

# Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

## ADVISORS COMMITTEE FOR THE OGIMAAWIN-ABORIGINAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

MINUTES  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2011  
11:00AM-12:00PM  
ATAC 3004

- Present:** Dr. John Hodson, Chair, Aboriginal Education  
Ms. Beverly Sabourin, Vice-Provost (Aboriginal Initiatives)  
Mr. Bruce Beardy, Native Language Instructors' Program  
Dr. Peggy Smith, Chair, O-AGC Advisors Committee  
Ms. Lisa Wabange, Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services  
Ms. Yolanda Wanakamik, Aboriginal Outreach/Recruitment  
Dr. Sandra Wolf, Aboriginal Faculty, Education
- Recording:** Ashley Dokuchie, Secretary, Advisors Committee for the Ogimaawin/Aboriginal Governance Council
- Regrets:** Ms. Tina Armstrong, Aboriginal Affairs, Northern Ontario School of Medicine  
Dr. Laura Buker, Aboriginal Faculty, Education  
Ms. Sandra Cornell, Native Nurses Entry Program  
Dr. Ruby Farrell, Aboriginal Faculty, Indigenous Learning  
Ms. Judy Flett, Aboriginal Education Programs Coordinator  
Mrs. Gloria Hendrick-Laliberte, Native Access Program  
Dr. Judy Iseke, Canada Research Chair, Indigenous Education  
Mr. Dennis McPherson, Chair, Indigenous Learning  
Ms. Heather Moynihan, Engineering (Dean's Alternate)  
Ms. Annette Schroeter, Aboriginal Research Facilitator  
Ms. Nancy Stevens, Lecturer, Social Work, Orillia Campus  
Ms. Dolores Wawia, Education Elder in Residence & Aboriginal Faculty  
Dr. Rodney Hanley, Provost & Vice-President Academic  
Dr. Bahram Dadgostar, Business Administration  
Dr. John O'Meara, Education  
Dr. Henri Saliba, Engineering  
Dr. Philip Hicks, Graduate Studies  
Dr. Lori Livingston, Health & Behavioural Sciences  
Dr. Ulf Runesson, Natural Resources Management  
Dr. Roger Strasser, Northern Ontario School of Medicine  
Dr. Kim Fedderson, Orillia Campus  
Dr. Sreekumari Kurissery, Interdisciplinary Studies, Orillia Campus  
Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Science & Environmental Studies  
Dr. Gillian Siddall, Social Sciences & Humanities  
Mrs. Marian Ryks-Szelekovszky, Vice-Provost (Student Affairs)

**1. Introductions**

Dr. P. Smith, Chair of the O-AGC Advisors Committee welcomed everyone.

**2. Presentation – “Maamaawisiwin – Unity and Self Determination” – Dr. J. Hodson**

Dr. J. Hodson presented his vision for a project entitled “Maamaawisiwin – Unity and Self Determination” which focuses on Aboriginal students in grades 9-12.

This project will serve as a means to recruit more students into the Honours Bachelor of Education (Aboriginal) program by creating an increased awareness of the teaching profession. He also noted that there is a significant need for Aboriginal teachers in the education system. Another goal of the project is to increase the numbers of Aboriginal children entering the academic stream in high school so that they can enter university programs upon graduation.

A supplementary component of the project is to develop a professional learning community for teachers that will provide them with the tools required to shift their current practice so that they can build better relationships with Aboriginal children.

He also noted that the project is at its emergent stage and there is still much room for expansion. A project proposal is currently being developed and will be submitted to SSHRC in February 2012. A detailed project description will be circulated to the committee once completed.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

The Chair noted there were no minutes from the O-AGC Advisors Committee meeting held on October 20, 2011 as the primary focus of that meeting was to review the Academic Plan Action Plans.

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

a) Academic Plan Action Plans Update – Dr. P. Smith

The Academic Action Plans will be presented to the O-AGC by Dr. M. McPherson at the O-AGC meeting on November 21, 2011.

b) Aboriginal Liaison Position at the Orillia campus – Dr. P. Smith

B. Sabourin noted that the Ms. April Jones has recently been appointed as the Aboriginal Liaison/Advisor at the Orillia Campus on a short term basis until April 2012 and that she will also be attending future meetings as the Orillia Campus representative.

Dr. P. Smith advised the committee that that herself, Dr. J. Hodson and Y. Wanakamik had put together a rationale for a full-time position at the Orillia Campus that it had been submitted to Dr. K. Fedderson for his consideration. She also noted that Dr. K. Fedderson

has since submitted this rationale to the President's Initiative Fund. A response should be received from the President's Office sometime early next spring.

c) Recruitment and Retention of Aboriginal faculty questionnaire – Dr. J. Hodson

Dr. J. Hodson noted that the vast majority of participants have responded to the questionnaire. A draft project summary should be ready for review early in the new year.

He also went on to mention that Ms. Suzanne Tardif, Research Assistant for the project had attended 3<sup>rd</sup> Forum for Aboriginal Academic Staff held by the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) in November 2011 in Vancouver. At this conference there was an extensive discussion about giving credit for community service in Promotion, Tenure and Renewal processes since many Aboriginal faculty members tend to invest a great deal of their time in community service.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was suggested that presentations be made throughout the various platforms within Lakehead University such as Deans' Council and perhaps to the Lakehead University Faculty Association (LUFA). B. Sabourin is going to follow up with Dr. Rodney Hanley, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and then will provide Dr. J. Hodson with an update regarding a presentation to Deans' Council.

Dr. J. Hodson also noted that there are approximately two years remaining in the current LUFA agreement and that perhaps this issue can be brought forward to future contract negotiations. It was also suggested that a session with the PTR Committee be arranged for a future date.

**6. O-AGC Draft Agenda of November 21, 2011**

- a) The Draft Agenda of November 21, 2011 was reviewed as distributed.

**7. New Business**

- a) Review O-AGC Advisors Committee Membership List – Terms of Reference and current membership list are attached.

It was noted that there are several new members who should be added to the current membership list as per the terms of reference. Dr. P. Smith will be circulating a notice to the following new committee members:

- Dr. Christopher Mushquash, Assistant Professor, Psychology
- Mr. Greg Lowan, Contract Lecturer and PhD Candidate, Faculty of Education
- Ms. April Jones, Aboriginal Liaison Advisor, Orillia Campus
- Ms. Tracey Larocque, Contract Lecturer, Kinesiology
- Ms. Fay Zoccole, NAGE Coordinator
- Dr. Michelle Marie Spadoni, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing
- Mr. Tom Beardy, Faculty, Aboriginal Education
- Ms. Wanda White, Sessional Lecturer, Faculty of Education

**8. Report on status of ongoing O-AGC initiatives:**

a) Aboriginal specific programs

Aboriginal Education – Dr. J. Hodson had noted that he has been spending much time on the reaccreditation for the Ontario College of Teachers.

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services – L. Wabange advised everyone that she is planning a gift exchange for students and will be sending an email to everyone soon asking for donations.

Aboriginal Outreach/Recruitment – Y. Wanakamik noted that the RBC Wrap-up gathering with Mr. Phil Fontaine is being planned for December 1, 2011 at 10:00am and that a Special Convocation in honour of Mr. Phil Fontaine will be also be taking place that same day.

Native Access Program – G. Hendrick-Laliberte was not in attendance to provide an update. This will be deferred until the next meeting.

b) Kendaasiwin Steering Committee – Dr. P. Smith

Dr. P. Smith noted that the committee had most recently put together a brochure to kick off a fundraising campaign and that its release to the community has been put on hold until further notice.

She is going to follow up with Dr. Brian Stevenson to request an update regarding the current status of the “Kendaasiwin Centre”.

**9. Upcoming Meetings**

a) The upcoming O-AGC Advisors Committee meetings are scheduled for the following:

- January 9, 2012
- February 13, 2012
- April 2, 2012

All meetings will be scheduled from 2:00-3:00p.m. in AT 3004.

A. Dokuchie will circulate a notice to the committee.