's First Conference a Success

Lakehead University's recently established Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining and Exploration helped address challenges faced by Northwestern Ontario's mining sector at their inaugural conference, December 5-6. The conference, entitled *The Role of Government Policy in Sustainable Mining Development*, brought together researchers and participants from First Nations, Métis, and other local communities, government representatives, and several speakers, including Bob Rae.



[*Click here for media release...*](#)

Faculty of Education Students Engage with Community

A number of faculty and students from the Faculty of Education have been engaged in excellent knowledge mobilization and community engagement work:

- As part of the "Embedded" series, three teacher candidates from Dr. Lisa Korteweg and Ms. Tesa Fiddler's ED4000 course, *Indigenizing Perspectives and Practices*, were interviewed on CBC radio's Superior Morning show about their participation in an after-school indigenous cultural program, *Biwasee'a*, at St. James Elementary. Brittany Kennedy, Katrina Butschler, and Katie Hunter did a superb job discussing cultural integration, treaty history, and intergenerational impacts of residential schools. These students were well prepared for this experience by the required cultural immersion hours in the course and by our other Aboriginal education courses in the Faculty of Education.
- CBC's Superior Morning also featured two Joint PhD Education students — Kristin Jones-Bonafiglio and Kathy Kortess-Miller — who were interviewed about LU-CERAH's palliative care conference and their work with Lakehead's simulation lab.
- As part of their work with CUSP (Citizens United for a Sustainable Planet), Dr. Paul Berger and MEd student Natalie Gerum organized the "Pipeline Cafe" held in The Study as well as the "Defend our Climate, Defend our Communities" protest at Hillcrest Park. Both events had good attendance and earned positive media attention.



Thunder Bay Event Centre Announcement

Lakehead University has continued to position itself as a key contributor in the development of a new arena and event center to be constructed in downtown Thunder Bay. On January 21st, Lakehead University and the Thunderwolves moved one step closer when the City of Thunder Bay announced it had identified our group of partners, known as *Thunder Bay LIVE!*, as the successful respondent to the City of Thunder Bay's Request for Expressions of Interests in the development of a new event centre.

Thunder Bay LIVE!, which is headed by former NHL coach and broadcaster Gary Green and Stadium Consultants International, includes Lakehead University and Thunderwolves Hockey, True North Sports & Entertainment, Global Spectrum, BBB Architects Toronto Inc., and PCL construction.

[Click here for the City of Thunder Bay's media release...](#)

Minister Rickford Visits Campus and Tour of Telepresence Classroom

The Honourable Greg Rickford, Minister of State (Science and Technology, and Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario), visited Lakehead University on January 21, 2014 to meet with myself and Senior Administration to discuss the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Mining and Exploration and tour our new telepresence classroom.