



50
YEARS
1965-2015

September
2015

President's Report to Senate



Lakehead
UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

Georgian-Lakehead's Response to Major Capacity Expansion Announcement

On May 20, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) announced its long-awaited decision on postsecondary expansion.

The MTCU selected only one proposal for this fiscal year — a new York-Seneca campus to be built in Markham. The Ministry intends to issue a second call for proposals, next year, for the Halton and Peel regions. Notwithstanding the decision, Georgian College and Lakehead University remain committed to our ongoing collaboration to establish much-needed new degree programs for students in Central Ontario.

Going forward, our goal is to continue to emphasize the opportunities before us. There is exceptional potential to expand access to degrees in health and sciences, technology, engineering, business and management and other in-demand fields — without immediate capital investment or new buildings.

Lakehead and Georgian are already working on program planning, and anticipate new program collaboration as early as September 2016. Using existing space, we could add 2,000 new degree students — 1,200 at Georgian's Barrie Campus and 800 at Lakehead University's Orillia Campus.

[Click here to read Joint Georgian-Lakehead media release...](#)

Alumnus/HD Recipient Gifts Original Artwork to Lakehead

On May 29, Lakehead alumnus and 2015 Honorary Degree recipient, Dr. Dominic Man-Kit Lam presented a gift to his alma mater. Dr. Lam's work, *Nine Court Diagram: Creativity*, was unveiled to the University community and media at an event in the Office of the President's reception area, where it remains hanging in our Student Art Gallery along The Row.

Dr. Lam explained that his original, mixed media piece represents the "treasures" he inherited from his education at Lakehead University.

Dr. Lam explains the meaning of his original piece at unveiling event.



Facing Challenges of Today for Tomorrow Roundtable

At the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Winter Chiefs Assembly in February 2015, NAN passed Resolution 15/12 (Social Issue Commonalities with our Urban Neighbours). Further to that resolution, NAN invited community partners to a May 20th roundtable discussion called *Facing Challenges of Today for Tomorrow*. Lakehead University was part of the discussion and co-sponsored the Roundtable event.

The discussion included the following identified issues:

- **Positives** – Education Opportunities, First Nations Trade School, economic development, training
- **Prevention Strategies** – Addiction Issues, trafficking and abuse of narcotics and prescription drugs
- **Community Safety** – Racism, gangs, access to services, orientation for newcomers
- **Homelessness** – Overcrowding, access to housing

Appointment of New University Librarian

Karen Keiller began her role as our new University Librarian in May. Karen's previous job was Director of Information Services and Systems at the University of New Brunswick Saint John where she led library services, information technology, and educational and classroom technology. She has experience at four post-secondary institutions in a variety of roles relevant to her new position at Lakehead.

Karen succeeds Anne Deighton, who retired on June 30, after 38 years with Lakehead University.



Asbestos Information Sessions & Update

In response to concerns, earlier this year, about asbestos on our Thunder Bay campus, we invited our asbestos management company, *True Grit Consulting*, to host several information sessions. These sessions included a presentation by True Grit about what asbestos is, where it's found, how our University manages it, as well as a Q&A with faculty, staff, students, and the expert consultants.

During the summer, several ceiling repairs were completed in our Centennial Building and the 2015 annual asbestos audit was completed. Required repairs identified in the previous asbestos audit have recently been tendered and work will commence in the near future. Anyone with concerns are reminded to contact Physical Plant.



Fedderson named Principal & Next Phase of Orillia Campus

May 15 marked the official beginning of a new role for **Dr. Kim Fedderson** and our Orillia Campus.

Building on the recommendations from the Provost's Task Force on the Academic Structure and Governance at the Orillia Campus, the time had come to realign our management and organization framework to support our Orillia campus's evolution going forward. Following the academic structural changes arising from the work of the Task Force, I announced that Dr. Fedderson would be appointed the new title of Principal, Orillia Campus.

[Click here to learn more about the Office of the Principal...](#)

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NOHFC Gives \$1 Million for Telepresence Expansion

On May 22, the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation announced its investment of \$1M in Lakehead university's telepresence initiative. The funds will be used to establish the immersive classroom technology in Kenora and Sioux Lookout so students can have access to an interactive university education experience right in their home towns.

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



Minister Gravelle announces \$1M investment to live and virtual audiences at media event.

Thunder Bay Campus's 2015 Convocation Ceremonies and Chancellor's Dinner

Approximately 1,200 students attended our Universities' four convocation ceremonies. In addition to celebrating our students and their achievements, and conferring honorary degrees and naming a Fellow of the University (see May 2015's President's Report to the Board), this was the first year a graduate addressed the audience as the "Voice of the Class".

To honour our 50th Anniversary, a special video of Lakehead's 1965 Convocation was shared at each ceremony, with graduates from the 1965 ceremonies present at our Saturday afternoon convocation.

On the evening of May 29, Chancellor Burney hosted his third Chancellor's Dinner at the Victoria Inn to over 200 guests, students, dignitaries, faculty, staff, and convocation honourees.



2015 Pan Am Games Torch Relay

Early, on May 31, I represented Lakehead University as one of the 3,000 torchbearers for the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games Torch Relay, and was Thunder Bay's first torchbearer. The Relay went along Arthur Street to City Hall, where a breakfast was had with all torchbearers and their families, local dignitaries, and the Games' mascot, Pachi.



Mining Engineering MOU between Lakehead and Queen's

Opportunities in the field of mining engineering took a step forward for students at Lakehead University and Queen's University with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the institutions, on June 23.

Dr. David Barnett, Lakehead's Dean of Engineering, and **Dr. Kimberly Woodhouse**, Dean of Engineering and Applied Science at Queen's University, signed an MOU at Lakehead University's Thunder Bay campus proclaiming a commitment by the two universities to work together on expanding opportunities for students studying in the field of mining engineering

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Interim University Secretary and Acting Senior Advisor Appointed

After eight years as a valued member of our Lakehead University community — the last four as University Secretary — Karen Roche decided to take her retirement at the end of June 2015.

Under Karen's dedicated stewardship of Lakehead University's governing bodies — including the Board of Governors, Senate, and Ogimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council — she oversaw the extensive revision of the University's bylaws, the restructuring of our Board of Governors, and made countless more contributions to the advancement and evolution of the Office of the University Secretariat.

A search process for the new University Secretary will be initiated in the near future.

Effective July 1, Barb Eccles (Senior Advisor to the President & Legal Counsel) assumed the duties of University Secretary on an interim basis.

Subsequently and simultaneously, Toby Goodfellow (Director, Media Relations) assumed the role of Acting Senior Advisor to the President.

I know you'll join me in thanking Karen Roche for her tireless and dedicated work as we wish her the very best on a hard-earned, and well-deserved retirement.



Dr. Andrew P. Dean Appointed Vice-President (Research & Innovation)

On August 11, I was pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Andrew P. Dean** as our University's new Vice-President, Research and Innovation.

Dr. Dean had been interim vice-president since July 1, 2014. He is thrilled to accept this position and excited to grow the University's research profile around the world

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Orientation 2015

Lakehead University opened its doors to the start of another academic year. Hundreds of new students began university classes for the first time, but not before they are welcomed at Lakehead's annual Orientation event, *Thunderwolves Howl 2015*, a week-long event on both our campuses that introduce new students (and their parents) to university life.



Student Appeals Report

During the 2014-2015 academic year two (2) student appeals were heard by SAAC Tribunals under the [Senate Policy Regarding Academic Appeals](#). One was an appeal from an academic decision other than a final course mark, which was dismissed. The second involved an appeal concerning a final course mark; in this case the SAAC ordered a reassessment of an assignment in the course in question.



County of Simcoe Presents \$2M Cheque

On September 10, County of Simcoe Warden Gerry Marshall presented Lakehead University with a \$2 million cheque during a special celebration event at at our Orillia campus. This brings the total amount of contributions to Lakehead by the County of Simcoe to \$5.5 million since 2009.

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50th Anniversary Celebrations

Homecoming 2015 — Lakehead's first ever Homecoming event is happening, next month, at both our campuses. Email invitations (Evites) for our Thunder Bay and Orillia events were sent to over 26,000 people, including alumni, students, faculty, staff, donors, dignitaries and other friends of the University around the world.

Our Thunder Bay Homecoming Gala is sold out, and our Orillia campus Dinner & Dance is also expected to sell out. For more information and details about 50th Anniversary events and tickets, visit 50.lakeheadu.ca. All proceeds from our Homecoming Dinner & Dances will go to student financial aid.

50th in a Box — Two hundred 50th *in a Boxes* have been shipped to recipients all across Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, Malaysia, and Hong Kong.

Scholarship Fund — To date, we have approximately \$4,000 for the fund. Proceeds came from selling hats and t-shirts at various events including varsity games, research week, and grad fair.



Celebrating Lakehead University's Charter Day

July 1st marked Charter Day, Lakehead University's official 50th birthday.

To celebrate, we partnered with the City of Thunder Bay, and had a tent at its Canada Day celebrations at Marina Park. The tent had different activities for children of all ages, with volunteers including varsity athletes and Superior Science. We participated in the City's Canada Day parade, and had a special Lakehead University cake to share with everyone. In Orillia, we participated in the celebrations at Couchiching Park, with a booth, cake, and other activities.

Achieve Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Research

Molecular Imaging Research Receives Generous Grant

Dr. Mitchell Albert, Department of Chemistry, and Lakehead University TBRRI Chair in Molecular Imaging and Advanced Diagnostics has received a substantial research grant from the Westin Brain Institute. Dr. Alla Reznik, Canada Research Chair in the Physics of Molecular Imaging, and Department of Physics is a co-applicant, along with two collaborating local physicians.

The goal of the research study is to develop a high-resolution, high-sensitivity novel tool for early detection of Alzheimer's disease. This novel MRI method will seek to provide a more sensitive method of measuring neural function aiding in early detection of the disease. This will eventually provide for more effective and earlier intervention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

This generous grant is in the amount of \$709,650 over four years.



Lakehead University Welcomes its First Fulbright scholar

Lakehead University is hosting its first Fulbright scholar this fall with the arrival of **Dr. James Hollenbeck** at the Orillia campus.

Dr. Hollenbeck comes to Lakehead from Indiana University Southeast's School of Education through Fulbright Canada's Visiting Research Chair Program, which is designed to encourage mutual understanding between Canada and the United States through academic and cultural exchange.

As the recipient of the program's Visiting Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Sustainability Solutions, Dr. Hollenbeck will work with Lakehead Orillia's Department of Sustainability Sciences for the fall term.

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Extend Community Engagement and Outreach

Survivors Rowe Screened at Lakehead

On May 11, the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives and Nishnawbe Aski Nation hosted a screening of *Survivors Rowe* on our Thunder Bay campus. The documentary is about four men who, as boys, were victims of Anglican minister Ralph Rowe. The film features the harrowing and tragic stories of Christopher Anderson, Joshua Frog, John Fox and Ralph Winter, who recounted the abuse they experienced as children, how their lives disintegrated because of it, and how they reclaimed hope.

Lakehead Orillia Receives *Scholastic Partnership Award* from BBBS of Canada

In June, a partnership between Lakehead Orillia and Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Orillia and District resulted in our University receiving a national award – the Scholastic Partnership Award – from BBBS. The award is a distinction presented annually to one school, school board and one university or college that has made it possible for BBBS agencies to serve increased numbers of children.

Initiated by James Maxwell, Executive Director with the Orillia organization, along with Frank Cappadocia, Associate Vice-President, Lakehead Orillia, the partnership helped to fill a gap in community services, while providing students with professional development opportunities

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The award was accepted by Lakehead's Marian Ryks-Szelekovszky, Vice-Provost, Student Affairs, and Frank Cappadocia, Associate Vice-President, Lakehead Orillia. Also celebrating the award are Karen Shaver, Interim CEO, BBBS Canada (l), James Maxwell, Executive Director, BBBS Orillia; and Marilyn Watson, Chair, BBBS Orillia Board of Directors.



SHAD Brings Amazing Youth to Lakehead University

In July, approximately 65 high school students from across Canada came to Lakehead University to participate in [SHAD](#). Students stayed in our Thunder bay residence, and attended lectures and participated in workshops given by Lakehead faculty. Centred on science, technology, engineering and math, SHAD empowers exceptional youth to make the world a better place.

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