# New Lakehead University Website

Tove Tronslien, M.Sc. Manager, Web Development Services



- Stakeholder interviews to understand the university's goals
- User interviews to understand the goals users have for the site
- ★ Card sorting exercise to understand how users organize the content on the site



## The Task

★ Align the goals of the university for the website with the goals of its users



## The Process

- ★ Competitive analysis and design recommendations
- Web Steering Committee
  - Website Strategy document to identify goals
  - Creative brief to understand how the university wants the site to be received by users and what elements are mandatory



- ★ Creation of personas/scenarios
- ★ Creation and iteration of information architecture based on users mental models and scenarios of use
- ★ SEO audit of the site
- ★ Wireframes for use in usability testing
- ★ Exploratory usability testing



# Usability Study

#### **Users**

16 users in total

10 women; 6 men

11 Thunder Bay users

5 Orillia users

Current students	Staff	Faculty
11 users	3 users	2 users

Student profiles

2 Grad students

2 International students

2 Mature students

5 students from first to fourth year





Orillia · Thunder Bay

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

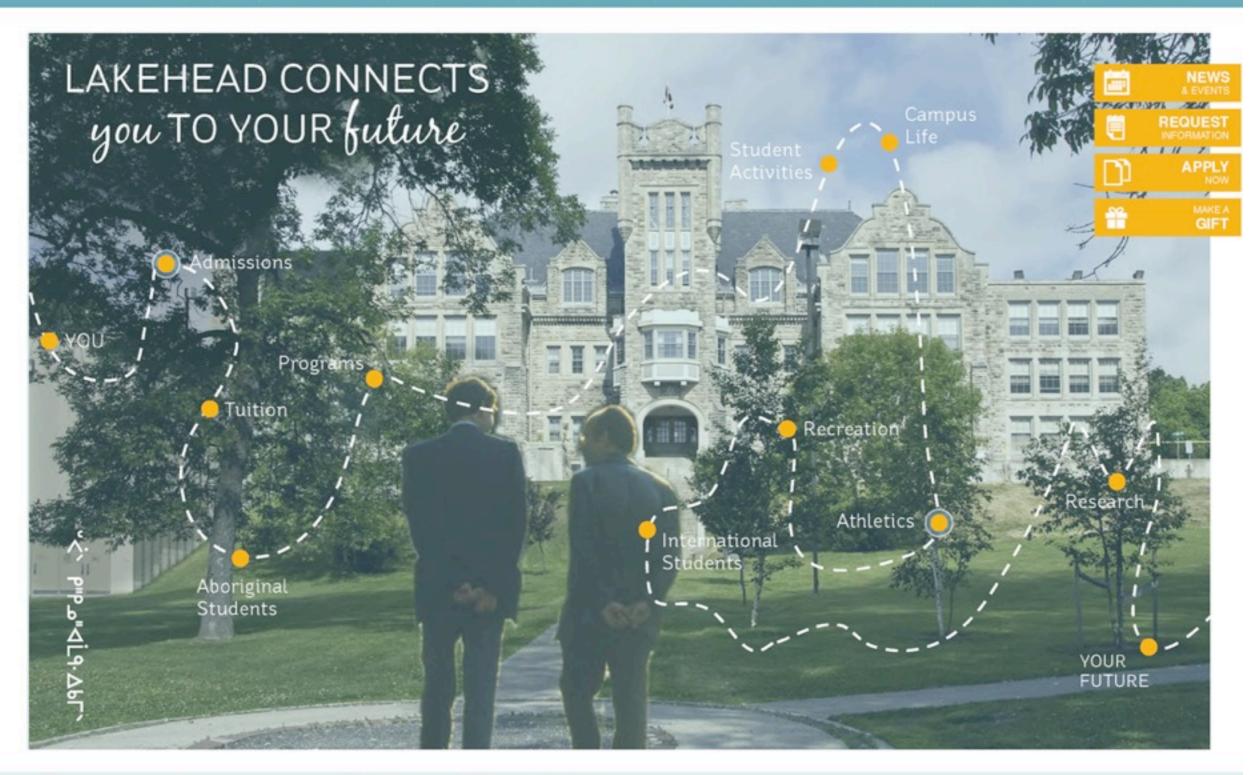
ABOUT

FUTURE STUDENTS CURRENT

FACULTY

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**  & FRIENDS



# Imagery

- ★ Mentoring
- \* Research
- ★ Leadership
- Extracurricular (follow your passion)
- ★ Commencement (showing success)



## Feedback

- ★ 15/16 users in our usability study preferred this concept
- ★ Looks calm, like path idea, environmentally conscious
- ★ Looks like academia, looks green, modern
- \* "Looks like a nice place to be"



## Content

- ★ Each unit is responsible for their own content (text, video, images)
- University wide assets (text, video, images) provided by Marketing Support
  - 2 of 6 planned photo shoots completed
  - 2 more planned in January/February
  - I of 6 videos completed
  - Brainstorming for ideas



# Website + Branding

- ★ This project focused on
  - Finding out the type of site the user wanted (one website)
  - Information Architecture and the user experience
- ★ New Brand will be applied

