

March
2016



President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY



Achieving Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

Lakehead Student Awarded \$50K for Motor Skills Development Game

Lakehead University student **Shayna Parker** was recently awarded \$50,000 from the Ontario Brain Institute's (OBI) Entrepreneur Program for her development of a game for mobile devices. Her game will help assess and train hand functions in people that have experienced motor deficits.

The OBI funds and supports scientists in entrepreneurial and commercialization opportunities to help establish neuroscience-related companies in the Neurotech Ontario cluster.



Dr. Andrew P. Dean hosted the opening ceremony for Lakehead's annual Research & Innovation Week.

Research & Innovation Week 2016

Lakehead's 11th annual Research & Innovation Week ran from March 5-10, and included numerous opportunities for the public to learn about what Canada's #1 undergraduate research university is up to.

Our Research & Innovation Awards of Excellence Reception was held on Thursday, March 10 to celebrate the dedication and achievements of researchers and students. For the complete list of award recipients, please see the media release, below.

[Click here for our Research & Innovation Awards' media release...](#)

[Click here for Research & Innovation Week 2016's media release...](#)

[Click here for Research & Innovation Week 2016's schedule...](#)



Canada Foundation for Innovation funds Biorefining Researcher

Dr. Lew Christopher, Director of Lakehead's [Biorefining Research Institute](#), is receiving \$59,539 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation for his work in enabling advanced, high-quality research in Forest Biorefining.

In a forest-based biorefining system, trees are harvested to produce high-value primary products (e.g. lumber, pulp, paper) and residues are used to create a range of value-added co-products. Dr. Christopher will use the funding to purchase three pieces of state of the art equipment to advance his research into the production of value-added chemicals, materials and bioenergy from the residues created through the Forest Biorefinery.

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



Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

Queen's Park Pop-Up Event

On Wednesday, February 17, Lakehead faculty and staff participated in a "Queen's Park Pop-Up" event organized by *Research Matters*, which is a collaboration of Ontario's 21 publicly-supported universities aimed at informing the general public about the relevance of the research undertaken by universities.

Dr. Chris Murray and Ms. Kayla Snyder of our Orillia campus were joined by Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Vice President of Research & Innovation. During the event, our Lakehead team learned about other research projects across Ontario and spoke with MPP's and Ministry staff about Lakehead research.



Lakehead's Open House for Prospective Students during March Break

Our Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses hosted prospective students, as well as their family and friends, during our recent March Break. The event offers many opportunities, including experiencing what it's like to be a student at Lakehead for the day, sitting in on classes, meeting professors and current students, and enjoying guided tours of our campuses.

[Click here for our Orillia campus media release...](#)

Family Math Nights = Fun + Faculty + Staff + Students + Community

Congratulations to our Faculty of Education professional year students and faculty for hosting four highly successful "Family Math Nights" in local schools during February and March.

The response was overwhelmingly positive. All administrators were enthusiastic and excited about the turn out (50 to 80 participants at each school) and by the competence of Lakehead's Education students, who led the activities.

The school children were excited to learn new games and to have their parents involved. The games were easily modified for different ages and skill levels, so every child felt successful.

Parents said they appreciated learning about different ways to support their children's math thinking beyond helping with homework or using workbooks or flash cards. For each game the Education students designed handouts that explained the game, including extensions for older or younger children. Most of the games are card or dice games so they can easily be played at home.





Strengthen our Commitment to Social Justice

Social Justice Research Day

As part of this year's Research & Innovation Week, Lakehead University and the Thunder Bay Art Gallery co-hosted a special event devoted to the discussion of contemporary issues in research related to social justice. To mark the opening of Lakehead's 2016 Research & Innovation Week, two round table discussions were featured at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery on Monday, March 7, 2016.

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