

Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

ADVISORS COMMITTEE FOR THE OGIMAAWIN/ABORIGINAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

2:00-3:00 P.M.

ATAC 3004

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

1. **Introductions**

Dr. P. Smith, Chair of the O-AGC Advisors Committee welcomed everyone. Each person introduced themselves around the table and via teleconference.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved with the following amendment:

- Defer the Academic Plan Update to agenda item 4. (b).

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The O-AGC Advisors Committee meeting minutes of May 9, 2011 were approved as distributed. These minutes will be posted on the O-AGC website for the Ogimaawin-Aboriginal Governance Council's review.

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- a) Faculty Questionnaire Update and Issues on Authorship and process – Dr. John Hodson, Ms. Lisa Wabange & Ms. Suzanne Tardif

Dr. J. Hodson, Principal researcher for the Faculty Questionnaire project introduced Ms. Suzanne Tardif, Research Assistant to the committee and noted that Ms. Lisa Wabange is also a member of the research team.

Dr. J. Hodson advised the committee that approval was received from the Senate Research Ethics Board in July 2011. The research team is utilizing Survey Monkey to implement the questionnaire and participants have been asked to respond by October 31, 2011. A positive response has been received to date despite the number of sensitivity and anonymity issues surrounding the questionnaire. Reminders will be circulated to participants if required.

A discussion was held amongst those present regarding authorship of the Recruitment and Retention of Aboriginal faculty questionnaire. The committee agreed that authorship should be given the research team and not the O-AGC Advisors Committee.

- b) Academic Plan 2012-2017 Update – Dr. M. McPherson, Deputy Provost

Dr. M. McPherson advised the committee that the most recent version of Chapter 1 and 2 of the Academic Plan had been posted on the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost website on August 10, 2011 and the university community was invited to provide feedback to the Academic Planning Committee once again.

The Academic Planning Committee is currently reviewing and incorporating this feedback into the Academic Plan as well as working on the draft Academic Plan Action Plans.

These draft Academic Action Plans will be posted on the VPA website soon and written invitations will be sent to the O-AGC Advisors Committee and Office of Aboriginal Initiatives asking for feedback.

The O-AGC Advisors Committee is going to review the draft Academic Plan Action Plans at the next meeting to ensure feedback is given to the Academic Planning Committee by the end of October 2011.

5. O-AGC Draft Agenda of September 26, 2011 and Minutes of last AMC meeting.

- a) The draft agenda of September 26, 2011 was reviewed as well as the draft AMC Minutes of April 18, 2011.

It was noted that agenda item 7.1.3 asks that the O-AGC Advisors Committee conduct a self-assessment to ensure that it is operating efficiently and fulfilling its functions and that the Advisors provide a report to O-AGC by April 16, 2012.

6. New Business

- a) Selection of Chair/Co-Chair: The Committee will choose its leadership every second year. The Chair or a designate will be the voting member to the AMC.

Dr. P. Smith had thanked L. Wabange and Dr. S. Wolf for serving as Co-Chairs of the O-AGC Advisors Committee for this past year.

D. P. Smith is going to follow up with Dr. S. Wolf to see if she would be interested in continuing as Co-Chair. A. Schroeter may also be interested in serving as Co-Chair, but has requested some additional time to consider this position.

No one else in attendance had expressed interest at this time. This agenda item was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Report on status of ongoing O-AGC initiatives:

- a) Orillia Campus – Ms. Katelyn Fraser for Dr. K. Fedderson

Ms. K. Fraser reviewed the Orillia Campus report at distributed. She noted that interviews are going to be held for the newly created Aboriginal Liaison/Advisor position at the Orillia Campus and that planning for the Elders in Residence Program is underway.

- b) Aboriginal specific programs

Native Nurses Entry Program – S. Cornell

S. Cornell advised the committee that there have been several changes to NNEP funding. In particular, there has been a substantial decrease to program funding which is now only being provided on an annual basis without any guarantees for the future.

She noted that ACSS and NNEP are sharing the counsellor position until April 2012. Ms. Kimberly Bortolin, Aboriginal Counsellor/Liaison is working in ACSS for Monday, Wednesday Friday and she is with NNEP on Tuesday and Thursday.

S. Cornell informed the committee that NNEP has been housed at 1294 Balmoral since the Braun Building fire of July 2008. She discussed the challenges of not being able to

effectively communicate with the NNEP students throughout the year, particularly during the winter months. All of NNEP's classes are held on main campus. She has been given January 2012 as a possible moving date to return to the Braun Building.

Recommendations to O-AGC: O-AGC Advisors Committee recommends to the President that something be done to expedite the renovation process in the Braun Building, so that the Native Nurses Entry Program is able to return to main campus.

Native Access Program – G. Hendrick-Laliberte

G. Hendrick-Laliberte advised the committee that there are currently 16 students enrolled in the Native Access Program. Dr. Robert Robson is away on sabbatical and Dr. Leisa Desmoulins is teaching Indigenous Learning (IL 1100) this year.

Aboriginal Education – Dr. J. Hodson

Dr. J. Hodson reviewed highlights from his report as distributed. He noted that there was an enrollment increase in a number of language courses.

c) Aboriginal Initiatives – B. Sabourin

B. Sabourin discussed the importance of having a full-time position for Aboriginal Initiatives at the Orillia Campus. She noted that the Office of Aboriginal Initiatives has currently funded a part-time position until April 2012, but a more concrete plan needs to be put in place by the Orillia Campus for the future to ensure this position can either be continued or elevated to full-time status.

The Office of Aboriginal Initiatives is pleased to announce Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux will be the Aboriginal Scholar in Residence for the month of October. She will be visiting a variety of classes from the Faculties of Social Sciences and Humanities, Education and Health and Behavioural Sciences. A communications bulletin will be circulated to the university community.

Full-Time Aboriginal Staff at the Orillia Campus: A subcommittee (Dr. J. Hodson, Y. Wanakamik and P. Smith) of the O-AGC Advisors Committee has been struck to review the Aboriginal student needs of the Orillia Campus to provide a rationale to Dr. Fedderson for a full-time position for Aboriginal Initiatives at the Orillia Campus. A recommendation will be made following this review.

L. Wabange discussed the array of supports that she provides to Aboriginal students at Lakehead University particularly those at the Thunder Bay campus. She noted that the counsellor position is currently only part-time until April 2012 (3 days per week in ACSS and two days for NNEP) and that it would be beneficial to have a full-time Aboriginal Counsellor position at the Thunder Bay campus. This item was tabled and will be discussed in further detail at an upcoming meeting

Aboriginal Cultural & Support Services – L. Wabange

The 2011 Fall Harvest will be held on Saturday, September 17th from 1-4pm at the Sweat Lodge Site. All are welcome to attend. As part of this year's event, local artist Elliot

Doxtator-Wynn will be unveiling a mural at the Sweat Lodge Site.

- d) Kendaasiwin Steering Committee – Dr. P. Smith

Dr. P. Smith will be meeting with Hugh Briggs, Director of Physical Plant to look at concept drawings for the centre that were prepared by a local architecture firm. Brochures and promotional material for the centre are also going to be developed.

8. Information Items

- a) O-AGC Advisors Membership list was circulated.

9. Meetings

- a) The upcoming O-AGC Advisors Committee meetings are scheduled for the following:
- October 4, 2011
 - November 8, 2011

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